

The Foundations course exists to help the people of Devon to grow in their discipleship, and flourish as part of the Church.

Run by the Diocese of Exeter but for everyone who is a member of a church community.

It is formational – it is not about writing essays or achieving a passing grade but is about attending and engaging as part of a community.

It intends for learning to take place as we talk and listen to one another.

It is also the introductory course for everyone exploring their vocation (both lay and ordained).

It is also the foundational course for people intending to take part in further training to become a Licensed Lay Minister or undertake training for one of the new diocesan commissioned roles.

Taking part in Foundations does not guarantee that any further training or roles can take place – you'll need to go through an application and interview or conversation process for those roles and training.

What it will do is offer introductions to topics based on the diocesan values of Growing in Prayer, Making New Disciples and serving the people of Devon with joy. Within this, you will explore The Bible, Theology, Spirituality and Ministry.

The course runs in person:

You need to be a part of the group as it meets for:

- 3 Saturdays (10am - 4pm)
- 4 evenings (7pm – 9pm)

You will join one of the three different regional cohorts, which meet in these different three locations:

- Plymouth (running from October to March)
- Ilfracombe (running from January to May)
- Exeter (running from January to May)

In-between gatherings:

- There will be videos to watch
- Topics to find out about
- Reading to do
- What you explore away from the gatherings will be brought back to your tutor group.

Each learner is part of a tutor group where conversation, listening and challenge take place.

There is no assessed work, but attending and engaging is vital.

There is a cost of £25. If this is not affordable, you can ask for this fee to be waived. We encourage all participants to ask their church to cover this cost.