

Why use a Welcome Form?

Vicars have asked the Weddings Project if they could have a neat form on which to record a couple's details that contains all the information legally required for the wedding to be confirmed.

The form provided has been approved by the Church of England's legal team and is nationally available for any Vicar who wishes to use it.

Gathering legal and pastoral information is an essential part of a wedding. But the way this is done can speak volumes to couples about how much they matter in the process.

In the past we may have called this an "application" form and given it to the couple to fill in themselves, rather as if they were applying for a driving license. We know from our research that if we make this data-gathering an opportunity for welcome, then it increases the possibility that the couple will "stick" with the church through and after their wedding process.

The full-colour version of the form is in a colour that matches the Welcome Pack (only available to participating dioceses), and we know that if the vicar or church administrator fills in the form in the presence of the couple, then this legal and practical necessity can communicate warmth and humanity in a way that opens the door to God's welcome also.

How to use it:

[The Welcome Form can be downloaded and printed here](#), either in colour or [lower-ink-use black and white](#).

Both can be edited online and then saved into your usual electronic files.