

***Please pass a copy of this to your Photographer/Videographer***

## **Worcestershire Registration Services - Guidance Notes for Photographers**

We hope that the following guidance will help us all in providing the couple with wonderful memories of their special day.

We would like to help you capture the key moments of their ceremony, whilst ensuring that the ceremony is completed without a hitch!

A Marriage or Civil Partnership as you know has legal aspects that we must ensure are completed correctly and we have the couples undivided attention. We will work with the couples and yourselves to be as flexible as we can.

The following is guidance to assist both the photographer and the Registrars.

- You are likely to be at the venue before the Registrars. They will come and find you after they have spoken with the couple.
- Please remember that the ceremony will need to start on time. Our team may have other ceremonies to attend later in the day.
- We usually see the bride approximately 15/20 mins before the start of the ceremony. If photographs of the bride getting ready can be completed in plenty of time in order that the bride is ready for the pre-ceremony interview this would be appreciated.
- Any other pre-ceremony shots need to have taken place at the latest 10 mins before the ceremony. This includes photographs of attendants, groom etc. We can then ensure that you have all the photographs the couple would like but we are not holding up the ceremony.
- Ideally, we would prefer that flash is not used during the ceremony as this can be distracting for the couples and ourselves, especially at the spoken legal vows in the ceremony.
- Subject to what the couples have asked for in terms of their photographs, if avoidable, could moving around during the ceremony be kept to a minimum. If the couple have requested particular shots, please let us know and we will try and accommodate that.
- We will discuss with you the best place for you and any assistant to stand during the ceremony, dependent on the venue layout, again depending on what the couples have asked for.
- In order that we can ensure that the legal documents are signed correctly we would prefer to complete this without photographs being taken. Once the Schedule has been signed, the Registrar will provide an opportunity for the couple to pose with the Schedule in a folder.
- For videographers – the use of drone videography is challenging during the ceremony. They can be distracting especially during the legal aspects of the ceremony. We will ask the couples whether this is something they are considering when we meet them prior to the ceremony. Ideally, we would suggest that drone photography is not used inside and reserved for outside use only.
- Video cameras are ideally static, but again, we will ascertain from the couple what they would prefer. If microphones are being used, please can you make the Registrar aware.
- We look forward to working with you on the day!
- For further information please email the [registeroffice@worcesteshire.gov.uk](mailto:registeroffice@worcesteshire.gov.uk)