

GUIDANCE FOR SUPERVISORS OF SHADOWING EXPERIENCES

Guidance

Please refer to G.6 Criteria for Candidates for Ministry which is available on the Methodist church website here: [Guidance for candidating \(2026-2027\) - The Methodist Church](#)

Introduction

Thank you for agreeing to offer a shadowing experience to a candidate for ministry in the Methodist Church.

Not all candidates need to undertake a shadowing experience. Some will need a different sort of experience than others and for differing lengths of time.

Some will carry this out as part of 'Explore', others will seek it between DOV1 and DOV2. Shadowing is usually most effective when held in person, but elements can be carried out through video conferencing where appropriate.

Candidates' shadowing experiences are best if they are with a minister of the order of ministry which they feel called to, but it can also be helpful to them to gain experience of both orders of ministry.

The more 'realistic' picture they get of ministry, the better.

For those applicants who are shadowing presbyters, please ensure that they have the opportunity to discuss the sacramental role of the presbyter and to be present at a service of Holy Communion (where possible).

Reporting

For those who choose to candidate in the DOV2 process, **you are asked to write about the candidate's engagement with the situations met during their time with you, in not more than 400 words.**

You have been asked to compile the report but it can include reflections from several other people, though please make it clear who has been involved.

Your report becomes part of the candidate's portfolio, so please provide this report promptly for them.

In your report, your comments on the following selected criteria will be valuable. Please offer evidence for your comments. (The numbers refer to the relevant criteria).

Criteria 1 Vocation (Call and Commitment)

- What evidence was there that the shadowing experience has confirmed the candidate's sense of call?
- Did other people confirm this sense of call in the candidate?

Criteria 2 Vocation (Ministry in the Methodist Church in Britain)

- What evidence was there that the candidate demonstrated an enthusiastic commitment to, and desire to, serve the Methodist Church in Britain, and in this particular order of ministry?

Criteria 4 Personality and Character

How has the candidate demonstrated:

- Self awareness?
- Honesty and integrity?
- Appropriate self confidence and humility?
- Potential for self confidence and growth?

Criteria 5 Being in Relationship with Others

- Were they able to relate respectfully to a variety of people? How did they do that?