

LEAD FOR LIFE INTERNSHIP

INFORMATION BOOKLET



Overview of the Programme

The Programme

Aims

The Lead for Life Internship Programme has three main aims:

1. To help build the foundations of faith by providing young leaders with a deeper understanding of God's word that they might love Him
2. To stimulate young leaders to grow in godly character by helping them nurture their relationship with God
3. To train young leaders in practical skills of leadership and ministering to others

Components

The Lead for Life Internship Programme has three main components, and they are designed to be as time flexible as possible to allow people with a wide variety of lifestyles to participate. That means if you live rurally, or whether plan to work, study, or take a gap year, none of those should impact your eligibility to complete the programme. The three components are:

1. **Intensive training week:** Runs parallel to PY Summer Camp (27 Dec – 1 Jan), and involves teaching sessions, discussion groups, and practical experience. Teaching sessions are run by qualified ministers of the Presbyterian Church and experienced leaders.
2. **Local church ministry & mentoring:** 12 months following the intensive week, interns will participate in some form of ministry in their local church (e.g. helping lead Sunday school, kids club, youth group, elderly ministry, or any other regular ministry run by the local church). A mentor should be assigned from the congregation to provide support, accountability, and to demonstrate the benefits of life together as a church.
3. **Small group leading:** Whether at a PY Camp (Summer Camp, or a regional camp), or another approved Christian camp, interns will co-lead a small group to gain experience in serving God in a wider Christian context outside their local church.

Requirements

- The programme is pitched at school-leavers and above (approximately 17–23-year-olds), but exemptions can be made outside this range, so do not be discouraged to apply if you are older or younger than this.
- Prospective interns should be willing to commit to:
 - Attendance at the intensive training week (27 Dec – Jan 1)
 - Regular involvement in a local church ministry for the 12 months following the intensive week

- Meeting regularly with a mentor and engaging in reflection and accountability with them for the 12 months following the intensive week
- Attendance at a PY (or other, approved) Christian camp as a leader following the 12 months of ministry and mentoring at a local church
- Obtaining a Working with Children Check (WWCC), and completing the Presbyterian child protection training Breaking the Silence in order to work with children and/or young people

What if I'm moving?

We understand that people occasionally move cities (and therefore churches) for work, study, or other reasons at the start of the new year (or part-way through). In these circumstances, exceptions and alternative arrangements can be made to accommodate participation in the programme.

What Bible Teaching is Covered in the Programme?

The teaching pitched at a senior high/first-year tertiary level (e.g., TAFE or Uni) and is designed to give young leaders solid grounding in understanding the Bible, Cross-Shaped leadership, and practical experience. This is reflected in the three primary strands of teaching in the programme, the first two of which are covered in the intensive week. The three strands are:

Christian Belief covers major themes of the Bible from a biblically and systematically theological perspective (the Bible as a unified story, and the fundamentals of Christian belief based on what we read across that story).

Cross-Shaped Leadership is based on Jesus' model of discipleship in the New Testament, and the character of a Christian leader.

Fieldwork is the 12 months of ministry and mentoring that follows the intensive week. There are also optional reflection assignments to solidify this component if desired.

A sample program is provided on the following page.

Time	Sun 27	Mon 28	Tue 29	Wed 30	Thu 31	Fri 1
800	Rego	Breakfast				
830		Morning Session				
910		Small Group Review				The Year Ahead
940		Biblical Session 1	Biblical Session 3	Biblical Session 5	Leadership Session 4	Biblical Session 6
1040		Morning Tea				
1100		Biblical Session 1	Biblical Session 3	Biblical Session 5	Leadership Practise 4	Biblical Session 6
1120		Leadership Session 1	Leadership Session 2	Prep for Assessment	Leadership Session 5	Small group, Review of NYE; Personal growth plan
1230		Lunch			Lunch	
100					Mission Spot	Camping Workshop
130		Leadership Practise 1	Leadership Practise 2	Assessment for Christian Belief	Leadership Practise 5	Pack up, farewell and group prayer
205		Short Break	Leadership Session 3		Short Break	
215		Conflict Workshop	Leadership Practice 3		Summer Camp NYE activity prep	
305						
325		Afternoon tea		Afternoon tea & free time		
340	Free Time	Afternoon tea & free time	Chill with Summer Camp	Summer Camp NYE Activity prep		
500		Free Time / Intern Outing				
530				Dinner		

600		Dinner				
645				Small group reflection		
		Biblical Session 2	Biblical Session 4			Home
800	Introduction, orientation				Run NYE activity	
815	and group time	Small group reflection, questions & assessment prep.	Small group reflection, questions & assessment prep.	Summer Camp NYE activity prep		

930	Supper	Supper and free time		Intern NYE party
1030		Bed and Lights out		NYE Summer Camp
1245				Lights out

It's Challenging but Good!

Individuals from diverse walks of life have undertaken the programme. This includes those intending and already involved in further education, technical trades, agriculture, gap year programmes, military service, and other professions. Irrespective of your background the programme is challenging but the benefits are worth it.

The intensive week lives up to its name – the days can sometimes feel long. But the benefits for you include looking at the Bible, God and yourself in new ways and making friendships that will stay with you for a long time.

The ministry and mentoring back in your local church are time flexible but involve a commitment to show up, get involved and reflect on your experiences. Yet this too is deeply rewarding including seeing God at work in your life, the gifts and opportunities he gives you to serve, the fellowship of mentoring and applying your understanding and experience from the intensive week to your day-to-day life and local ministry. It will help to learn that that spiritually formed, mature Christian leaders can and should be living the gospel in all aspects of day-to-day life.

Application Process

The application process is online, and involves three forms

1. The application form (<https://l4l-intern.paperform.co/>) is for prospective interns. It asks why you want to do the programme, as well as your Christian background and church involvement
2. The local church endorsement (<https://l4l-church.paperform.co/>) is for the minister or elder of the applicants' church. It asks for a commitment from the church to support the applicant as they undertake the internship, as well as who their mentor will be
3. A registration for Summer Camp (<https://pynsw.org.au/summer-camp/>). This is the standard form for PY camps and includes dietary and medical information

Endorsement from your local church

Please discuss with your minister or the person overseeing the application process about your intent to undertake the programme. The earlier the better, so you can consider ministry involvement and mentoring options. In the case of an applicant moving churches, it gives you and your time to consider ways of ministry and mentoring after relocation.

Costs

Costs for the programme are below. If the camp fees are a barrier to attending, please contact the PY office or Internship co-ordinators to discuss options (contact details below).

Cost to local Church: \$250 per person

Cost to intern: \$629 per person. Note there are no late fees, and there are discounts when registering more than one person at the same time

Checklist

If you feel ready to apply, fantastic! Here is a checklist to make sure you're all set:

- I have discussed with my minister/elder:
 - My intention to apply for this programme, and about suitable mentors
 - Their endorsement form – <https://l4l-church.paperform.co/>
- I am available for each of the [components](#) of the programme listed above.
- I am prepared to apply for a Working with Children Check (WWCC by) and complete Breaking the Silence training
- I have completed an application form – <https://l4l-intern.paperform.co/>
- I have registered for Summer Camp (make sure you select “intern” and not “camper”) – <https://pynsw.org.au/summer-camp/>
- I understand that my enrolment in the programme is contingent upon my personal life lived consistently with the morals found in the Bible both during the programme and back in my local church, and that breaches regarding the above could jeopardise my enrolment in the programme.

More Information

If you have any questions, please contact one of the internship co-ordinators:

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Additional Information for Churches

Introduction

The endorsement form is designed to assist the team in understanding the intern as they enter the programme – strengths, beneficial areas of training and/or growth, involvement in church, and, critically, your endorsement of their taking a step up in maturity and leadership in church contexts. It is therefore important to provide a balanced report—we are not simply seeking the brightest and best, but rather an honest snapshot of the applicant.

Importance of the Local Church Recommendation and Mentoring

The programme is about developing emerging young leaders in the local church and we seek to work well alongside the local church in two ways:

First, through your input and recommendation via the church endorsement form we can deliver the best possible training experience for the people you think would be most appropriate for the programme.

Second, the local church provides the in-church ministry and mentoring phase of the internship for the young leader. To this end we ask the church to:

a) Discuss with the young leader what regular ministry involvement might look like in the year following their intensive week. Whilst this should ideally use their gifts or passions, there are no restrictions on what kind of ministry it is. For example, it could be Kids church, youth group, aged-care ministry, pre-school music programmes, music or hospitality ministries.

b) Allocate a suitable mature Christian in the church to be the applicant's mentor. We expect this to be done in discussion with the applicant. It is very important that the mentor be determined before Summer Camp, to enable the mentoring to begin as soon as possible after Summer Camp. The suitable Christian person does not need to have mentoring experience or formal training (although this would help). The mentor just needs to be committed to supporting and praying for their intern. PY provides resources for people who have not done mentoring before. A summary of the role of the mentor is provided below. Once the application has been approved the mentor will be sent a full "Mentor's Guide" to assist them in their role. The guide sets expectations and suggests resources and formats of meeting but the local church and mentor are welcome to tailor the format and content to suit the mentor and mentee. Exceptions can be made to those applicants who must change churches after Summer Camp because they are moving for work or study.

Summary of the Role of the Local Church Mentor

Vision and Purpose of the Lead for Life Internship Programme

The vision of PY's Lead for Life Internship programme is to help develop the spiritual foundations of young leaders that they might love God with all their heart, mind, soul and strength (Deut. 6:5). By so doing we aim to develop leaders who will serve faithfully as the people God designed them to be in their local churches, community, family and wider church. The Lead for Life Internship programme is not just about equipping people with skills in "doing" ministry. Rather it is more about building Christian character and encouraging a young leader's personal growth in Christ.

Purpose of the local church component of the internship

The purpose of the local church internship component is to provide young leaders with an opportunity to serve in or through their local church and to grow in Christian maturity through structured oversight and supportive relationships. It will give the young leaders valuable experience in putting into practice many of the things they learnt during the intensive training week. It is easy to come away from a week of training and not know how it is supposed to work in practice, so the local church component allows interns the space and opportunity to connect the intensive week into the rest of their lives and ministry in their local church.

The Role of the Mentor

Your role as a mentor is to provide them with structured oversight to help them grow in their Christian character as they engage in practical ministry. The structured oversight you will provide will help them to think through what they are doing and grow in maturity in Christ from their experiences.

Your role will involve four main things:

1. Meeting with your young leader regularly
2. Praying with and for your young leader regularly
3. Guiding your young leader in their internship programme
4. Helping your young leader set and work towards goals in personal godliness