What is confirmation?

Confirmation was originally part of the Baptism rite and is a sacramental act in which a person affirms their desire to continue in their Christian walk of faith and intention to live a life of responsible and committed discipleship. This is confirmed by the presiding Bishop through the laying on of hands and the Church also asks God to give them power through the Holy Spirit to enable them to live in this way.

Who can be confirmed?

The key requirements for confirmation are:

- anyone who has been baptised
- and is old enough to answer responsibly for themselves...
- and has received appropriate preparation.

How do I admit a young person to confirmation?

Confirmation services take place at different churches around the diocese, please visit https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/confirmations for more information, dates and venues for confirmation services.

- Speak to your vicar about potential candidates
- Submit relevant documents to your Area Bishop
- You will need to prepare the potential candidates with some age-appropriate resources

Resources for Confirmation Preparation

- 100 Things for your Child to Know Before Confirmation, Rebecca Kirkpatrick, SPCK Publishing, 2015 https://www.eden.co.uk/shop/100-things-for-your-child-to-know-before-confirmation-4337529.html or the FREE blog version http://www.breadnotstones.com/p/100-things-your-child-needs-to-know.html
- Youth Emmaus 2: Big Issues and Holy Spaces, Gosling, D. et al.; Church House Publishing, 2006 http://www.chpublishing.co.uk/books/9780715140482/youth-emmaus-2
- Are You Ready? Preparing Young People to Live Their Confirmation, Pete Maidment, SPCK Publishing, 2015 https://chbookshop.hymnsam.co.uk/books/9780281071494/are-you-ready
- The Confirmation Experience: Leader's Book, Susan Sayers, Kevin Mayhew https://chbookshop.hymnsam.co.uk/books/9781844176038/the-confirmation-experienceleaders-book
- Live Life: Youth Confirmation Resource, Diocese of Bristol https://www.bristol.anglican.org/churchlife/resourcesforparishes/childrenyoungpeopleministry/live-life-resource/live-life-youth-confirmation-resource.php
- I Belong, Aileen Urquhart, Redemptorist Publications, 1998 https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/i-belong-childrens-book

- Reconnecting with Confirmation, Pete Maidment et al., Church House Publishing, 2010 https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/product-display?isbn=9780715142080

The next steps…

- Consider gifts for each candidate to support them in their own growing discipleship
  - Living Your Confirmation, Pete Maidment, Paul Butler, SPCK, 2012 https://spckpublishing.co.uk/living-your-confirmation
- Consider how you and the church community will continue to nurture the young people in their discipleship journey.
- Consider setting each candidate with a mentor.
- Encourage the young people to consider diocesan opportunities such as Youth Synod
- Support them in taking on roles within the church and beyond.
- Continue to pray for them…