

2025/26

# LDY



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# what is LDY?

The Leadership Development Year (LDY) is a development, formation and ministry placement programme from St Peter's Church and Family of Churches.

It is an eleven month programme of theological training, leadership development and ministry placement. As a candidate you will be linked to a ministry stream with tailored teaching

to help you grow. The programme consists of formation, where you will be mentored and disciplined to grow deeper roots in your faith.



## vision

The vision of LDY is to develop you as a leader, helping you to grow in your relationship with God; discover your calling and gifts; and to grow in the knowledge and understanding of the Bible.

The year consists of four main elements:



# LDY testimonies



**Lizzie Milne**  
Focus Youth Pastor

*"LDY was an opportunity to invest in my leadership potential; space to be disciplined and created avenues to explore ministry as a vocation. LDY allowed me to witness the many ways the local church serves our incredible city of Brighton! Of course, all that mixed in with a new found group of friends and lots of laughs and silliness!"*



**Pete Dobson**  
Ordinand

*"LDY provided me with an opportunity to give time and space to learn within ministry straight after uni. It proved incredibly valuable in discerning what to do next. I had the opportunity to learn and be disciplined, grow in my intimacy with Jesus, and seeing my potential as a leader."*



**Isabella Brown**  
3rd year student (teacher)

*"LDY made me feel a part of something bigger than myself. I was part of the transformation happening in Brighton. It also introduced me to friends that I now call my family. My journey with Jesus has grown exponentially. LDY helped me find my purpose as a teacher and I still love serving on the worship team."*



**Aaron Williams**  
St Peter's Youth Pastor

*"During the year I was surrounded by such incredible pastors and teachers. I received great leadership training and my wellbeing was equally looked after. Not only are you getting to serve God in beautiful Brighton, there are also amazing opportunities to find community. Some of my closest friendships were formed during LDY."*

# note from leaders

## Introduction from Dan & Kate

*"...to equip people for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up..." - Ephesians 4:12*

We're so excited that you're considering joining us for the Leadership Development Year. The heart of LDY is to offer a dedicated season of learning and formation in community—equipping you for a lifetime of discipleship, mission, and ministry. Through a blend of rich, engaging biblical and leadership teaching, deep-rooted relationships, and a rhythm of worship and prayer, LDY creates space for God to shape you, with everything we do grounded in the life and mission of the Church. It's been a joy to witness how God has transformed lives through LDY and even more encouraging to see former participants go on to lead and serve in all spheres of life.

As you read this summary, we're praying it helps you discern if God is calling you to spend an intentional year of development with us.

God bless,  
Dan & Kate



# meet our LDY coordinator/lead

It has been such a great pleasure and joy planning the LDY project with the wider team. This programme offers so many growing opportunities and moments to reflect on the treasures of the Christian faith. I believe when we grow in our knowledge and adoration for God, we also grow in our understanding on who he has made us to be.

My goal is to see everyone being a disciple and a leader. To me these are connected. We are all called and uniquely equipped to lead in our communities as disciples of Jesus. LDY is an opportunity to see the overlaps between discipleship and leadership. Maybe this sounds out of reach, but don't worry we have a year to unpack it together!

There are many goals for LDY but the main ones are:

1. To know and be confident in God's unique calling over your life.
2. Equip you for lifelong leadership and discipleship.

I cannot wait to go on this adventure with you.

Best wishes,  
Melissa



# structure

Weekly you will have various classes and activities linked to these components:

## Theology

In the context of worship, we emphasize a reflective and critical approach to theology, rooted in biblical studies and the traditions of the church, while also engaging with contemporary issues and challenges in society.

## Leadership

With Jesus as our shepherd, we seek to model our leadership on his life. Our classes are designed to equip students with the tools necessary to lead ourselves and others effectively in all areas of life.

## Formation

In the context of community, we seek to be shaped together by God both within and for those places where we live out our faith: our homes, workplaces and local churches, recognizing that the development of spiritual and personal maturity is essential for effective ministry.

## Ministry placement

The majority of learning happens when we put classroom insights into action. That's why every LDY participant takes on a ministry placement—a hands-on opportunity to apply what you're learning, test your gifts, and grow in confidence as a leader.

# outcomes

The LDY programme will position you for lifelong leadership and ministry work. LDY helps you to grow in five overlapping areas:

**1** Calling: Growing in the sense of who God has made us to be, what he has called us to do, and the transformative relationship with God sustains both.

*Focus Areas: Hearing God's Voice, Humility, Identity, Presence, Purpose.*

**2** Character: Growing in love, holiness, self-awareness and integrity in the likeness of Christ.

*Focus Areas: Trust, Strength, Courage, Honesty, Integrity, Commitment, Resilience, Moral Courage, Character Awareness, Humility*

**3** Competence: Growing in skills and competencies necessary for effective service and leadership.

*Focus Areas: Decision Making, Constructive Feedback, Delegation, Management of Others, Managing Expectations, Confidence, Conflict Resolution, Forming Vision, Turning Vision into Action*

**4** Charismata: Growing in your giftings for the building up of the church.

*Focus Areas: Spiritual Intelligence, Walking in the Power of God, Personal Discipline, Gifts of the Spirit, Biblical Overview, Ministry, Prophecy.*

**5** Chemistry: Growing in relational, emotional and cultural intelligence, and in the skills necessary to lead with empathy and effectiveness.

*Focus Areas: Relational and Emotional Intelligence, Understanding Others, Empathy, Soft Skills, Increasing Your Leadership Impact.*



# dates

To make the most of LDY we expect candidates to be present during the term dates.

## AUTUMN TERM

9th September 2025 - 21st December 2025

## SPRING TERM

12th January 2026 - 17th April 2026

## SUMMER TERM

4th May 2026 - 7th August 2026

# weekly schedule

MONDAY	<b>Theology</b>	<b>Leadership</b>
TUESDAY	<b>Staff meetings</b>	<b>Ministry Placements</b>
WEDNESDAY		
THURSDAY OR FRIDAY	<b>Formation</b>	<b>Ministry Placements</b> (depending on ministry)
WEEKENDS	<b>Services</b>	

The total LDY hours are 25hrs per week to provide candidates with the option to work alongside the programme. The option of doing more placement hours is available.

# ministries

social  
transformation



sunday & events  
coordinating



worship and  
production



kids



youth



collective



building and  
maintenance



finance and  
admin



other ministry  
interest



# training and development

## **Weekend Away**

There will be a weekend away (included in price) at the beginning of the year.

## **Learning Trip (self directed)**

During you will be encouraged to plan and fundraise an overseas learning trip to take place immediately after the LDY finishes. The purpose of this to gain experience of the global church and learn from Christians in other contexts. You will be coached in the planning of this trip - previous learning trips have included work with the church in Hong Kong, South Africa, Brasil and Malaysia.

## **Conferences**

In the second term there are two conferences that you will be invited to attend; Summit and Leadership Conference.

## **Focus**

During Focus as a Church we go away and camp for a long weekend at the end of July. As LDY group you will attend.

# finance/housing

The charge for LDY is 780. However the full cost to run LDY is higher , if participants are able to contribute more, this helps to keep the cost down for others. Additionally if you want to support someone in doing LDY financially or housing, please be in touch. This covers all course material, breakfasts, training and development trips and other costs, but not the learning trip.

Half of the payment is due on 1 September 2025 and other half by 1 March 2026. If this is not possible we can arrange a payment plan . Partial bursaries will be available for those who would not be able to afford the full cost.

Please contact Melissa Taleni directly to discuss this, [melissa.taleni@stpetersbrighton.org](mailto:melissa.taleni@stpetersbrighton.org)

You will be responsible for making your own housing arrangements, however we will be putting together a list of families who would be happy to host a lodger for reduced rent. Be in touch with us if you need any help in this area.


There will be an opportunity for you to find part-time work alongside LDY, but we strongly encourage candidates to find people who may be able to financially support their year.

# to apply

Follow the [link](#) and complete the form by **20 June 2025**.

Once we've received your application, we will be in touch within two weeks inviting you for an interview.

Following this interview, we may invite you for a secondary interview with your Ministry Leader. We will reach a decision regarding your application as soon as possible thereafter.



# FAQ's

## 1) How do I apply for the Leadership Development Year (LDY)?

To apply, download an application form from the website and return it to [melissa.taleni@stpetersbrighton.org](mailto:melissa.taleni@stpetersbrighton.org) by 20 June 2025.

## 2) How much does LDY cost?

LDY costs £780 to be paid **by 1 March 2026**. This covers all course material, breakfasts, activities and other costs, but not learning trip.

## 3) Will I be paid by St Peter's during my LDY?

St Peter's will not pay you any money during the LDY - instead we encourage you to raise funds through friends and family to support you over the year or look for a job that will cover all the rest of your monthly outgoings.

## 4) Which area of ministry will my ministry placement be in?

We will endeavour to place people in an area of ministry which fits their gifts and passions, and will discuss this with candidates during the interview process.

## 5) What about after the LDY? Will I be offered a job at St Peter's?

Unfortunately, no roles are guaranteed following LDY. In the past we have had candidates go on and do different roles, both ministry and non-ministry related. We have had candidates pursue ordination, lead ministries, become school teachers and other non-ministry related jobs. LDY positions you for whatever the next chapter in your life.

## 6) Will I get an academic qualification at the end of the year?

You will not receive a formal qualification, however the year will provide you with an excellent basis if you were to go on to study Theology.

## 7) How much academic work will there be?

There will be weekly lectures and classes, background reading and one essay per term.

**8) Will I be given housing as part of the course?**

No, you will be responsible for finding housing for yourself for the year, however we are putting together a list of families who would be happy to host a lodger. Be in touch with us if you need any help in this area.

**9) Will I still do my placement day in a department during the term breaks?**

You will have break over Christmas and Easter from both the training and your ministry placement.

**10) Who will line manage me?**

At the beginning of the year you will have a line manager who will be assigned to you based on the ministry placement you have been allocated to.

**11) Will I receive continued career and professional development?**

We hope during the LDY year you will be able to make most of the support and mentorship. However, there will be a member of staff who could meet up with you informally after the year.