

Session One: 'What is Family Ministry?'

Family Ministry in God's Kingdom: what does it look like, feel like, sound like? How is mission happening?



Session Six: 'Culture change and Being Intergenerational'.

Facilitating, hosting and celebrating our shared life. How are we intentional?



Session Two: 'How Children Learn'.

The Child in the midst: how do children learn, grow, develop? And how do we nurture and respond?



Session Three: 'Leading and Building Teams'.

Leading with integrity, service and love: how are teams inspired and effective?



Session Seven: 'Supporting Households'.

Sharing the vision, the life events, challenges and celebrations. Being 'family'.

Session Eight: 'Travelling the Journey of Life'.

Overcoming practical challenges, embracing adaptive change, going beyond the horizons of possibility.



Session Four: 'Vision into Practice'.

Planning for change, for projects and for reflection: knowing His plans.



Session Five: 'Being and Growing Disciples'.

Being 'completely fearless, absurdly happy and constantly in trouble'.



Session Nine: 'Looking back and Going forward'.

Sharing our work, modelling trust, affirming our worth. Journeying on together.

There is **no charge** for this training, which takes place over **monthly meetings** in term time only, supported by pre-work and follow up, and assessment based on course work and portfolio building. Reflective Practice is taught and encouraged.

The sessions will be delivered through a mixture of location based, on-line access, and seminars, and the dates published in advance. It is expected that the course runs over three terms; commencing in September, sessions are linked and therefore attendance at all is ideal. Supplementary topics are also available through Diocesan children and families training, and signposting to national/international webinars or similar.

Dates for 2022-23 (Saturday mornings or full days*) at Woolpit, Suffolk

24 th Sept*	22 nd Oct	26 th Nov
21 st Jan*	18 th Feb	18 th Mar
20 th May*	17 th Jun	15 th Jul*

Mentoring is offered, and the course is delivered and supported by Theologians, Practitioners, Theorists and past participants. A vibrant **network** of those involved in Family Ministry across the Diocese is key to support and ongoing personal development, through a new Growing Younger forum ('ReConnect' meets monthly in person or on zoom)

For more information, please contact:

Hilary Wordsworth-Sewell, Diocesan Children's and Families' Enabler
Telephone 07776 418344 or email hilary.wordsworth-sewell@cofesuffolk.org

Licensed Lay Children and Family Ministry

Children and Family Ministers work within a Parish/Benefice Ministry team, under the authority of the Incumbent. A role agreement made between you, your Incumbent and a Course leader, will define the range of activity and responsibilities that will help your ministry flourish.

An application to this role requires successful completion of the CONNECT course, references and local agreement, and a short interview with the Bishop, or his representative.



CONNECT

The Diocesan CONNECT course covers aspects of Children's and Family Ministry by exploring child development, spirituality and formation, new approaches to Family Ministry and by expanding personal skills to enable participants to be visionary Family Ministry leaders within the parish and across the Diocese.

Taking a critical pedagogy (i.e. an approach shaped by many decades of experience) and relying on shared learning through dialogue and peer experience, participants will support the ministry of the local parish through a new or developed ethos of Family Ministry. A deeper understanding of discipleship and intergenerationality underpins the course, offering insights into engagement with children, their families and the wider church and community.



This is a course for existing practitioners, and is a contextualised Leadership and Management course, rather than a 'how to', although it draws on good practice locally, nationally and internationally.

- α. *"It is always helpful to know that you are not on your own; that there are other people who you can share ideas with, to encourage each other and to learn together."*
- α. *"It has re-inspired me to see children's and family work front and central to all that church does."*

