Shepherd Application Form

**Please note:** the applicant must first fill in the student section. The applicant must then send the completed form to an elder from their local church who will act as a referee.

The referee should then fill in the referee section. The referee should then send the fully completed form to Angie Hope either by email or by post:

*Email*: [angie@kings-norwich.com](mailto:angie@kings-norwich.com)

*Postal Address*: FAO Angie Hope, The King's Centre, King St, Norwich, NR1 1PH

*Please be aware, it is the applicant and referee’s responsibility to ensure that the completed form is sent in.*

# Student Section (to be filled in by applicant *only*)

*The Applicant must fill in this section completely before sending the completed form to his chosen referee.*

## Personal Details

| Name |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date of birth |  |
| Home Address |  |
| Email address |  |
| Phone number |  |

**Marital Status:** Married ☐ Single ☐ Engaged ☐

| If engaged, please give expected date of wedding: |  |
| --- | --- |

## Occupation

| Current Employer |  |
| --- | --- |
| Current Responsibilities |  |

## Theological & Pastoral Education and experience

**Please list any theological education you have had (e.g. BA Theology; LEAD…)**

|  |
| --- |

**Please describe any experience of pastoral care you have (pastoral care defined broadly:** *preaching & teaching as well as one-to-one counselling)*

|  |
| --- |

## Health

**Are you generally in good health?** Yes ☐ No ☐

| If NO, please give details |  |
| --- | --- |

**Do you have special dietary requirements?** Yes ☐ No ☐

| If YES, please give details |  |
| --- | --- |

## Church

| Home Church Name |  |
| --- | --- |
| Church Town/location |  |

**Are you currently a church elder?** Yes ☐ No ☐

| If YES, when were you appointed? |  |
| --- | --- |
| If NO, when do you anticipate becoming an elder? |  |

***Please note****: Shepherd is a course for elders and those who are very seriously exploring eldership. Although there is no guarantee that anyone who does the course will become an elder, we want applicants to anticipate (God willing) being appointed in the mid-term future (within approximately 2 years)*

**Please describe your main current areas of church responsibility, particularly insofar as they relate to pastoral duties:**

|  |
| --- |

## Mentoring

Each student on Shepherd will be mentored by a more experienced elder. Ideally, this person would be an elder from your local church, although it is possible to choose an elder from another Relational Mission church. Please note that it is the responsibility of the applicant and local eldership team to provide a mentor and we cannot provide mentors for applicants.

| Name of mentor |  |
| --- | --- |
| Local Church of mentor |  |
| Phone number of mentor |  |
| Email address of mentor |  |

## Finances

The cost of Shepherd is £750 per year (payable before the start of each year). Please note that we cannot provide any subsidies centrally.

Fees will cover the cost of the training, as well as accommodation and meals.

**How will you pay tuition fees for the course?**

Fully self-funded ☐

Church will pay fully ☐

Other ☐

If other, please specify:

|  |
| --- |

## Accommodation

Accommodation is provided at High Leigh. For the training weekends in Norwich, we can usually organise accommodation free of charge if the applicant requires this.

**Will you require accommodation during the training weekends in Norwich?** Yes ☐ No ☐

## Referee

The applicant must ensure that his chosen referee fills in the Referee section (below) and sends in the completed form. The referee must be an elder from your local church.

| Referee name |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee phone number |  |
| Referee email address |  |

## Commitment of the course (please read carefully)

Before sending this form through to your referee, please note the following:

By submitting this form, you are agreeing that:

* Shepherd is a 2-year course and you are expected to follow the course for its full duration
* You have read the course information on the website ([www.relationalmission.org/shepherd](http://www.relationalmission.org/shepherd)) and that you are able to come to the live teaching weekends (if you are unable at this stage to make any of the dates, please email [angie@kings-norwich.com](mailto:angie@kings-norwich.com); this may affect your application)
* You will arrange to regularly meet with your mentor.
* You understand that fees are to be fully paid prior to the start of the course and that they are non-refundable.
* You have discussed your application with your local eldership team and they are in agreement with you applying to this course.

*I agree with the above and acknowledge that this form has been filled in correctly to the best of my knowledge:*

| Name of Applicant |  |
| --- | --- |
| Initials or signature of Applicant |  |
| Date |  |

*Please send this completed form to your referee who will then fill in the referee section (below)*

# Referee Section (to be filled in by the referee *only*)

*The referee must read the responses to the student section above and fill in the following. If the referee wishes to proceed with the application he should either email the completed form to* [*angie@kings-norwich.com*](mailto:angie@kings-norwich.com) *or post a printed version to the address given at the start of the form.*

| Name of Applicant |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Referee |  |
| Church Name |  |
| Referee email |  |
| Referee phone number |  |

**Please confirm that you are an elder in the same church as the applicant:** Yes ☐ No ☐

**Please confirm that this application has been agreed with both the applicant and the rest of the eldership team:** Yes ☐ No ☐

**To the best of your knowledge has the applicant filled in the above form correctly:** Yes ☐ No ☐

**Is the applicant either an elder already or seriously exploring eldership (and likely to become an elder, God willing, in the next couple of years?)** Yes ☐ No ☐

**Please comment, if necessary:**

|  |
| --- |

**Why do you feel that the applicant is suitable for Shepherd currently?**

|  |
| --- |

*Shepherd* is a course that aims to provide training that is not usually available in a local church context. But it does not in any way replace local church involvement. We expect applicants to be thoroughly involved in elder-related responsibilities already and during the duration of the course. Please describe how you will support the applicant in a local church context.

|  |
| --- |

**Are you confident that the applicant will be able to commit to the course?** Yes ☐ No ☐

**If the applicant is employed by the Church do you agree to allow the applicant time to fully attend the course and to study for the course?** Yes ☐ No ☐

Do you have any concerns about the applicant you would like to raise? If so, please fill in below:

|  |
| --- |

Any other comments:

|  |
| --- |

*By submitting this form you are agreeing that all of the above is accurate to the best of your knowledge. Please note that we will expect not only that the applicant commits to the course, but that, as an eldership team, you commit to the applicant’s development and growth throughout the process.*

| Name of Referee |  |
| --- | --- |
| Initials or signature of Referee |  |
| Date |  |

**Please now send this completed form to** [angie@kings-norwich.com](mailto:angie@kings-norwich.com) or by post to the address at the top of the form.