

Al-Emaan Centre Nikah Policy 2023

The Management of Al-Emaan Centre (AEC) wishes to congratulate prospective couples who are planning to marry in accordance with Islamic Practice (Nikah).

The following provides a brief overview of the AEC Nikah booking process.

1. **Booking Form.** This is provided by AEC upon request. We recommend that bookings are made at least three weeks prior to the planned date. Nikah at AEC can only be facilitated by our Imam. To make a booking complete the Nikah Booking Form and email it to info@al-emaan.org.uk

2. **Booking Fee.** Full details of the fees are set out on the Nikah Booking form. There is a £50 booking fee as a donation to the mosque, and no separate fee for the Imam. The booking fee must be paid *before* the day of the Nikah. This can only be completed via bank transfer to Al-Emaan Centre:

Account Number: 65811208 Sort code: 60-02-12, reference "Nikah"

3. **First meeting with the Imam.** Whilst not compulsory, we encourage that the parties to the marriage and/or members of the respective families meet with our Imam, at a mutually agreed time prior to the day of the ceremony. The purpose of this meeting is for a general discussion with the Imam, which may include the Islamic obligations pertinent to marriage and the couple's personal circumstances. All such discussion will be carried out in confidentiality with our Imam.

4. **Documents required.** Please see the documents listed on the Booking form. We advise these are brought to the first meeting, or otherwise on the agreed date of the Nikah ceremony.

5. **Venue:** The Nikah can be typically accommodated within the Mosque. We accommodate up to 100 people for a Nikah. We advise ceremonies to be booked at least an hour before the next congregational prayer. Prayer times can be found here: www.al-emaan.org.uk

Parking is available on site but is limited, and we strongly recommend you advise guests to seek the plentiful free parking spots around the area while being considerate towards neighbours. We would be grateful if you could kindly respect our policy that only very light refreshments are to be distributed during the Nikah within the mosque, this includes sweets and drinks.

Upon request and subject to his availability, the Imam or representative of the mosque can also perform Nikah ceremonies at an alternative venue (i.e. avoiding the congregational prayer times). Further details can be found on the application form.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

Al-Emaan Centre is not registered to solemnise marriages in accordance with English law.

A Nikah which is performed in the UK is not considered a valid marriage under English law and as such provides no enforceable legal marital rights. This is important to note particularly in instances of marriage breakdown or death. *For this reason, we encourage all of our community to ensure a civil marriage is conducted in a register office in accordance with English law and that this is carried out immediately before or after the Nikah ceremony to preserve the enforceable rights of both parties.*

Al-Emaan Centre will NOT conduct a Nikah which breaches the general requirements of marriage in English law: Under English Law you can get married in the UK if you are:

1. 18 or over
2. Free to marry (single, divorced or widowed)
3. Not closely related

Useful web links:

<https://www.gov.uk/marriages-civil-partnerships>

http://www.bromley.gov.uk/info/200067/marriages_and_civil_partnerships/178/civil_marriage_ceremonies

http://www.bromley.gov.uk/info/200067/marriages_and_civil_partnerships/182/civil_marriage_and_