



**Revd Jess Bellshaw**

Jess was born in London; her father was in the RAF and so the family moved to Lincolnshire just before her 10th birthday. As a child she loved reading, arts and crafts and for a while even learnt the flute! She put her love of reading to good use by attending Bishop Grosseteste College and gaining a degree in English with QTS graduating in 2002. For the next 17 years Jess worked as a teacher in local primary schools, mostly with infant aged children, putting her love of art and craft to good use!

In 2012, on a trip to the Outer Hebrides. Jess felt God call her to explore ordination. She began to explore, read, and push on some doors. After a couple of years of discernment Jess was thrilled to be accepted to train for ordination training in 2018. As an ordinand Jess studied at St Hild's, Sheffield, completing a Master's in Theology, Ministry and Mission, whilst serving a contextual placement at St Swithin's in Lincoln. Jess has a passion for women's ministry and wrote her dissertation on the discrimination faced by woman in the church today- the only essay she's ever got a first in!

Since ordination in 2021 Jess has served as Assistant Curate of the South Lawres and Barlings Benefices. Ministry amongst eight churches and four schools has certainly kept her busy and she has enjoyed becoming part of the communities, especially enjoying her work in schools and leading worship. After the retirement of her training incumbent the Revd Canon Penny Green, Jess is delighted to now be able to take up the post of Vicar in these parishes.

Jess has a 16 year old son who plays hockey for Lindum Hockey Club and is about to begin his A Levels. When not working Jess enjoys pottering in the garden, jigsaw puzzles, playing with her three dogs and eating cake!