The Curate

Curates come in all shapes and sizes, from varied and different backgrounds, with different life experiences and having followed different training paths to ordination. The Church is enriched by this variety and this programme is intended to recognise and honour that.

What curates have in common is that they have all heard the call of God in their life to follow Jesus and have responded to that call by offering themselves for ordination. That call has been tested through the vocations process and explored through Initial Ministerial Education part 1 (IME1).

The curate is someone who,

* respects the role of the incumbent in the parish,
* engages with the training incumbent in a commitment to honesty, collaboration, and loyalty, respecting the training incumbent, even when there are differences of theology or spiritual disposition,
* is aware that ordination marks the beginning of public representative ministry in the Church of England,
* understands that 15% of their time (for full-time curates approx. one day per week) will be allocated to study and as part of that time will engage with the Diocesan IME2 programme.
* is aware that during the curacy (IME 2) the Formational Qualities will continue to form the framework for assessment, as they did in IME 1,
* will be committed to developing their ministry in the context of the local setting.
* Is willing to learn, as well as to develop previous experience and skills.

IME2 continues the call, discernment and training processes so far, so ministry can flourish now and into the future.