

Guide to using the online tools

A. The different elements of the toolbox

The tool is built up of a number of elements:

1. The diagrams and accompanying theological material

We really recommend that everyone starts exploring by looking at the [diagrams](#), watching the [videos](#) and perhaps engaging with the journal and blog articles that accompany them. These will give you a really good grounding in the thinking behind the diagrams and enable you to get the most out of the tool. Click to read the [article on the 2D diagram](#) and the [article on the prism](#).

2. Card game

The card game is designed to help those exploring a call to pioneering, or in pioneer ministry already, to discern the type of pioneer they are. The card game provides a guide to – not a definitive description of – of someone’s particular pioneer type. It is best used as an exercise in preparation for a deeper conversation to help pioneers better understand their calling and gifting. We find for example that pioneers are sometimes operating in more than one kind of pioneer ministry, so the results of the card game should not be seen as prescriptive. It’s helpful if the person playing the card game has an actual situation or context in mind, even if it’s still in their imagination, as they answer the questions.

Card types

In the card game the cards looking at **principle, posture and practice**, and **personality** help align you with one or two of the pioneer types: activist, adaptor, innovator and reproducer.

- **If you are a vocations adviser** accompanying people as they discern a call to licensed ministry this would be a great tool to use with someone who senses a call to pioneering.
- **If you are a pioneer** this is a really good tool to help explore your sense of vocation more. Do discuss your results with someone, someone who is working with you on a vocations journey, or someone else who knows you and your ministry well.

The card game also has an element to help you think about context. The cards looking at **paradigm** (that is the cultural paradigm people inhabit) and **people and place** help you describe your context. The dice questions then help develop a conversation about how your church or church organisation relates to its context.

- **If you are part of a church council, or wider regional gathering**, e.g. a Deanery, District, Synod or Diocese, this element of the tool is really useful in giving an honest description of the cross-cultural challenge the church faces in its mission. It could be used as part of a discussion towards a strategy for mission in a community, parish or wider area.

- **If you are a pioneer or other leader in mission** this is also a really useful tool as you listen and reflect on the nature of your context. It could be a very helpful exercise as part of a longer contextual listening process.

3. Discussion sheets

The **discussion sheets** are designed to develop constructive conversations around the theology of mission and church planting. They probe into the different perspectives in theology, practice and personality people bring to missional leadership. They explore how these perspectives connect with the cultural diversity in which we live today.

There is a huge amount to explore here potentially and it is not assumed that people will want to cover everything.

- **If you are a church leadership team or PCC** these sheets could be really helpful in generating conversation as you think about mission strategy, perhaps if you are thinking of appointing a pioneer, or thinking about planting a church.
- **If you are a regional body such as a Deanery, District, Synod or Diocese** these sheets could be really helpful in exploring how to develop into a more diverse of 'mixed ecology' of church.
- **If you are mission team or a strategic staff team** thinking about mission these sheets will enable you to think about mission across the whole range of contexts that you have responsibility for.

B. How the different elements work together

It's entirely up to you how you use the different elements to support the ministry you are involved in. The tool has lots of applications and probably a great many we haven't thought of!

Here are a few scenarios by way of suggestion.

All these suggestions assume that people have engaged with the diagrams and theological material in some way already.

<p>Working with a team of vocations advisers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask people to play the <i>Principle, Posture & Practice and Personality</i> parts of the card game. • Suggest they do the cards as themselves or in the shoes of a pioneer they know or are perhaps working with. • Bring the results of this into a discussion using the sheets. Start with the <i>Personality</i> sheet to explore how different pioneers are and then perhaps use the <i>Posture & Practice</i> sheet to explore the different approaches to mission of different pioneers.
<p>A vocations adviser working with an emerging pioneer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite the person to use the <i>Principle, Posture & Practice and Personality</i> parts of the card game prior to a conversation. • Use the results as the basis of a conversation about the nature of their vocation. • You could introduce one of the sheets to explore particular themes that emerge.
<p>A church council, church leadership team, regional council who are developing a mission plan or strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the <i>Paradigm and People and Place</i> parts of the card game. • Then explore the <i>Principle</i> sheet to discern where you sit theologically on the spectrum. • You could then explore the implications of this further with the <i>Posture and Practice</i> sheet.
<p>A learning community of pioneers and missional leaders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the whole of the card game in preparation and then discuss your results together. • Think in particular about how the types of pioneers relate to different contexts that people represent. • You could then explore things more deeply by using the sheets.

C. Card game instructions

Instructions for the card activity

This activity is to help you as a pioneer – or someone who supports and enables mission – to investigate and explore two things:

1. Yourself, your beliefs, practice and personality as they shape your missional work
2. The context where you are engaging in God’s mission

This card game gives you five sets of cards under the titles

Principle **Posture & practice** **Personality** **Paradigm** **People & place**

For each set there is a button at the top of the page.

When you click on the button, you will be presented with a question and four possible responses to it on cards.

Choose the card with the response that you most agree with and place it in the ‘Yes’ pile. If there is another card that you agree with, put it in the ‘Maybe’ column. Put the others in the ‘No’ column.

When you have answered the four questions, you will need to choose one more card from your ‘Maybe’ pile and put it in the ‘Yes’ pile. When you have **five** cards in the ‘Yes’ pile, a button will appear at the bottom of the page saying ‘Flip the cards’. This will show how your responses relate to the Pioneer Spectrum types.

The revealing of the cards is to provoke thoughts and conversation. You may want to do the activity several times making different card choices and see how the results change.

D. How to use the discussion sheets online

This resource is best used in Zoom using [Miro](#) as an interactive whiteboard in which the sheets for each week are imported. [Google Jamboard](#) is another interactive whiteboard that you could use but it doesn't have quite the same level as functionality as Miro. Both are free to use. They work best on a desktop or laptop. Tablets are OK, smartphones are not recommended.

You will ideally need a [professional Zoom account](#) which allows meetings of more than 40 minutes.

To use Miro you will need get a Miro account and set up your team in Miro so that everyone can access the boards.

Good preparation on the part of the facilitator is key for a successful session. This part of the tool can generate really rich, enlightening and constructive conversations if you have planned it carefully in advance.

Setting things up

The following instructions and [tutorial videos](#) guide you through setting up and using this resource in Miro as part of a Zoom session.

1. First of all **make a Miro account and set up your team** in Miro
2. Next **set up a board in Miro** for the discussion you are planning to have.
3. Familiarise yourself with the functions you will need to run a session in Miro – in particular you will find it helpful to facilitate a discussion by **learning how to get people to follow you round the board**.

Facilitating a conversation using one of the sheets

- Before a session with a group it's ideal if you invite those coming to the session into your team beforehand.
- When the group gathers on Zoom, show people the Miro board first by sharing your screen and guiding people round the functions they will need to use. Make sure you show people how to follow you when needed.
- When you are ready share the link to the board in the Zoom chat and people will then be able to come straight into the board.
- You may want to start off by creating a 'learning zone' on the board, an area in which people can practise doing simple things like writing their name on a post-it, writing in a text box, starting a comment thread, so that they feel confident to interact with the sheet.
- Move to the discussion sheet and facilitate your discussion.
 - The icons can be imported into your board as a way of getting discussion going in a different way. You can invite people to drag icons into the relevant part of the circles to express their answers to the questions. These images can be interpreted in a variety of ways and often seem to unlock people's thinking to be more imaginative and creative.
 - It's often a good idea to allow people to interact with the board on their own for a time. Perhaps invite the group to focus on one question and to use the icons, post-its etc. to express their thoughts and questions. After a period of time the facilitator can then bring people together by asking them to follow him/her and draw out further discussion as everyone looks at how the board has developed.