



The Guide

Engaging, practical, and easy-to-access online equipping for your key leaders.



Longing to equip your key leaders to lead communities and congregations?

God is at work. People are stepping up to new leadership responsibilities. They are embarking on an adventure. New territories to explore, new challenges to experience, new opportunities to embrace.

As a Minister or Oversight Minister you want to resource these leaders, to journey with them on the adventure. Our new ground-breaking resource will help you do just that.

Who Is The Guide For?

Anyone leading a congregation or community who isn't the vicar. Amongst others, that means leaders of:

- **Fresh Expressions** You know the sort of thing, Messy Church, Forest Church, Café Church and so on.
- **Church plants** Big and small, rural and urban, grafts or new plants.
- **New worshipping communities** Reaching out to new people in new places and in new ways, forming them into communities with worship at the centre.
- **Congregations** A midweek service or Sunday afternoon all age congregation.
- **Churches** A church in a Multi-parish Benefice where the vicar can't possibly be present at every service or live within every community.

In many dioceses these people are called **Focal Ministers** (or Focal Leaders, Recognised Local Leaders, Local Ministers or some variation of these). We are using 'Focal Ministers' as a catch all for a wide variety of such leaders.

If they are the **public face** of the church, congregation, fresh expression, or church plant, **known as the leader**, taking responsibility for **developing the mission and ministry** of that community, and **encouraging the gifts and vocations** of all its members, **they're in**.

What Does It Involve?

The Guide is an online asynchronous learning experience that combines onsite conversations with you as the leader's Oversight Minister, Network Leader, Minister or mentor.

Understanding the time pressures on many, we have devised a self-directed scheme that fits into daily life, broken down into bite-sized pieces. And we have provided a rich repository of additional resources for those that would like to go deeper.

'REALLY WELL PRESENTED AND ENGAGING.'

This approach enables participants to learn at their own pace and at a time that is convenient to them. It is **flexible, practical, and engaging**. It is also **accessible**, even to those with limited knowledge and confidence with technology.

We provide materials to help participants **contextualise their learning** and to encourage each other as they learn together, as well as **conversation starters** to facilitate discussion with you as their Oversight Minister, Network Leader, Minister or mentor. See the overview on the back page.

Put simply, it provides everything you need to equip your key leaders.



EQUIPPING FOCAL MINISTERS AS EFFECTIVE LEADERS THAT PROMOTE GROWTH THROUGH ENGAGING, PRACTICAL, AND EASY-TO-ACCESS ONLINE SESSIONS.

What Is The Approach?

We have moved away from the traditional language of courses, instead using the metaphor of **exploring a new country**, rich with opportunity to grow and learn and discover.

There are six Regions (equating to six 'courses') on the Island of Leadership which people can select from.

Each Region has multiple sites to visit (see the overview on the back page). In total there is over **22 hours of content**. The learning is mixed-mode, incorporating videos, written materials, exercises, quizzes, case studies, reading and reflection. Everything is rooted in Scripture.

What Does it Cost?

There are two ways to access The Guide.

Diocese or Networks

For dioceses or networks wanting to provide it for all their Focal Ministers (or equivalent), there is an annual fee dependent on the number of users.

This will include unlimited access, and all online materials.

If you're in a diocese or network that has subscribed this will be the cheapest way to access The Guide. And if they haven't subscribed, let them know about it and invite them to do so.

Individuals

Individual leaders can purchase a Region at a time for £25, hopefully funded by their church, with a £25 discount if they sign up to all six Regions at the same time (£125).

The production of The Guide is heavily subsidised to enable costs to be kept low for users.

Number of users	Cost
Individual	£25/region
Diocese 1-10 users	£475/annum
Diocese 11-30 users	£675/annum
Diocese 31-50 users	£875/annum
Diocese unlimited users	£975/annum

How Do I Find Out More?

There is a free taster available now, which includes:

- Is The Guide for me?
- How will it help?
- How do I navigate The Guide?
- What do I need?
- How do I get started?
- Free session: knowing what you bring.



You can enrol at www.cpas.org.uk/the-guide-taster.

All six Regions will be launched from the autumn of 2024.

For further information, including a trailer video, please visit www.cpas.org.uk/the-guide or contact: Sarah Pix, spix@cpas.org.uk.

WHAT THE BETA-TESTERS SAID

In the autumn of 2023 we invited 50 Focal Ministers to Beta-test the introduction to The Guide and four of the sites from two different Regions. They were a mix of lay and ordained, trained and untrained, leading church plants, congregations, new worshipping communities, churches and Fresh Expressions. Here is what they said.

'Visually the guide is great. The content is very good too.'

'I really like the bite sized pieces of info and the chunks of learning that can be done as and when. It makes it feel so much more manageable in terms of finding time to read and take part in this.'

'I couldn't decide which Regions I was most looking forward to as they all look great!'

'I really enjoyed this session, the visual aids make it interesting and I can stay focused. It feels manageable as you can dip in and out. This works when you have a busy schedule.'

'I enjoyed it and could see how it would be useful for my church role, and for my day job as well in some cases.'

'It is all very easy to follow.'



CONTENT OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION: HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF THE GUIDE

- Is The Guide for me?
- How will it help?
- How do I navigate The Guide?
- What do I need?
- How do I get started?

REGION 1: MAKING SENSE OF FOCAL MINISTRY

- Church – what it is all about.
- Focal Ministry – what Focal Ministers do.
- The Church of England – how Focal Ministry fits.

REGION 2: LEADING AS A FOCAL MINISTER

- Clarifying what leadership involves.
- Knowing what you bring.
- Discerning what to do.
- Deciding how best to do things.
- Nourishing your spiritual life.
- Nurturing resilience.

REGION 3: BUILDING A TEAM

- Collaborating with others.
- Nurturing new leaders.
- Mining good conflict.
- Leading better meetings.

REGION 4: RELEASING GOD'S PEOPLE

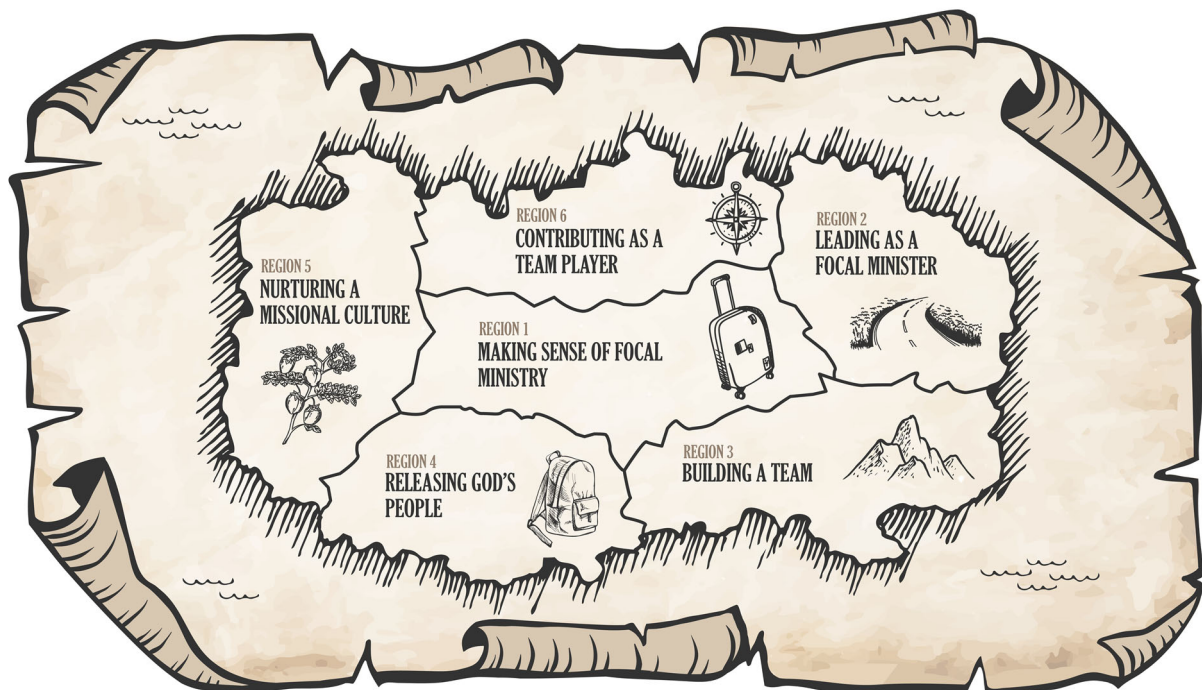
- Mobilising everyone's contribution.
- Spotting people's potential.
- Making space for others.
- Growing Godly motivation.

REGION 5: NURTURING A MISSIONAL CULTURE

- Discerning missional opportunities.
- Shaping a missional culture.
- Equipping a missional people.
- Developing a missional plan.

REGION 6: CONTRIBUTING AS A TEAM PLAYER

- Leading up – you and your Minister.
- Fitting in – connecting with the bigger vision.



Using The Guide

- 22 'sites' you can visit.
- Each site takes around an hour, with plenty of additional material if you want to take things further.
- Plot your journey by visiting the Regions of most interest to you.
- Join others on the journey, locally and nationally.