

Dr Pollyanna Magne Appointed Director of Sarum College's Centre for Spiritual Direction



Dr Pollyanna Magne

Sarum College has appointed Dr Pollyanna Magne as Director of the Centre for Spiritual Direction.

In this role Dr Magne will lead the Sarum Course in Spiritual Direction, develop and promote the programme within Spiritual Direction networks, conduct spiritual direction and supervision, and run programmes and retreats within the wider educational offer of Sarum College.

"The work of the care of the soul through the skill of spiritual direction is a fundamental part of the Sarum learning community," says The Revd Canon Professor James Woodward, Principal of Sarum College.

"Our course in Spiritual Direction has a national and international reputation. It brings life and agency to the impact of the learning life here on the wider community.

"Dr Pollyanna Magne brings to this post a wealth of experience. Her academic record bears testimony to her skill in managing people and learning standards. She is passionate about the work of soul care and direction. We look forward to welcoming Dr Magne to the academic faculty, and to learning alongside and from her. We are delighted at her appointment."

"This role combines my passion for spiritual direction with 25 years as an academic and my love of learning, in the inspirational setting of Sarum College," says Dr Magne. "I am looking forward to working with a wonderful team and curious minds to explore how spiritual accompaniment can serve to challenge and explore understanding of oneself, deepen faith and enrich lives."

Dr Magne is due to begin the role on 25 September 2024, subject to routine safeguarding checks.

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Editors' Notes

1. Dr Pollyanna Magne

Dr Magne trained as a spiritual director at the Carmelite Priory in Aylesford, Kent where she then joined the course tutor team. She is a spiritual director supporting people from all walks of life, across the Christian traditions, and has a particular interest in accompanying people experiencing times of transition.

Dr Magne holds a Professional Doctorate and a Masters in Education, Post Graduate Certificates in Higher Education and in Secondary Education, and a degree in Religious Education and Music.

In her early career, Dr Magne worked as a secondary teacher in faith schools where she led school worship and the design and facilitation of retreats for the young people and staff.

Since 2000, Dr Magne has worked in higher education as an associate professor and as head of academic practice. In this role she trained education, health and charity sector professionals to deliver dynamic teaching, and to provide transformative learning opportunities.

In recognition of her outstanding work and international reach across the HE sector, Dr Magne was made a National Teaching Fellow in 2021.

2. Sarum Course in Spiritual Direction

The Sarum Course in Spiritual Direction aims to equip those who are called to the ministry of spiritual direction to confidently and competently accompany others.

The course is designed to provide a balanced learning environment, blending personal and spiritual formation with skills development. The course is delivered over two years as a blend of onsite residential sessions and online support or as a one-year online course with an optional three-day onsite retreat.

3. Sarum College

Founded in 1995, Sarum College is a study, conference and research centre situated in historic grade 1-listed buildings in Salisbury's Cathedral Close.

Welcoming people of all faiths and none, Sarum's learning programmes cover Christian spirituality; ministry; bible and sacred texts; human flourishing; and, theology, imagination and culture.

Along with a year-round short course programme, the College runs two postgraduate programmes and research degrees with the University of Winchester as well as training for ordained and lay ministry validated by Durham University Common Awards.

The College also offers B&B, venue hire and catering services to the public via its trading subsidiary, Sarum College Services Ltd.

For more information or to arrange interviews, please contact:

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