

Celebrate the birth of your child with a naming ceremony!

A naming ceremony is a very special way of celebrating the birth of your child and welcoming the new arrival into the family and the wider community.

It's also an opportunity to declare before family and friends, your promises to be as good a parent as you can, and for adult friends or relatives to confirm their special relationship with your child.

It's a unique occasion for everyone to feel involved as they pledge their love and support for your child's future development.

What happens at a naming ceremony?

The ceremony will follow the following programme:

- ✎ Introduction and welcome
- ✎ Reading
- ✎ Naming of the child (or children)
- ✎ Parents' promises
- ✎ Promises by supporting adults
- ✎ Signing of the record
- ✎ Closing words

You also have the opportunity to create your own very personal and unique ceremony by including further readings, vows and declarations such as reasons for the child's name, hopes for the child's future, parents vows to each other, grandparents' promises, presentation of a gift to the child, acknowledging absent guests.

Who will conduct the ceremony?

A professional celebrant will carry out the ceremony according to the choices you make. They will meet with you beforehand to discuss the ceremony content and arrangements.

How long does the ceremony last?

A ceremony usually lasts about 20 minutes but will be longer if more readings and options are included.

Is there a certificate?

During the ceremony parents, supporting adults and the celebrant, sign a souvenir Record of the Ceremony.

Who can arrange a naming ceremony?

Any parent can make the arrangements to hold a naming ceremony. Likewise, anyone who has parental responsibility or legal guardianship of the child or children.

How much does a naming ceremony cost?

The cost of a ceremony can be around £200, plus a further £30 if you are holding the ceremony at your home. If you have chosen a venue for your ceremony, such as a hall or hotel, ensure that you ask for their fees.