

Ministry Apprenticeship at Emmanuel 2026/2027

Introduction

Emmanuel Croydon seeks to be a place of Unconditional Welcome, Christ-centred Revival and Deep Discipleship in this Generation and the next, in South Croydon and Beyond.

Vital to our vision both in our own church and beyond is the identification and training of gospel ministers. By partnering in this endeavour we are blessed ourselves and are able to be a blessing to the wider church.

A ministry apprenticeship is a voluntary placement in a church for those wanting to gain local church ministry experience, including those exploring a call to ordained ministry. At Emmanuel this offers an opportunity to be trained and equipped as a disciple, to experience a range of church ministries first hand and, where appropriate, through practical involvement and personal supervision to explore a calling to full-time church ministry. The placement would usually run from 1st September for 12 months.

The description below is full-time but the scheme is flexible enough for those who have only part-time availability (e.g. within school hours or for less than 5 days a week).

What do ministry apprentices do?

There are four main components to the apprenticeship

- One day per week study at a training institution in Bible, Theology and Ministry
- Practical ministry experience at Emmanuel and beyond
- Practical service to support the ministry of the church
- Fortnightly supervisions

You will have an opportunity to observe, participate or help amongst other activities with the following:

- Preaching practice and feedback
- Service leading
- Weekly Ministry Planning
- Ministry Team Residential
- Ministry to seniors
- Youth & Children's ministry
- Sunday service planning
- Pastoral Visits
- 1-2-1 Discipleship
- Small Group leading
- Weddings & Funerals
- Regular Ministry Team training
- Courses introducing Alpha / Christianity Explored
- Involvement in wider Croydon & Deanery ministry partnerships

What does a week look like?

The following outline is indicative only and will be tailored to the individual and the time available. It may vary (e.g. each term) in order to give experience of different areas of ministry:

Monday

- AM Staff meeting & Planning with team members
- PM Personal Study time

Tuesday

- AM & PM Study (remote or in-person)
- Evening Leading Home Group / Youth Group

Wednesday

- AM Pastoral visit with ministry team member
- Lunch – 1-2-1 Bible study / discipleship
- PM Service prep meetings
- Evening Hope Explored / Alpha / Prayer at the Centre

Thursday

- AM Supervision, Preparation,
- Lunch Staff Prayer / Ministry Training
- PM Off

Friday

- AM Off
- Lunch 1-2-1 Bible study / discipleship
- PM Preparation
- Evening: Friday Rockz (fortnightly)

Saturday

- Off

Sunday

- AM Worship Team / Youth / Kids Work
- PM Welcome tea / Other Hospitality followed by Service leading / Preaching

In addition to the above there will be opportunities to take up positions of leadership in our larger yearly events such as Mayhem, Rendezvous, and our Christmas and Easter events and services, youth residentials.

Who is this for?

Ministry apprenticeships are above all for those with a deep-running commitment to Christ and a desire to serve the church. They will be committed to growing in knowledge and obedience to the word of God. They will have a desire to teach it and to grow together with others. They will be able to work as part of a team, and be willing to come under the oversight of Emmanuel's leadership. They will likely be exploring longer term church ministry in some form. Candidates from overseas may apply subject to having the appropriate permissions. Emmanuel invites applications from both men and women. We particularly encourage applications from women and people from ethnically diverse backgrounds as they are currently not represented in our clergy team.

For candidates who are already part of our congregation we would anticipate that our leadership team, ministry team or vocations co-ordinator would already have been talking with you about your possible call to ministry over a period of time prior to application. As part of that discernment process we would expect that you would already be playing an active part in the life of our church and probably leading in some areas.

For candidates who are not already part of our congregation we would look for some validation of a similar commitment and exploration of your call to ministry within your home church fellowship.

As part of this process of exploring your suitability as well as talking to you we would expect to talk to your partner (if applicable) or family members and close friends to understand whether they support you in this process. We would also explore with you that you understand the financial implications of embarking on this apprenticeship and future ministry training.

How will it be funded?

The Ministry apprenticeship is a voluntary role. Ministry Apprentices will need to raise funds to support their training and living expenses for the year. Emmanuel church may be able to assist with some of these costs. Reasonable expenses (e.g. travel for training) will be paid.

What Else Do I Need to Know

All applicants will be required to have a successful DBS check and to undergo some foundational safeguarding training and data protection training.

You will need to provide your own workspace at home and your own laptop etc.

You will have a specified line manager and, although this is a voluntary role, we will agree a specified number of days leave in the year so that we can plan your time effectively across the year.

To find out more then please speak to a member of our Leadership Team or our Vocations Coordinator via the office email address below.

How do I apply?

Applicants should submit a CV and a personal statement of no more than 500 words explaining their motivations and hopes for the Ministry Apprentice year to office@emmanuelcroydon.org.uk