



Marriage in a Religious Building (other than Church of England) after 3rd May 2021

New marriage legislation means that the way a marriage is registered in England and Wales will change from 4th May 2021.

Couples will no longer sign a marriage register or be given a Marriage Certificate during the ceremony, instead you will sign a Marriage Schedule. This is a one-page document which contains the details of both people getting married which are needed to register a marriage

From this date, in addition to father details, other parent details will be able to be recorded i.e. mother, step-parent.

Each person will still be required to give notice of marriage and the marriage ceremony will remain the same, it is only the way in which a marriage is registered that will change.

How will you get the Marriage Schedule?

The Marriage Schedule will be provided by the Superintendent Registrar in the registration district of your marriage.

- You will still be required to give a notice of marriage, at the register office in the district where you have spent the preceding 7 days.
- The schedule will be issued by the Superintendent Registrar following the 28 day waiting period.
- If a Registrar is attending to register your marriage, the Registrar will bring your Schedule to the ceremony and return it to the register office afterwards.
- If a Registrar is not attending, you must arrange for the Marriage Schedule to be given to the person who will perform the marriage at the religious building before your ceremony. The Superintendent Registrar will explain in more detail how this process will work.
- If you are marrying in the Church of England you will need to contact the Church in the parish where you intend to marry.

What to do if you lose your Marriage Schedule.

If you lose your Marriage Schedule before your ceremony, you should contact the Superintendent Registrar at the register office where the Marriage Schedule was issued.

Information included on the Marriage Schedule

A Marriage Schedule will include the details of each person getting married: name and surname, date of birth, condition, address and occupation.

You can record your mother, father or parents' details on the Marriage Schedule and in the marriage registration. There is now provision to include step parents.

You will be encouraged to provide this information when you give notice. However, if you didn't give these details at your notice appointment, you can provide the information either prior to or on the day of your marriage

Signing the Marriage Schedule

After your marriage ceremony, you will be asked to check that the details contained in the Marriage Schedule are accurate, including spellings of names etc.

Once checked, you, your witnesses and the relevant person from the religious building (or the Registrar) will sign the Marriage Schedule.

How will your marriage registration be made?

From 4th May 2021 paper marriage registers will no longer be used; instead a central electronic registration system will become the legal register. Unless a Registrar attends your marriage, the relevant person from the religious building will return the completed, signed Marriage Schedule to the register office in the area where your marriage took place within **21 days** of your marriage. Once the completed, signed Marriage Schedule is received at the register office the details will be entered onto the electronic marriage register within the following 7 days; only then will a marriage certificate be available.

When will you be able to obtain a Marriage Certificate?

A marriage certificate will only be issued after the details have been entered on to the electronic marriage register. This means that you will not be able to obtain a marriage certificate on the day of your marriage. Your marriage details will be entered onto the electronic registration register within 7 days of your signed Marriage Schedule being received at the register office, in the area where you got married.

How to obtain a marriage certificate.

Marriage certificates will be available from the register office in the area where you married.

Marriage certificates can be ordered online at a cost of £11.00 each for dispatch within 7 calendar days. Certificates will be sent via Royal Mail 2nd class delivery service.

An express copy of any certificate for £35 can be ordered to be dispatched within 24 hours of receipt. Certificates will be sent via Royal Mail 1st Class delivery service which aims to deliver on the next working day. Please note that this service is not available at weekends or bank holidays.

Please visit the Gloucestershire Registration Service website for secure ordering at <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/births-marriages-deaths-and-civil-partnerships/order-certificates/>

Further questions?

If you have any questions that have not been answered in this leaflet, you should check the details on www.gov.uk website

If you cannot find the answer to your question you should contact the register office in the area of your marriage or contact the General Register Office on tel: 0300 123 1837 or email: GROcasework@gro.gov.uk

Marriage certificates are also available from the General Register Office at www.gov.uk

<https://www.gov.uk/order-copy-birth-death-marriage-certificate>