

# Birmingham Diocese

## Summary Guidelines for Reader Selection include the following Criteria

### Vocation and Involvement within the Church of England

Candidates should:

- Be baptised and full members of the Church of England
- Be able to express a clear sense of call to Reader ministry
- Have the support of their Vicar and Church Congregation
- Have an understanding of nature of the Church of England.

### Integrity of Faith and Life

Candidates should:

- Show an understanding of the loving and saving purposes of God in Christ
- Be able to talk about how their faith relates to their daily life
- Have an understanding of, and a commitment to, the key beliefs of the Church
- Have a disciplined, but adventurous approach to different ways of worship and prayer,

### Theological Learning

Candidates should:

- Have the ability to cope with the demands of Reader ministry
- Enjoy learning and be able to respond to ideas through written, aural or visual media.
- Have an awareness of the opportunities and challenges of mission and evangelism
- Have the potential to reflect on the distinctiveness of the Church of England

### Reflective Skills and Ability to Cope with Change

Candidates should:

- Be able to make connections between different kinds of experience
- Be able to recognise their own strengths and weaknesses
- Show an aptitude for reflection
- Be able to encourage others
- Be able to cope with change

### Communication Skills

Candidates should:

- Be able to talk about Jesus Christ and the good news of the Kingdom of God
- Show potential for expressing themselves well in preaching, conversation and writing
- Communicate well in language that people understand
- Articulate their faith naturally, effectively and appropriately

### Relationships

Candidates should:

- Be able to form, develop and maintain healthy personal, professional and pastoral relationships
- Be able to work well and effectively with others
- Demonstrate listening and empathetic skills