

## **Qualifying Connections for Marriage in a parish church**

Since the Church of England Marriage Measure 2008 and Marriage (Wales) Act 2010 came into force a person who has established a qualifying connection with a parish may marry in that parish in the same way as someone who lives in that parish or who is entered on the church electoral roll.

A person is treated as having a qualifying connection if he/she satisfies one or more of the following criteria:

1. He/she was baptised in the parish.
2. He/she was confirmed in the parish.
3. He/she has at any time had his/her usual place of residence or habitually attended public worship in the parish for a period of six months.
4. During his/her lifetime, his/her parent has had his/her usual place of residence or habitually attended public worship for a period of at least 6 months.
5. His/her parent or grandparent was married in the parish.

The word 'parent' in the final two criteria includes an adoptive parent or a person who undertook the care and upbringing of the person concerned.