

Naming ceremonies and christening parties at the Didsbury Parsonage

The Didsbury Parsonage is available for hire for secular naming ceremonies, or parties following christening ceremonies held elsewhere. We cannot take bookings for religious ceremonies.

We can accommodate up to 30 guests (including children), on any day of the week except Sunday, for events with an end time of 4.00pm.

Please note that all charges quoted are for 2019 and 2020. Charges for 2021 are subject to revision.

How much would it cost?

The charge is £50 per hour for room hire, plus an administration fee for £10 per hour.

What Parsonage facilities would we be able to use?

You will be able to use Room 1, with access to the kitchen for water. You will need to provide your own crockery, cutlery, cups, glasses.

Do we need to hire furniture?

No, we have chairs, trestle tables and square tables that you can use.

Where can we park?

We don't have parking facilities but there is some parking on Stenner Lane, and The Didsbury Pub across the road has a large pay & display car park (you can get your money refunded if you have a drink there).

What about catering?

You can bring in your own food, or get food delivered by a caterer. In either case, all food and drink is to be served in Room 1, and the room to be cleared completely at the end of your event.

We would need to have a copy of the caterer's 3rd Party Liability insurance to cover the eventuality of any accidents due to spillage or ill-health due to effects of food – these are not covered by our insurance.

Caterers need to know that access to the kitchen is for water only. For safety reasons, we don't allow hot water urns; if you want your caterer to serve hot drinks, they will need to provide hot water flasks.

Can I hold a stand up buffet for my reception?

We cannot accommodate stand up buffets; guests need to have tables so they can sit down to eat.

Do you have tablecloths we can use?

We can provide tablecloths at no extra charge (they are dark red, matching the colour of the walls in Room 1), or we can order cloths for you. If you are providing your own cloths, we can let you know the sizes you need.

Are there rules about alcohol?

We don't have a licence to sell alcohol so you need to supply any alcoholic drinks.

Can we have music?

We have a CD/Bluetooth/USB music system, which you can use free of charge, or you can bring your own. If using our equipment we would advise a practice run prior to your event. You are welcome to have musicians if there is sufficient space in the room.

Can we decorate the room?

Probably, but it will depend on other events taking place immediately before or after your event. Our staff can advise you on this when you book.

Do we need to pay a deposit?

We require a deposit of £150 to confirm your booking, and this will be deducted from your final invoice.

The booking deposit is fully refundable if you cancel your event three months before the scheduled date. If you cancel between one and three months before, 50% will be refunded. If you cancel less than 30 days before, the booking deposit is not refundable unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Bank transfer is the best payment method for us. Our bank details are:

Account Name: Didsbury Parsonage Trust

Sort Code: 40-31-20

Account No: 41467433

We also require a returnable deposit of £200 against damage. This will be refunded in full a week after your event, assuming no damage has been caused.

What else do we need to know?

We will ask you to identify a 'Responsible Person' who can oversee things for you on the day, and we would like to have their mobile number and email.

Please note that the Parsonage is an exhibition space, with changing exhibitions every month. Once artwork is in place it cannot be moved or taken down.

Part of the charm of the Parsonage is its beautiful oak floors, which are regularly polished and maintained. Oak floors and high heels sadly aren't a good mix, so we would ask you to avoid wearing high heels if possible.

Our terms and conditions are below: please read through these and if anything isn't clear we will be happy to help.

BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. A booking deposit of £150 is required to secure your booking, and this will be deducted from your final invoice. The booking deposit is fully refundable if you cancel your event three months before the scheduled date. We require a returnable deposit of £200 against damage. This will be refunded in full after your event if no damage is caused.
2. The final invoice is to be paid in full before your event.
3. We ask that you assign a Responsible Person for your event, and provide the Trust with a contact email and phone number for this person. This person should be a third party, not the bride or groom. The person is to act as a liaison point for Trust staff on the day. Further details will be sent to the Responsible Person prior to the event.
4. Artwork on display at the time of your event must not be touched, moved or altered in any way. The cost of any damage is payable to the artist who owns the artwork.
5. Candles or any naked flame is not permitted in the building.
6. You are welcome to bring rose petals or other biodegradable confetti

7. Balloons/bunting or any other decoration that may move in draughts of air cannot be left up overnight, either before or after the event, as this will set off the intruder alarm.
8. Your event should finish at 4.00pm, to allow time for clearing up before the venue closes at 5.00pm. All rubbish and recycling must be removed after your event, either on the same day, or by 9.30am the following day.
9. When you make a booking with us, we will add your email address to our monthly Newsletter, from which you can unsubscribe at any time.