

There are lots of opportunities within the church for further training, development and study and we hope you will engage further.

Training:

Various training events are offered by the Learning Network. See <https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/learning-and-development/learning-and-development-events/> for upcoming events.

There is a self-directed online unconscious bias course you can enrol on here: <https://mcb.theologyx.com/course/unconscious-bias-training/>

Positive Working Together is an excellent training course for positive communication, especially in times of transition, change and conflict, to prevent bullying and harassment. See:

- <https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/guidance-for-churches/positive-working-together/training-in-positive-working-together/>
- [positive-working-together-short-report-0715.pdf \(methodist.org.uk\)](#)

The Methodist Church EDI toolkit is here:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/guidance-for-churches/equality-diversity-and-inclusion/edi-toolkit/>

The Church of England's Difference course is here: <https://difference.rln.global/>

You can learn more about the Methodist Church's social justice conversation, Walking with Micah, here: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/our-work-in-britain/social-justice/walking-with-micah/>

Working towards a fully
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www.methodist.org.uk/inclusive-mc-strategy



External sources of learning:

This page,
<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/the-inclusive-methodist-church/training-for-justice-dignity-and-solidarity/edi-learning-resources/>, on the Methodist Church website, contains links to lots of resources for further individual learning about a wide range of topics. All of them have been recommended to the Methodist Church by people with experience in the relevant field. Not all of these external resources will always share a Methodist ethos or theology. However, that does not mean we cannot learn more about equality, discrimination and inclusion issues from reading these resources, and then apply that learning within church life, to better ensure justice, dignity and solidarity within our fellowship.

Learning from Experts by Experience

One way we can learn is by listening to people who are experts on a particular issue because of their own lived experience. However, we need to take care with this. Just because someone has a particular characteristic, does not make it their responsibility to educate the rest of us on what life is like for them. Also, different people with a shared characteristic will have different experiences.

One option is to organise an 'Ask Me Anything' session, in which an Expert by Experience agrees to respond to questions. This provides a non-judgemental space for people to ask questions they might not be comfortable asking in other settings. The Methodist Church has published guidance on how to do this in a sensitive, safe way, <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/the-inclusiv>

[e-methodist-church/training-for-justice-dignity-and-solidarity/run-an-ask-me-anything-session-with-an-expert-by-experience/](https://www.methodist-church.org.uk/training-for-justice-dignity-and-solidarity/run-an-ask-me-anything-session-with-an-expert-by-experience/)

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Sources of support:

- Discrimination and Abuse Response
Service: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/the-inclusive-methodist-church/resources-events-and-support/discrimination-and-abuse-response-service/>
- EDI officers – you may have one in your Circuit or District, and could also contact the Connexional EDI team
via equality&diversity@methodistchurch.org.uk
- Pastoral support from local ministers
- Safeguarding officers in cases of abuse
- Counselling services
- HR
- District Lay Employment Secretaries

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