Expectations for applicants to become a Local Preacher in Training

A person seeking to respond to God’s call by applying to become a Local Preacher in training takes a brave step of faith. The individual should be given the opportunity to read the Manual of Laws pertaining to Local Preachers (…). The Preachers’ Meeting/Circuit Executive will be trying to see potential whilst noting that there are some minimal expectations:

1. Vocation (Call and Commitment)
   a. The ability to speak of their Christian experience
   b. A sense of call to explore leading worship and preaching

2. Vocation (Ministry in the MCI)
   a. Be a member of good standing in the Methodist Church In Ireland

3. Relationship with God
   a. Someone who loves God and desires to be a faithful disciple
   b. A faith that is sustained by visible use of means of grace including:
      i. Regular attendance at worship
      ii. Regularly receiving Holy Communion
      iii. Faithful in prayer

4. Personality and Character
   a. A recommendation to the Preachers’ Meeting by either a local Church Council or by her/his minister or a member of the Preachers’ meeting.
   b. Compliance with Church’s safeguarding requirements
   c. Awareness of her/his own strengths and weaknesses and the potential of self-development
   d. A commitment to fashion his/her life to promote the glory of the Lord

5. Being in Relationship with Others
   a. The ability to relate to a variety of people
   b. The ability to see God in others
   c. A willingness to work with a mentor and tutor and with others involved in leading worship

6. The Church’s Ministry in God’s World
   a. Willingness to commit to the mission of God
   b. The ability to articulate an understanding of what it means to be a Methodist.

7. Leadership and Collaboration
   a. A willingness to explore leadership in worship
   b. A willingness to share in the journey of faith
   c. A willingness to work with others

8. Learning and Understanding
   a. An expressed desire to grow in understanding of the Christian faith
   b. An openness to receive and reflect on the feedback

9. Communication
   1. Confident mastery of the vernacular language of the communities they feel called to serve