

# FAQ's for Spiritual Accompaniment Training Course 2023

**Where?** Whalley Abbey. (Which is easily accessible from the Manchester area and, of course, shared lifts would be possible).

**When?** Several sessions generally on Thursdays, extending over the period January to June 2023 and including a residential retreat, as well as two overnight stays: 12th - 13th January (overnight), 26th January, 9th & 23rd February, 9th March, 27th - 30th March (retreat), 27th April, 11th & 25th May, 8th June, 22nd - 23rd June (overnight).

**How much?** £824, but there may be bursaries available to help with part of the cost.

**Who is running it?** A team from Manchester Diocese led by the Archdeacon of Rochdale, Ven David Sharples.

**Who is it for?** For those wishing to train for work as spiritual accompaniers. It is also open to those wishing to discern if this is their calling and to do so in an open and exploratory way. We would invite those who successfully complete the course to be added to the list of spiritual accompaniers held by Manchester Diocese.

**What previous experience is required?** We would expect people to be under spiritual direction themselves, along with a commitment to regular prayer (however inadequate they may feel that to be).

**What will the course expect from me?** A commitment to deepen your prayer life, through exploration, by practise, of a variety of ways of praying.

The course will have an experiential rather than academic focus. We would expect attendance to be high, reflecting the need for commitment to a serious calling.

**Is it only for Anglicans?** While it is being run by the Church of England, it is open to people of any denomination or background.

**If I'm interested, what do I do next?**

Please contact [pa.archrochdale@manchester.anglican.org](mailto:pa.archrochdale@manchester.anglican.org) for an application form which will be considered when we have received it duly completed.



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Diocese of Manchester

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FOR A  
DIFFERENT  
WORLD