

SCHOOL OF HOMELESS PASTORS

LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME 2026-2027

PROSPECTUS

Equipping and empowering Christians to serve people experiencing homelessness, addiction and social exclusion with the **love of Jesus** and the **hope of the gospel**.



*For the One.
In the Darkest Places.*



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Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?

Luke 15:4



WELCOME FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Welcome to the School of Homeless Pastors.

Thank you for considering joining a movement of ordinary Christians committed to doing extraordinary things for God's Kingdom.

Every day, across our towns and cities, people are living without hope, without stability and often without someone who truly sees them. Behind every rough sleeper, every person battling addiction and every individual facing social exclusion is a unique story—a person created in the image of God and deeply loved by Him.

Jesus told the story of the lost sheep to remind us that every person matters. He leaves the ninety-nine to search for the one who is lost. That same heart continues to inspire everything we do.

David Fawcett

David Fawcett

Founder & Chief Executive
The Homeless Pastors CIC

The School of Homeless Pastors exists to equip compassionate Christian leaders who are willing to step beyond the walls of the church and into the places where hope is needed most.

This programme combines biblical teaching, practical ministry and leadership development so that you can confidently serve your community with wisdom, compassion and the love of Christ.

**Our vision is simple but ambitious:
to help change a nation, one person at a time.**

Every conversation. Every act of kindness. Every prayer. Every life restored has the potential to transform families, communities and generations.

If God is calling you to serve people experiencing homelessness, addiction or social exclusion, I invite you to join us. Together we can illuminate the way home, one person at a time.

I look forward to welcoming you into the School of Homeless Pastors.



OUR VISION, MISSION & VALUES

OUR VISION

To see every town and city equipped with compassionate Homeless Pastors who bring hope, dignity and the love of Jesus to people experiencing homelessness, addiction and social exclusion.

OUR VALUES

COMPASSION

We see the person before the problem. Every individual is created in the image of God and deserves to be treated with dignity, respect and unconditional love. Compassion is at the heart of everything we do.

COMMITMENT

We don't simply respond to immediate need – we walk alongside people for as long as it takes. We are committed to long-term relationships, discipleship and lasting transformation.

COMMUNITY

Real change happens through relationships. We build communities where people belong, churches work together and lives are restored through faith, friendship and practical support.

OUR MISSION

To equip and empower Homeless Pastors through biblical teaching, practical ministry and leadership development, enabling them to establish sustainable Homeless Pastors teams that transform lives, strengthen communities and illuminate the way home.

EXCELLENCE

We are committed to excellence in everything we do. From leadership training and safeguarding to outreach and pastoral care, we continually develop ourselves and our programme so that we serve with professionalism, integrity and the highest possible standards.

FAITH

Everything begins with Jesus Christ. We believe lives are transformed through the hope of the Gospel, the power of prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit.

WORKING WITH THE LOCAL CHURCH

We believe the local church is God's answer for the local community. We partner with and equip churches to reach their communities with the love of Jesus.

“

Every person matters. Every conversation matters. Every act of kindness matters. Together, we will **illuminate the way home** and help **change a nation** – one person at a time.

“

The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.

Matthew 9:37



WHY THE SCHOOL EXISTS

Across the United Kingdom, thousands of people are experiencing homelessness, addiction, poverty, loneliness and social exclusion. Behind every statistic is a person—a life with value, purpose and potential.

Many churches want to respond, but often lack the confidence, training or practical experience to engage safely and effectively with people living on the margins ...

The School of Homeless Pastors was created to bridge that gap.

We believe God is calling ordinary Christians to become extraordinary servant leaders—equipped with the biblical knowledge, practical skills and compassion needed to serve where hope is needed most.

**By investing in one leader, we strengthen one church.
By strengthening one church, we transform one community.
By transforming communities across the nation,
we help change lives—one person at a time.**

WHO IS THE SCHOOL FOR?

This programme has been designed for Christians who feel called to:

- Serve people experiencing homelessness, addiction or social exclusion.
- Start or lead a Homeless Pastors team.
- Develop practical outreach and pastoral care skills.
- Grow as confident Christian leaders.
- Work in partnership with the local church and community organisations.
- Turn compassion into lasting action.

“

*Jesus didn't wait for people to come to Him.
He went to where they were. We believe His Church should do the same.*



**YOU'RE NOT
JUST JOINING A
COURSE—YOU'RE
JOINING A TEAM.**



WHY THIS LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME IS DIFFERENT

We believe this is more than training.

It's a transformative journey that equips you, connects you and sends you into the streets with confidence, compassion and the support of a team behind you.

MINISTRY IN THE MARGINS

This is specific, practical training for ministry on the margins. You'll learn by engaging with the realities of homelessness, addiction, mental health, trauma and social exclusion alongside experienced Homeless Pastors. You'll learn not only what to do, but how to do it safely, effectively and with Christ at the centre.

YOU'RE NEVER SERVING ALONE

Through our active WhatsApp communities and regular communication, you'll have a team of students, graduates and experienced leaders with you every step of the way. Share victories, ask questions, get advice, and receive prayer and encouragement throughout the week. Homeless Pastors don't work in isolation. We work as one team.

LEARN FROM EXPERIENCE

Our trainers are not just teachers—they are practitioners. They have years of frontline experience and bring real-life wisdom, stories and insights into every session.

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

Every module is rooted in Scripture, helping you grow in your relationship with Jesus and understand His heart for the marginalised.

PRACTICAL & HANDS-ON LEARNING

Outreach, street engagement, group leadership and real ministry experience are built into the programme.

MENTORING & COACHING

Receive personal support and guidance to help you grow in your calling and overcome the challenges of frontline ministry.

WORKING WITH THE LOCAL CHURCH

We equip you to build strong partnerships with churches and community organisations so that together we can bring lasting transformation.

A NATIONAL NETWORK

Join a growing movement of trained Homeless Pastors across the UK—cities and towns working together, sharing resources and making a greater impact.

GRADUATION & COMMISSIONING

Celebrate your achievement at our graduation service and be commissioned to continue the vital work God has called you to.



*When one Homeless Pastor faces a challenge, they are never facing it alone. Together, we learn. Together, we serve. Together, we **illuminate the way home.***

OUR IMPACT

IN THE LAST
THREE MONTHS

Every day, Homeless Pastors and our partners are on the streets, in communities and in the local church, bringing hope and practical help to people who need it most.

Here's a snapshot of the difference we're making together.

4,793

PEOPLE
REACHED

3,462

FOOD &
DRINK

636

PRAYER
OFFERED

252

TOTAL
REFERRALS

PEOPLE REACHED BY AREA

Halifax	836
Bradford	325
Leeds	390
Bolton	675
Preston	644
Accrington	259
Blackburn	831
Burnley	432
Nelson	401

REFERRALS & SUPPORT

HOUSING REFERRALS	140
REHAB REFERRALS	66
EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION	46
TOTAL REFERRALS	252

WHO WE WORKED WITH

2,775

MEN SUPPORTED

2,018

WOMEN SUPPORTED



*Behind every number is a person with a name,
a story and a future.*

**Together, we bring hope. Together, we change lives.
Together, we illuminate the way home.**

TRAINING SCHEDULE

Equipping and empowering Christians to serve people experiencing homelessness, addiction and social exclusion with the love of Jesus and the hope of the gospel.

2026

DATE	DAY	SESSION / TOPIC	TIME	VENUE
20 AUG	THU	 Introduction Session Zoom	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Zoom
14 SEP	MON	 Ministry in the Margins 1: Visions and Values of Healthy Theology	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Zoom
29 SEP	TUE	 Monthly Team Meeting	6:30pm – 8:00pm	Zoom
1 OCT	THU	 Good Healthy Boundaries	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Zoom
12 OCT	MON	 Ministry in the Margins 2: Missiology for the Margins	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Zoom
22 OCT	THU	 Mental Health Awareness	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Zoom
9 NOV	MON	 Ministry in the Margins 3: The Image of God	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Zoom
13 NOV	FRI	 Training Day 1 – Halifax Safeguarding (Level 3) Drug Awareness Sexual Abuse Awareness	9:00am – 4:00pm	Halifax
19 NOV	THU	 Suicide Awareness	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Zoom
24 NOV	TUE	 Monthly Team Meeting	6:30pm – 8:00pm	Zoom
3 DEC	THU	 Asylum Seeker & Refugee Myth Busting	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Zoom
7 DEC	MON	 Ministry in the Margins 4: Leading Accessible Worship	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Zoom



LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME 2026–2027

TRAINING SCHEDULE

2027

YEAR TWO TRAINING SCHEDULE

Year Two builds on everything you've learned in Year One, equipping you to lead confidently, establish sustainable Homeless Pastors teams and serve your community with wisdom, resilience and compassion.

DURING YEAR TWO YOU WILL:

- Deepen your understanding of Ministry in the Margins
- Learn advanced outreach, trauma-informed ministry and recovery
- Build partnerships with local churches and organisations
- Receive continued mentoring and coaching
- Gain practical outreach leadership experience
- Develop sustainable Homeless Pastors teams
- Prepare for Graduation and Commissioning

DATE	DAY	SESSION / TOPIC	TIME	VENUE
11 JAN	MON	Ministry in the Margins 5: Learning to Lament	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Zoom
14 JAN	THU	Introduction to Outreach	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Zoom
26 JAN	TUE	Monthly Team Meeting	6:30pm – 8:00pm	Zoom
28 JAN	THU	Local Homeless Services Overview	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Zoom
8 FEB	MON	Ministry in the Margins 6: Why the Hell do Bad Things Happen?	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Zoom
12 FEB	FRI	Evangelism in the Margins Workshop (Includes 20-minute refreshment break)	1:00pm – 5:00pm	Zoom
23 FEB	TUE	Monthly Team Meeting	6:30pm – 5:00pm	Zoom
8 MAR	MON	Ministry in the Margins 7: Addiction and Recovery	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Zoom
11 MAR	THU	Complex Trauma-Informed Practice	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Zoom
12 MAR	FRI	Training Day 2 – Halifax Emergency First Aid First Aid for Knife Attacks Level 2 (VTO) Managing Aggressive Behaviour & De-escalation	9:00am – 4:00pm	Halifax
25 MAR	THU	Networking & Partnership Working	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Zoom
30 MAR	TUE	Monthly Team Meeting	6:30pm – 8:00pm	Zoom
19 APR	MON	Ministry in the Margins 8: Helping without Hurting	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Zoom
22 APR	THU	Volunteer Development & Community Groups	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Zoom
27 APR	TUE	Monthly Team Meeting	6:30pm – 8:00pm	Zoom
10 MAY	MON	Ministry in the Margins 9: Trauma: Hope for Healing	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Zoom
20 MAY	THU	Town & City Development Planning – Part 1	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Zoom
25 MAY	TUE	Monthly Team Meeting	6:30pm – 8:00pm	Zoom
3 JUN	THU	Town & City Development Planning – Part 2 Progress Review & Accountability	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Zoom
7 JUN	MON	Ministry in the Margins 10: Course Reflection, Integration & Commissioning	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Zoom
12 JUN	SAT	Life Recovery Level 5 – Day 1	9:00am – 4:00pm	Burnley
19 JUN	SAT	Life Recovery Level 5 – Day 2	9:00am – 4:00pm	Burnley
29 JUN	TUE	Monthly Team Meeting	6:30pm – 8:00pm	Zoom
11 JUL	SUN	★ GRADUATION & COMMISSIONING SERVICE Venue to be confirmed	Time TBC	Venue TBC



After two years of learning, practical ministry and leadership development, you'll be commissioned to return to your town or city equipped to **illuminate the way home.**

PRACTICAL MINISTRY & MINISTRY IN THE MARGINS

Our training is designed to equip and empower you for effective ministry on the margins. You'll learn through a blend of teaching, practical experience and mentoring that prepares you to serve with confidence, compassion and excellence in your town or city.

PRACTICAL REQUIREMENTS

Throughout the Leadership Programme, students are expected to complete a range of practical ministry activities alongside the taught modules. These experiences ensure every graduate develops real confidence, practical skills and frontline ministry experience.

- ✓ Attend all training sessions and **monthly team meetings**.
- ✓ Complete the recommended **course reading list**.
- ✓ Complete a minimum of **8 outreach sessions**.
- ✓ Complete a minimum of **2 community group visits**.
- ✓ Complete a minimum of **2 one-to-one support sessions**.
- ✓ **Shadow** experienced Homeless Pastors during outreach.
- ✓ Build partnerships with **local churches**.
- ✓ Develop relationships with local **statutory and voluntary services**.
- ✓ Complete and present a **Town & City Development Plan**.
- ✓ Complete all **practical assignments**.
- ✓ Complete the **Life Recovery Level 5** course.
- ✓ Adhere to The Light Group **safeguarding policy** and **professional code of conduct**.

MINISTRY IN THE MARGINS MODULES

These ten core modules form the foundation of the teaching throughout the year and will equip you to think, lead and minister well in the margins.

1	Visions and Values of Healthy Theology Understanding the biblical and theological foundation for ministry in the margins.	6	Why the Hell do Bad Things Happen? Theology and pastoral care in the midst of suffering and injustice.
2	Missiology for the Margins Exploring God's heart for the lost, least and last.	7	Addiction and Recovery Understanding addiction, recovery pathways and holistic support.
3	The Image of God Seeing and serving people through the lens of dignity and identity.	8	Helping without Hurting Principles of healthy, empowering and sustainable ministry.
4	Leading Accessible Worship Creating inclusive, Spirit-led spaces of worship for all.	9	Trauma: Hope for Healing Responding well to trauma with hope, care and appropriate referrals.
5	Learning to Lament Developing compassion, lament and hope in the face of brokenness.	10	Course Reflection, Integration & Commissioning Reviewing learning, integrating experience and stepping into ongoing mission.



Ministry in the margins isn't something you simply study — it's something you learn by walking alongside people, listening well and serving with the **compassion of Christ**.

MEET YOUR TRAINING TEAM

You're learning from practitioners who
continue to serve on the frontline every week.

HIGH QUALITY TRAINING

Every element of the Leadership Programme has been designed around real-life ministry. Rather than simply teaching theory, the programme combines biblical understanding with practical application.

Students learn from experienced practitioners who continue to serve on the frontline of outreach, homelessness, safeguarding, recovery and church leadership.

Every session equips participants with knowledge they can immediately apply within their own communities.

HIGH QUALITY TRAINING RESOURCES

Throughout the programme you'll receive professionally prepared learning resources including:

- Session notes
- Practical ministry resources
- Personal development planning tools
- Safeguarding guidance
- Referral pathways
- Recommended reading
- Ongoing supporting resources

These materials become a valuable reference long after graduation, helping Homeless Pastors lead with confidence, consistency and professionalism.

DAVID FAWCETT

Founder & Chief Executive,
The Light Group &
The Homeless Pastors

With more than twenty years' experience serving people affected by homelessness, addiction, poverty and social exclusion, David teaches outreach, leadership, homelessness, community engagement and ministry on the margins, equipping Christians to serve vulnerable people with compassion, dignity and practical support.

REV'D JON SWALES MBE

Principal, Lighthouse
School of Missional Theology

Anglican priest, pioneer, theologian and Principal of Lighthouse School of Missional Theology. Jon leads Lighthouse West Yorkshire and is passionate about helping the Church recover its missional calling to serve the most vulnerable in society.

PASTOR STEPHEN THOMPSON

Elim Minister
& Evangelist

An Elim minister and evangelist from Northern Ireland, Stephen brings extensive experience in evangelism, leadership and ministry among people affected by addiction, poverty and poor mental health.

SIMON FERRIS

Founder, SEF First Aid
Assistance & Flat Stan First Aid

Simon is nationally recognised for delivering engaging first aid and mental health training and has helped teach life-saving skills to more than **262,000** children.

LISA NORCROSS

Chief Executive,
Kairos Housing

Lisa brings extensive experience supporting asylum seekers and refugees, developing communities and mobilising churches to put faith into practical action.

JO KEENAN

BACP Accredited
Counsellor

Jo specialises in trauma-informed counselling and training, equipping churches, charities and organisations to understand trauma and create healthier, more compassionate cultures.



In addition to our core team, the programme includes guest lecturers and specialist contributors with expertise in a wide range of practical and theological areas relevant to frontline ministry.



Together our trainers bring decades of frontline experience in outreach, theology, safeguarding, trauma, recovery, evangelism and community leadership—giving students a rich, practical and biblically grounded learning experience.

STUDENT STORIES

Real people. Real ministry. Real lives transformed.
A year of learning becomes a lifetime of serving others.



Every student arrives with a unique story and a unique calling. Throughout the Leadership Programme they develop practical skills, grow in confidence and become part of a supportive Christian community. These reflections come from students whose lives and ministries have been shaped through the School of Homeless Pastors.

CORRINA STANLEY

Homeless Pastor
– Nelson

“The School of Homeless Pastors gave me confidence, practical skills and a supportive network. Through the training and community groups I’ve been able to support people into rehabilitation, housing and recovery whilst growing in my own calling.”

CHRIS THRUSH

Area Homeless Pastor
– West Yorkshire

“The School of Homeless Pastors gave me the foundations, confidence and support to step into ministry. Today I have the privilege of helping hundreds of people whilst being part of a network that continually encourages and equips me.”

PAUL SHARROCK

Homeless Pastor
– Burnley

“After overcoming addiction and homelessness, the School equipped me to give something back. Serving others and pointing people towards hope, recovery and Jesus is now one of the greatest privileges of my life.”

MATTHEW MAKEPEACE

Homeless Pastor
– Leeds

“The School gave me the confidence and practical skills to follow God’s call. Today I have the privilege of being the hands and feet of Jesus—building relationships, serving people in practical ways and helping them take steps out of homelessness.”

TRACEY TYLER

Homeless Pastor
– Preston

“The School has taught me so much about supporting people out of homelessness. I’ve grown in confidence, developed practical skills and had the privilege of walking alongside people as they take positive steps towards a better future.”



Every student begins with a calling.
Every graduate leaves equipped to make a lasting difference.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Everything you need to know before you apply.

A year of leadership development, practical ministry and lifelong impact begins here.

1 WHO CAN APPLY?

Applications are welcome from people aged 18 or over who have a heart for serving people experiencing homelessness and others living on the margins. Applicants should be actively involved in a local church, willing to complete the programme and practical placements, and able to access online learning.

2 HOW LONG IS THE PROGRAMME?

The School of Homeless Pastors is a two-year Leadership Programme designed to develop confident Christian leaders through biblical teaching, practical ministry, mentoring and real frontline experience.



YEAR ONE lays the foundations through online learning, practical training and outreach experience.



YEAR TWO builds on those foundations with advanced ministry, leadership development, practical placements and preparation for Graduation and Commissioning.

Throughout the programme, students receive ongoing mentoring, access to the Homeless Pastors Network and continued support as they grow in their calling.

3 WHAT MAKES THIS PROGRAMME DIFFERENT?

Unlike many training programmes that focus mainly on classroom learning, the School combines:

- ✓ Professional training
- ✓ Real-world outreach
- ✓ Mentoring
- ✓ A growing international network
- ✓ Support to launch ministry in your own community

4 WHAT TRAINING WILL I RECEIVE?

Students receive practitioner-led training including:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| ✓ Safeguarding Level 3 | ✓ Emergency First Aid |
| ✓ Mental Health Awareness | ✓ First Aid for Knife Attacks Level 2 (VTQ) |
| ✓ Suicide Awareness | ✓ Partnership Working |
| ✓ Trauma-informed Practice | ✓ Community Development |
| ✓ Recovery Ministry | ✓ Ministry in the Margins |

5 HOW MUCH DOES THE PROGRAMME COST?

The complete programme costs £3,000, with £1,500 normally raised by the student and £1,500 contributed by their church. A variety of funding routes are available.

6 IS FINANCIAL SUPPORT AVAILABLE?

Yes. A limited bursary fund is available for applicants who genuinely cannot meet the full cost. Flexible payment options, Direct Debit, church sponsorship and fundraising are also available.

7 WHAT HAPPENS AFTER GRADUATION?

We go on to support our students for a further year whilst they establish The Homeless Pastors project in their hometown. We support them through the network, regular one-to-one support and homeless supplies, and provide additional training where required.

8 DOES GRADUATION GUARANTEE EMPLOYMENT?

No. Graduation equips students for ministry and community outreach but does not automatically lead to a volunteer or paid position with The Light Group or any affiliated organisation. Recruitment is managed separately through the normal application process.

9 HOW DO I APPLY?



Visit our website to complete our volunteer application form and find out more.

www.thehomelesspastors.org/volunteer-form

or contact the School for advice about applications, funding and the next intake.



Don't let finance become a barrier to God's calling.
Talk to us—we'll help you explore the options.

**Apply
NOW**







FEES & FUNDING

Investing in your calling. Supporting your journey.

1. PROGRAMME INVESTMENT

Leadership Programme Fee

£3,000

Complete Leadership Programme (Levels 1–5)

2. HOW YOUR PLACE IS NORMALLY FUNDED

The cost of the Leadership Programme is £3,000 and is normally shared between:



STUDENT CONTRIBUTION

£1,500

Usually raised through:

- Personal contribution
- Fundraising
- Monthly giving
- Family and friends



CHURCH CONTRIBUTION

£1,500

Usually provided through:

- Local church support
- Church mission budget
- Partner church sponsorship

3. OTHER WAYS TO FUND YOUR PLACE

Your place can be funded in many different ways. Funding can include:

- ✓ One-off payments
- ✓ Monthly Direct Debit
- ✓ Fundraising
- ✓ Church sponsorship
- ✓ Business sponsorship
- ✓ Trusts and grant funding
- ✓ Support from sponsors and supporters
- ✓ Any combination of the above

We understand every person's situation is unique, and we'll work with you to find the best way forward.

4. WHAT YOUR FEE INCLUDES

- ✓ Levels 1–5 Leadership Programme
- ✓ Ministry in the Margins
- ✓ Practical ministry experience
- ✓ Training materials
- ✓ Workshops and guest speakers
- ✓ Mentoring
- ✓ Supervision and personal development
- ✓ Online learning resources
- ✓ Membership of the Homeless Pastors Network
- ✓ Prayer gatherings
- ✓ Continued support after graduation
- ✓ Continued connection with The Light Group family



5. NEED HELP?

We never want finance to prevent someone responding to God's call.

Talk to Angela about:

- bursaries
- payment plans
- fundraising ideas
- church support
- sponsorship opportunities

Angela

01422 250592

 angela@thehomelesspastors.org

Apply NOW



Don't let finance become a barrier to God's calling.
Talk to us—we'll help you explore the options.

*Come. He said. Then Peter
got down out of the boat,
walked on water and
came toward Jesus.*

Matthew 14:29

FOR THE ONE IN THE DARKEST PLACES.

Your support makes it possible
to bring hope, practical help and
the love of Jesus to those who
need it most.



GET IN TOUCH



ADDRESS: Angels Rest Hub,
15 Crossley Street,
Halifax, HX1 1UG



EMAIL:
ANGELA@THEHOMELESSPASTORS.ORG



TEL: 01422 250592



**HOMELESS
PASTORS**

Walking alongside homeless
people. **Bringing hope.**
Building futures.



thehomelesspastors.org