

Title: Romantic and Loving Relationships
Part 2: Living together, Marriage and Civil Partnerships

Level: THIRD/FOURTH



Links to Curriculum for Excellence

| Experiences/Outcomes | Benchmarks |
|---|--|
| <p>I understand the importance of being cared for and caring for others in relationships and can explain why. HWB 4-44a</p> <p>I understand and can explain the importance of, and need for, commitment, trust, and respect in loving and sexual relationships.</p> <p>I understand the different contexts of such relationships including marriage. HWB 4-44c</p> <p>I am developing skills for making decisions about my relationships and sexual behaviour. I am able to apply these to situations that may be challenging or difficult. HWB 4-46c</p> <p>I reflect on how my attitudes, beliefs, values, and morality can influence my decisions about friendships, relationships and sexual behaviour. HWB 4-46a</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justifies why commitment, trust and respect are central to being cared for and caring for others. • Explains the importance of shared values and goals in sustaining a loving and sexual relationships, for example, mutual respect, agreement on sex. • Demonstrates the skills needed to manage challenging situations within relationships, including sexual relationships, for example, compromise, empathy, decisiveness. |

The learning intentions and success criteria are met with delivery of all parts of this topic.

Learning intentions

- Young people understand the importance of being cared for and caring for others in relationships.
- Young people understand that adult relationships can include marriage, civil partnerships and living together.
- Young people acknowledge the pressures they face to be in relationships.

Success criteria

- I can talk about the importance of communication, honesty and trust in relationships.
- I can talk about the kind of partner I would want to be involved with, and what I would bring to a relationship.
- I understand that adults can be married, in a civil partnership or live together.
- I am developing skills and confidence to make decisions about the relationships I want.

Resources to support this activity.

- PowerPoint slides.

Activity

1. After a brief recap on the last session, introduce the activity as being about what couples choose to do when they are thinking about living together – whether they just live together or whether they get married or they choose to have a civil partnership. To get us going, some **BASIC FACTS** about **Marriage, Civil Partnership** and **Living Together** are on 3 slides. Read together and help clarify any points.
2. **Discussion.** Introduce the next task as having some discussion, in small groups first and then some feedback and chat in the big group. Remind everyone that there are no ‘right or wrong’ answers when they have discussions, everybody can have an opinion and should respect other opinions too. Explain that these discussion points ask their opinion, but also what they think their parents/carers and other family members would also think. Perhaps 5 minutes or so per topic? The prompts read:
 - **Marriage is an old-fashioned idea. Most young people will probably just live together.** *What do you think? What would people at home think?*
 - **Getting married or having a Civil Partnership is important because it says that people are committed to their relationship.** *What do you think? What would people at home think?*
 - **Marriage and Civil Partnerships have become over commercialised, too expensive, and people forget what it really means to get married/civil partnered.** *What do you think? What would people at home think?*
 - **You should live with someone before you get married or in a civil partnership.** *What do you think? What would people at home think?*
 - **If a couple are having children, it’s best if they are married/in a civil partnership, rather than living together.** *What do you think? What would people at home think?*
3. **TRUE/FALSE QUIZ** Have young people work in groups of two or three for a **quiz**. The quiz (use the slides, have young people write True or False against numbers 1 – 10 on paper) provided helps young people to think about further aspects of marriage, civil partnership and living together. When looking at the results there is some detail provided to explain each True/False response. Have some discussion as you go through the answers, exploring any misinformation and opinions. For example: *What do you think about 16 as the age young people can marry/get a civil partnership?* Add up the scores as you go and have a prize for the winners! Or a prize for everyone!
4. Question 10 relates to **Forced Marriage**; you should ensure understanding of this issue. In the additional resources below, there is further guidance and a learning pack available if this is an area you want to explore further. You may want to go online in the class to this page and have a look at the key points, encouraging young people to look again themselves later:
<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/crime-law/forced-marriage/>
5. If there is time, or as a task to take away, have the young people use their phones/tablets to find out more about getting married and civil partnerships online at Citizens Advice Bureau Scotland:
<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland/family/living-together-marriage-and-civil-partnership-s/getting-married-s/#h-getting-engaged> to find out if there things that are additional or interesting to what has already been covered in class?

Connecting with home

- Learning Activity **Love** has a short paragraph that could be used to communicate with home about this block of learning on romantic and loving relationships.
- The young people could be given a copy of the quiz (see next page) to take home and encouraged to bring back their family score to the next lesson.

Further learning activities are available that connect to this RSHP curriculum content.

- Love.
- Making a relationship work.
- Qualities of a partner and talking about relationships.

Practitioner Notes

True/False Quiz (on slides)

Questions

1. There are approximately 30,000 marriages or civil partnerships every year in Scotland: T/F?
2. You have to be aged 18 or over to get married: T/F?
3. If you get engaged, you have to marry your partner: T/F?
4. There are 2 kinds of marriage ceremonies: a civil marriage or a religious/belief ceremony: T/F?
5. You need to have 2 witnesses present at your wedding/civil partnership: T/F?
6. To get married you must register your intention to marry at least 28 days before the marriage: T/F?
7. If you are already married or in a civil partnership it is illegal to get married/civil partnered again: T/F?
8. If you get divorced or your partner dies, you can get married/have a civil partnership again: T/F?
9. If you are not married or in a civil partnership but you live with your partner this is called common-law husband or wife and it's just the same as being married. T/F?
10. Forcing someone to marry without their full and free consent is against the law and an abuse of their human rights. T/F?

Answers

1. **True.**
2. **False.** You can marry from the age of 16.
3. **False.** If you or your partner decide to end an engagement, you cannot be forced to marry. In these circumstances, it is not legally clear what should happen about engagement rings. The ring should be returned if the giver made clear that in the event of a broken engagement it should be returned. Gifts should be returned if they were given on condition of marriage. This, however, cannot be legally enforced.
4. **True.** A religious ceremony includes religious beliefs and other belief systems such as humanism. A religious ceremony can be held anywhere (for example on a boat or hillside. A civil marriage can take place in a registrar's office or in any other appropriate location (other than religious premises) that has been agreed by the couple for example, a stately home, or on a hillside.
5. **True.** As well as the couple, and the person who is conducting the ceremony, you must have 2 witnesses aged 16 or over.
6. **True.** You and your partner will each need to give notice to the **district registrar** for the area where you intend to marry. Your intention to marry is a public announcement that anyone can see.
7. **True.** If you marry or enter a civil partnership in the UK when you are already in one, the marriage/partnership is bigamous and will be void. Bigamy is a crime.
8. **True.** But some religions have rules about whether you can re-marry in a religious ceremony.
9. **False.** The term 'common - law' husband or wife is often used but has no legal standing. It is a misunderstanding that a couple will have established a 'common law marriage' after living together for a period of time.
10. **True.** If you are afraid that you may be forced into a marriage in this country, or that someone in this country may be planning to force you into a marriage while you are abroad, you should ask for help immediately. You can ask the Police for help.