



# Cambridge Central Mosque Temporary Nikah Ceremony Guidelines

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## Introduction

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Cambridge Central Mosque have set out the following guidelines and procedures to facilitate Nikah ceremonies in the safest way possible. The Government has announced that from the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, wedding ceremonies are permitted in places of worship under certain conditions. Considering the COVID-19 pandemic and Government guidelines, Cambridge Central Mosque will be conducting Nikah ceremonies under the conditions detailed within this document.

## General

1. We strongly advise that any individuals who are over the age of 70, have a long-term medical condition, or pregnant should not attend places of worship. This is following government guidance on individuals who have been requested to [shield](#).
2. We will not take bookings from people who are based in a location in which a local lockdown has been implemented. If a local lockdown is implemented after the booking has been made and it coincides with the date of the booking, the booking will have to be delayed and rescheduled at a date in which the local lockdown has been lifted.
3. In reference to the above, it is also your responsibility to ensure that any guests invited from a location that is under lockdown does not attend the ceremony.
4. Individuals temperatures will be checked before entering the Mosque. Any individual who has a high-temperature reading or displays any symptoms of COVID-19 such as a new persistent cough, or loss of, or change in, their normal sense of smell or taste (anosmia), will not be allowed inside the premises.
5. If guests would like to pray at the Mosque, they must bring their own prayer mat and a shoe bag along with a face-covering. If either one of these items are forgotten, a “prayer pack” can be purchased for a small fee, all proceeds of which go directly to the Mosque.
6. Unfortunately, there will be no access to ablution and toilet facilities. So please make sure you have made your ablution either at home or at your place of work before coming to the Mosque.
7. The risk of infection is accepted fully by the persons making the booking on behalf of him/herself and all participants attending the ceremony and the Mosque shall not be liable.
8. No food or refreshments will be permitted to be brought on site.
9. For your reference, please see [here](#) for Cambridge Central Mosque’s Reopening Guidance.

## Nikah Ceremony Guidelines

1. The maximum number of attendees permitted for a Nikah ceremony will be 20 people. This includes the Bride, Groom and Wali.
2. All Nikah ceremonies will be held in the Mosque’s Teaching Room.
3. Face coverings must always be worn whilst inside the Mosque including during the ceremony, unless you are exempt from wearing one as per government guidelines on [face coverings](#). **The Imam, Bride and Groom are exempt from wearing face coverings during the ceremony if social distancing is maintained.**
4. All attendees must bring shoe bags in order to enter the Mosque and take part in the ceremony as shoe racks will not be available.
5. Guests invited will agree to comply with Government Guidelines on [Small Marriages](#). In summary, guests from different households must always maintain social distancing including when taking photos. There should also be no celebratory hugging between members of different households.
6. Children under the age of 14 are permitted to attend Nikah ceremonies, however, they are only permitted to be inside the Teaching Room during the ceremony and must be under constant adult supervision.
7. All guests should be reminded that the Mosque is a sacred space and that out of respect for the sacred nature of the venue and occasion, they should be asked to dress modestly.
8. If there are more than 10 guests, a queuing system will be set up for people to enter the Mosque safely to follow our check in procedure.
9. Once the Nikah ceremony has concluded and the allocated time booked has elapsed, attendees should vacate the area for the space to be cleaned and disinfected.
10. Guests will be asked to leave at a staggered exit in order to take photos with the Bride and Groom in the Islamic Garden. Once the photography has concluded, guests must exit the premises.

11. The booking period covers 1 hour, and if the time taken is exceeded than you will incur a further hours cost.

### Photography

1. Photography can be taken within the booking period and any photos taken should be respectful.
2. **No wedding photography can be taken in the Prayer Hall or Atrium.**
3. A 15-minute window will be provided after the 1-hour booking for photography to be taken in the Islamic Garden.
4. If guests would like to take pictures with the Bride and Groom, this process will be controlled, and guests will be asked to leave the room in small numbers at a staggered exit whilst abiding by [social distancing guidelines](#).

We hope to have your understanding that these guidelines have been put in place to ensure that Nikah ceremonies can still be undertaken at the Mosque whilst protecting the health and safety of those who wish to join in matrimony, along with their guests and staff members. Please note that these guidelines are subject to change dependent on any updated government restrictions or guidance. Please be sure to check the latest version of our Nikah guidelines on Cambridge Central Mosque's [services page](#) before the date of your Nikah.

**I acknowledge that I have read this document and that I will abide by the guidelines therein and that I will share these guidelines with all the attendees that I invite to the Nikah ceremony.**

Signature .....

Date .....

Name (please print) .....