

The 'staff accompanier' is the member of staff who is the key contact and lead person responsible for CAFOD's Young Leadership Programme in their school.

To help save time, we've brought together top tips, useful resources, contact details and training day details into one place – everything staff accompaniers need to help them run CAFOD's Young Leadership Programme in your sixth form.

## Role of Staff Accompaniers

Thank you for giving your students an opportunity to lead global justice action in your school. Together we can help our young people put their faith into action by working together to fight poverty and injustice in our local and global communities.

As the Staff Accompanier, we ask that you:

- Be CAFOD's point of contact
- Identify suitable students for training (students starting Year 12 with leadership potential)
- Ensure your students attend all three training days and bring lunch to the days
- Arrange travel for students and accompany your group to the training days and be present at the online day
- Ensure your group meets throughout the term to organise and run activities for each Challenge
- Identify opportunities for your Young Leaders to run school-wide awareness raising, fundraising and campaigning activities to inspire other students
- Ensure your group completes all three Challenges and keep a record of activities undertaken by Young Leaders within school
- Encourage your Young Leaders to share action they've been taking via social media and local press to inspire other young people
- Are responsible for the health and safety of your students while at, and travelling to and from, the training days. CAFOD completes a risk assessment for training sessions, which is shared with Staff Accompaniers before each day.

While we encourage participants of the programme to be independent and 'take the lead' in the CAFOD Young Leadership Challenges, we recognise that the Young Leaders will need some support from their school. We appreciate the value this support can bring, ensuring the Young Leaders' experience is productive and rewarding.

## About CAFOD's Young Leadership programme

We know young people can take the lead in creating a better world and believe in investing in young people as future leaders who are inspired to put their faith into action and act in solidarity with our local and global communities. For this reason, CAFOD's Young Leadership Programme is free. In return, we ask that your school supports the Young Leaders in raising awareness, campaigning and fundraising for CAFOD during the year.

### Programme structure

*September: Promo and recruitment in your school.*

Recruiting your Young Leaders; Getting student and parent/carer consent

*September/October: Training day 1. In-person session in your local area.*

Introduction to the programme and training in leadership and communication skills for Challenge 1: Share the Stories.

*January: Training day 2. An in-person session in your local area*

Developing skills in teamwork, time management and problem solving for Challenge 2: Fundraise for a Fairer World.

*May: Training day 3: Online session*

Developing skills in influencing and campaigning for Challenge 3: Campaign for Change.

*June: Celebration event in London*

A national event where Young Leaders from across the country come together to celebrate their achievements.

## CAFOD Young Leadership Programme and the CSI Inspection Framework

CAFOD's Young Leadership Programme aims to empower young people to lead global justice action in their school. Catholic Social Teaching is at the heart of the programme and the Challenges are rooted in our duty to share resources actively and strive for justice for our brothers and sisters.

The activities Young Leaders carry out each term as part of the Young Leadership programme provide an opportunity to show evidence of pupils' involvement in:

- charitable activities and campaigns
- advocacy work and campaigning work and transformational action for the poor, the marginalised and the unjustly treated
- activities that contribute to the life and mission of the school
- acts of solidarity with the poorest and most vulnerable in the world, such as water saving, Fairtrade or recycling schemes.

## Young Leadership Calendar 2024/25

Diocese	Training day 1	Training day 2	Training day 3	Celebration day
Arundel & Brighton	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April Online	11 June 2025 London
Brentwood	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May Online	
Hallam	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	Online	
Hexham & Newcastle	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May Online	
Lancaster, Shrewsbury & Salford	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May Online	
Liverpool	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January Venue TBC	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> May Online	
Middlesbrough	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May Online	
Portsmouth	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May Online	
Southwark	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May Online	
Westminster	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May Online	

## We have local staff in your diocese, ready to help

Diocese	Name	Email	Phone number
Arundel & Brighton	Jenny Finlayson	jfinlayson@cafod.org.uk	07710 094448
Brentwood	Jane Crone	jcrone@cafod.org.uk	07779 804252
Hallam	Sharon Matthews	smatthews@cafod.org.uk	07748 514641
Hexham & Newcastle	Sharon Matthews	smatthews@cafod.org.uk	07748 514641
Lancaster, Shrewsbury & Salford	Annapaola Letizia	aletizia@cafod.org.uk	07710 094449
Liverpool	Ged Edwards	gedwards@cafod.org.uk	07961 077299
Middlesbrough	Sharon Matthews	smatthews@cafod.org.uk	07748 514641
Portsmouth	Jo Lewry	jlewry@cafod.org.uk	07710 094447
Southwark	Sarah Cadwallader	swestrap@cafod.org.uk	07790 196898
Westminster	Chris Driscoll	cdriscoll@cafod.org.uk	07776 493162

## Top tips for recruiting Young Leaders

There's no set way to recruit Young Leaders; Staff Accompaniers are free to recruit students in whatever way works best for your setting. Below are examples of some tried-and-tested recruitment methods.

- **Formal applications and interviews**  
A structured application process, with an application form and interviews, is often used in sixth forms where there are likely to be a large number of students who would like to be CAFOD Young Leaders. Young Leaders from the previous year are sometimes involved in shortlisting and interviewing.
- **Identifying committed RS students**  
The principles of Catholic Social Teaching are at the heart of CAFOD's Young Leadership programme, making it particularly appealing to A level RS students and those interested in studying Theology and Religion at university. The programme is an opportunity to gather evidence of putting Faith into Action.
- **Recruiting an influential or sociable student**  
Year 12 students, particularly those who are new to the sixth form, are often interested in developing their social connections. Some Staff Accompaniers start their recruitment process by offering a place to an influential or sociable student in the year who then encourages a broader group of students to get involved.
- **Personal declaration of interest**  
Being a CAFOD Young Leader requires commitment and good communication skills. Some schools ask students to explain why they would like to be part of the programme and what they could bring to the role in terms of their skills and experience. To promote inclusivity, these statements don't need to be written; they could be short videos, presentations or posters.
- **Using Young Leaders alumni as recruitment ambassadors**  
One of the best adverts for the programme is Young Leader alumni. In a recent evaluation, we found that 100% of CAFOD Young Leaders surveyed would recommend being a Young Leader to others. Interviewing past Young Leaders at an assembly or asking them to answer questions at lunch time can be an effective advert.

Useful resources available at [cafod.org.uk/for-young-people/young-leaders](https://cafod.org.uk/for-young-people/young-leaders)

- Student recruitment flyer
- Student Accompaniers information
- Resources to support Challenge 1: Share the Stories
- Resources to support Challenge 2: Fundraise for a Fairer World
- Resources to support Challenge 3: Campaign for Change.