



THE CHAPEL AT ASHRIDGE HOUSE

The chapel is often described as one of James Wyatt's architectural masterpieces. The fan vaulting and rich wood carving are reminiscent of some of England's greatest cathedrals.

Whilst you cannot legally get married in the chapel, it does offer the option of a Christian blessing, which includes, Church of England, Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox blessings.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Capacity

The chapel can accommodate a maximum of 100 guests.

- 75 seated in the pews.
- An additional 25 chivari chairs at the back of the Chapel.

Additional Fees

The chapel is an additional hire fee from Ashridge of £600.00, as well as a compulsory donation to the local parish, which is stipulated by the Chaplain. This is payable directly to Nettleden PCC, you will receive a fee note around 6-8 weeks before your Wedding. This is to be paid via bank transfer 3 weeks before your Wedding.

The Chapel Chaplain

Services will be held by Fr John Russell, who is the chaplain at Ashridge. If Fr John is unable to hold the service himself, a substitute will be provided.

If you have an alternative service leader that you would like to lead the blessing, this is something that can be discussed and approved by the Chaplain and offered at a reduced fee.

Organist

If an organist is required, please contact Oliver Bond – oliverbond83@gmail.com

If you have an alternative organist that you would like to play during the blessing, this is something that can be discussed and approved by the Chapel Organist with no charge.

Please note

Pets are not allowed in the Chapel. Assistance dogs are welcome.





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RULES FOR DECORATION

We appreciate the natural beauty of the chapel and understand that you may want to enhance the space with flowers. However, to maintain the reverence and respect appropriate for a religious setting, we kindly ask that you follow the guidelines in place. This will ensure that the chapel is preserved while allowing your personal touches to complement its spiritual significance.

Layout of the Chapel

The chapel consists of four sections:

- The tower, at the rear of the chapel is where the doors are.
- The nave is the next section, entered by passing through the screen. All pews are in the nave.
- The next section is the chancel: this starts at the steps up from the nave and ends at the altar rail, which is on a single step to:
- The sanctuary, which contains the altar.

Rules for decoration

- Decoration may only be carried out by one of Ashridge's approved suppliers.
- Decorations must not be attached to the chapel in any way (there is an exception for the screen in the tower see below).
- No open flames, glass candle holders or similar items are to be used anywhere in the chapel (except for the altar candles, which are lit by the officiant).
- Confetti is permitted in the chapel, but it must be biodegradable and large in size. Real flower petals are allowed, except for red petals, which are not permitted due to the possibility of staining.
- The permitted decoration for each area of the chapel is set out below:

Sanctuary: One free-standing floral pedestal-type arrangement each side of the altar.

NB this must not obscure the view of the altar from anywhere in the chapel.

Nave &

Chancel: No decorations are permitted in the nave or the chancel (i.e. between the altar rail and the screen).

Tower: Decorations are permitted in the tower, subject to the following conditions:

1. Where an organist has been engaged, nothing should obscure the organist's view of the chancel or sanctuary.
2. Nothing should obscure the view of the altar from any of the seating,
3. Nothing should impede access to the nave, or to any of the doors.
4. Arrangements may be attached to the screen with florist's tape, ribbon or string.

NB cable ties are not permitted.





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RULES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY

(Including video)

A Blessing is a religious service; photography is permitted within the following rules:

- No photography (including video) may be done from the sanctuary or the chancel at any time.
- There is a general prohibition on moving around during what is a religious service.
- The exception to this is that, during the entrance up the aisle, the photographer may initially be located half-way along the nave, and subsequently move to the back of the nave for the remainder of the service.
NB The position taken up by them should not impede the view of any of the congregation, whether in the nave or in the tower.
- A second exception is that, at the end of the service, it is acceptable for the photographer to move to the centre of the aisle to take photos or video.



Please note that the contents on this document are subject to change



ASHRIDGE HOUSE