

GLOUCESTERSHIRE REGISTRATION SERVICE

PHOTOGRAPHS and VIDEOS at MARRIAGE and CIVIL PARTNERSHIP CEREMONIES in GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Civil marriage and civil partnership registrations and ceremonies create a legal contract between the couple and are to be conducted in a dignified manner. Under the Marriage Act 1949, there are legal requirements placed on the registration officers to see and hear what the participants are saying, to ensure that the meaning and significance of the occasion are upheld, and to protect the confidentiality of personal information obtained in the course of their professional duties.

Photographs and videos of the ceremony are a special reminder of the occasion. However, it is important to prioritise the dignity and solemnity of the ceremony.

The celebrant will confer with the designated photographer to establish if the couple have made any specific photography requests.

Discreet photographs and videos may be taken during the ceremony if:

- They are taken by your named photographer (or a member of the party who is not a named witness)
- There is no distraction caused to the couple, registration officers or guests.
- There is no undue or unnecessary movement around the room.
- There is no flash photography or intrusive camera clicking.

The Registration Staff may request the photographer ceases photographing if they feel that the ceremony is being unnecessarily disrupted by their conduct.

The Registration Service is required to demonstrate and maintain compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act. This legislation applies even to information that is publicly made available and we have a statutory responsibility to ensure we safeguard personal information. It is therefore the policy of Gloucestershire Registration Service that:

- Any photographs taken during the ceremony do not include close-up photos where details of the schedule containing personal data can be read.
- Any photographs taken during the signing of the schedule must be taken at ground level from the back or the side of the room (or outdoor space if applicable)
- The photographer must not distract the couple while signing the schedule.
- Where the couple has requested a specific close-up photograph of the schedule being signed, the schedule will be removed, and the Registrar will position the

couple for closer photographs where there is no risk of personal information being captured in the image.

- Video equipment can be set up and used during the ceremony but is at the discretion of the registration staff and must remain in one place through the duration of the ceremony,