

**Constitution for The Centre of Carmelite Spirituality
Spiritual Direction Alumni community**



CACS SD Alumni Mission Statement

The mission of The CACS spiritual direction alumni is to come together in 'Koinonia'; that is to be a community. We acknowledge that Christ did not wish to save us individually but decided to form us into his people.

Koinonia contains, kerygma, leturgia and diakonia - to proclaim the faith, to participate in worship, to live this out in service. Our service is as Spiritual directors in the spirit of Carmel.

CACS SD alumni community will continue to support the nurturing and formation of spiritual directors as well as allowing opportunities for community, prayer, worship, and fellowship.

Aims

- To nurture and sustain spiritual friendships between SD alumni.
- To identify ongoing formation and training needs of SD CACS graduates.
- To contribute to the work and development of the Centre for Carmelite Applied Spirituality.
- To share Alumni's work in the ministry of Spiritual Direction within the Carmelite tradition.
- To mentor present CACS SD students.

Activities could include:

- Establishing communication forums online to sustain friendships, share gifts, news, and resources.
- Identifying ongoing training and formation needs – sharing these with the Carmelite Spirituality Network to arrange or arranging these within our own Alumni community.
- Fundraising for the work of CACS.

Membership

The membership is open to all Alumni of the CACS spiritual direction course.

Governance and structure

The community is under the umbrellas of The Centre for Carmelite Spirituality and its' Charity status in the first year. This will be reviewed by the community in September 2025.

Leadership

Temporary facilitation /leadership group – November 2023 – October 2024

Four Alumni CACS SD Volunteers have drawn up the initial proposals alongside the director of CACS, Fr. Alexander Ezechukwu, OCD. It is proposed that this small group stays in post until the leadership/facilitation body of CACS Alumni is established by October 2024. After that date it is proposed the structure is as below. The transition date could be earlier if the change-over is completed.

Meetings and Decision Making

The Alumni is held under the umbrella of CACS and its' charitable status. This is suggested to be reviewed at the end of the first year. CACS in this first year can provide the data on our alumni and provide administrative and website support. The alumni would be covered by CACS safeguarding policy.

Communication

There will be a WhatsApp group established for all alumni. The Whatsapp year groups will continue. Instead of a CACS leader, it will be under the leadership of one of the alumni of that year, as this is a requirement of safeguarding.

Membership

Year Group representatives – Four volunteers from each year group will form their year group facilitation group to communicate and take responsibility for hosting and organizing year activities if they wish and to feed into the leadership group comments, suggestions, and ideas.

The year group alumni are:

2019-2021

2020-2022

2021-2023

Regional representative – A representative from each continent that students come from, and regions may wish to organize in time their own CACS Alumni community activities.

Smaller leadership group drawn from the above two groups.

A volunteer from each year group and the regional groups will comprise the leadership/facilitation committee of:

A chair

A communication representative

A training and formation development

A finance and administrative representative

Regional representatives

The exact nature of the responsibilities of these posts would be defined after a wider consultation with SD Alumni in January 2024.

Finances

The group will be self-funding.

A donation of 25 pounds or the equivalent of the currency to be converted in, will be suggested to join.

Amendments and bylaws

The Community operates under the Charitable status of CACS.

The community will operate under CACS safeguarding policy and their safeguarding lead.