

Marriage in the Church of England

Qualifying Connections to a Parish Church

From 1st October 2008 there are new rules governing who is able to be married in church by banns licence.

A person has a Qualifying Connection with a parish and is therefore able to be married by banns licence if that person:

- was baptised in the parish.; or
- had his or her confirmation entered in a church register book of a church or chapel in the parish; or
- has **at any time** had his or her usual place of residence in the parish for at least 6 months; or
- has **at any time** habitually attended public worship in the parish for at least 6 months;

or

a Parent of that person has at any time during that person's lifetime:

- had his or her usual place of residence in the parish for at least 6 months; or
- habitually attended public worship in the parish for at least 6 months;

or

- a Parent or Grandparent of that person was married in the parish.

Only one person in the party (i.e. the bride *or* the groom) has to be able to demonstrate a connection.