



Including Kids in Your Ceremony

Kids at wedding ceremonies add a whole new level of fun and love! Whether the marriage is creating a blended family or simply binding together an existing family, it's wonderful to consider involving the kids in the ceremony.

Your marriage is about the love between the two of you and choosing the person to share your life with but children are an absolutely integral part of a loving family unit so it should be recognised and celebrated if it makes your heart happy.

I'm a loving mum of three beautiful children and they are so very important to me, every day in every way.

Here are some ideas for including your children in your ceremony:

- ♥ You can all sign a Family Certificate – kids can't sign the official marriage certificate, but I love designing a special certificate for you to all sign.
- ♥ The kids can walk the bride or groom down the aisle.
- ♥ You can include them as part of a unity ritual:
 - Sand ceremony – kids love playing with coloured sand, and what better way to represent the blending of two families than by pouring beautiful coloured sand in all your favourite colours into a lovely vase to keep forever;
 - Scrabble frame – do you love to play games? Build a special family scrabble puzzle with all your names that can be framed and displayed in your home;
 - Hand fasting - you can include them as part of a hand fasting ritual. Hand fasting is where the expression 'tie the knot' comes from! Marriage creates a beautiful family bond so have the kids bring up colours of cord or ribbon to represent their favourite colours or their hopes for you all (red is love, orange is kindness, pink is happiness, blue is calm etc.). They drape the cords/ribbons over your hands and then you pull each end to tie the knot; or
 - Time capsule – put items into a box that you seal together and open later, perhaps on your first anniversary. Notes to each other about love, hopes and dreams, painted rocks, friendship bracelets, pictures they have drawn for you...anything you want!
- ♥ Children can act as ring bearers, flower girls, best man, groomsmen and bridesmaids – it's so lovely when kids of any age bring up the rings for their parents / step parents to exchange.
- ♥ Do you have a beloved family dog that you want at the ceremony? Your children could walk the dog down the aisle and keep them happy through the ceremony.

- ♥ If they are old enough, they can read a poem, words from a song or book – ask me for ideas and see the one below. If they play an instrument or like to sing and perform with confidence, consider them doing this as you enter, exit or while you are signing your certificates.
- ♥ You may wish to exchange gifts with your children during the ceremony – a beautiful piece of jewellery or a cuddly toy that reminds them of this special day can be just as important to your children as your wedding rings are to you.
- ♥ The children can hand out flowers or confetti to the guests on arrival.
- ♥ They can blow bubbles or throw rose petals during the ceremony and photos.
- ♥ You may like to make vows to the children for what the future holds for you as a family.

Including your kids but also giving them a role to play on the day is a lovely way of reminding them how important they are in your family and I welcome it in any way you wish to do it.

I am very creative and am happy to help you with props required for any of these ideas (note there may be costs involved for some items but there is no obligation and they will be invoiced separately from your ceremony fee).

A Poem

Here is a cute poem that your kid(s) might like to read:

My Advice

Mum and Dad get married today, I'd Like to help them on their way.

So here's some special advice from me/us, to help them with our family.

Keep our house filled with laughter, let's have fun forever after.

Keep the drawer filled up with sweets, and give us children lots of treats.

Make sure you spend time together, to keep your happiness forever.

Make sure you spend lots on us, and then us kids won't make a fuss.

But the most important thing for you, is to show your love in all you do.

A caring word, a kiss, a touch, and those family cuddles that mean so much.