

Weddings at the College

A digital viewing



Welcome to the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama

The Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama is set in the grounds of Cardiff Castle, bordering one of the largest and most beautiful parks in the UK.

Our two unique venues form one of Cardiff's most sought-after locations for your very special day.

We offer a completely bespoke experience so, with the help of our dedicated Weddings Officer and highly experienced Catering Manager, we can tailor your special day exactly how you want it.

We have many rooms each with its own style and character so you can bring your vision to life - whether it's a fresh and bright spring wedding, a large-scale summer party, a cozy and enchanting autumn ceremony or a magical Christmas celebration.

Let's begin the tour....

Ceremonies

We hold ceremonies in the main building and in our Anthony Hopkins Centre so we can offer two completely different styles of venues.

The Dora Stoutzker Concert Hall

Our world-class concert hall is stunning and contemporary and can seat up to 200 guests.

This space is very elegant and impressive as you can see. It also lends itself very well to many different backdrops from coloured uplighters and fairy lights to plants, flowers and bunting arches. We love your creative ideas.

We offer a range of lighting options at an additional cost and there's more about this a little later in this tour.

You are welcome to bring your own decorations which we will set up for you, so you don't have to lift a finger on your special day.





Our uplighters can be changed to any color of your choice

*additional charge, please refer to price list.



Wall of fairy lights

*additional charge, please refer to price list

Examples of decoration ideas brought in by couples...



Your bunting, plants, flower arches and flower arrangements can be relocated and displayed elsewhere later in the day.

We look forward to hearing about your ideas!



The stage can be configured in many ways to allow space for musicians and decorations.

The bride's entrance is along the side aisles leading on to the stage.

The piano can be played or simply be on display. If you would like to hire one of our musicians, there's some information later on in our 'Hire a Musician' Scheme.

Live music has included choirs above and behind the stage creating a magnificent impact and wow factor.





Richard Burton Theatre

The Richard Burton Theatre is the perfect place for our theatrical couples. With 180 seats, all your guests can watch in dramatic surroundings.

You can choose to create your scene on stage – from a simple, low lit, intimate ceremony to a fully-staged event with spectacular lighting effects.

This venue can also be used for your drink's reception for up to 60 guests on the stage.





Wall of fairy lights

*additional charge please refer to price list at the end.



Get a feel for Broadway while under the spotlight for a unique way to tie the knot. For a drink's reception, our posh tables dotted and your decorations can really transform the stage.



The Weston Gallery

This beautiful room is located in our Anthony Hopkins Centre. If you are looking for character and charm, this is a perfect room for your ceremony.

70 guests can be accommodated in this historic venue which was Cardiff Castle's original stables building. Classic paintings, elegant arched doorways and bold drapes means it doesn't need decoration as it is spectacular as it is.

This room can also be used for your drinks reception.





The Weston Gallery can be set up in different formats to suit you and your guest numbers.



The Corus Suite

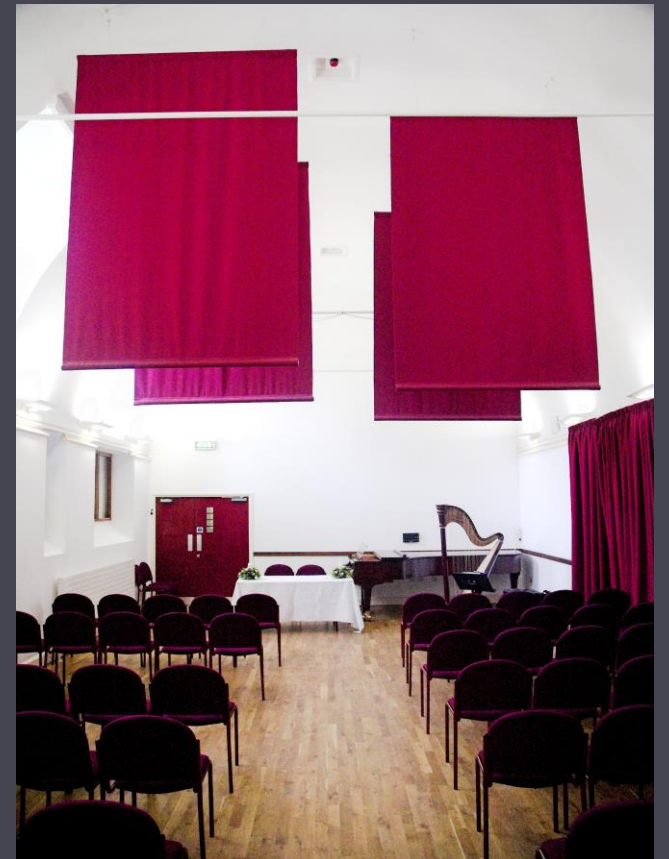
This room is very similar to the Weston Gallery in style and slightly more intimate. Its beautiful spiral staircase is a stunning feature for your photos. The capacity here is 50.

The Corus is full of history so, just like the Weston Gallery, it is beautiful as it is although you are welcome to decorate it to make it unique to you.

This room can also be used for your drinks reception.







The layout of the Corus Suite can be changed in line with the number of your guests.

Drinks Reception

We have a range of spaces to choose from, both indoor or outdoor to suit the seasons.

Open-air terrace and glass atrium

These spaces create a truly wonderful venue for your drinks reception.

Our stunning, three-storey high, contemporary glass-walled atrium and open-air terrace in the main college overlooks the Grade I-listed Bute Park and Cardiff Castle.

There's lots of space and scope for you to create your unique vision (if you wish!)







Anthony Hopkins Centre Courtyard

This open-air courtyard is magnificent for your drinks reception on a beautiful day with the park just a stone's throw away. The fabulous architecture is the original stonework that was once Cardiff Castle's stables.

For rainy days, the Weston and Corus are next to the courtyard.

You can bring your own wine or fizzy and our corkage charge covers the glass hire, cleaning, staff to serve and clearing.

Any alcohol you may bring in





The Park Walk

The park walk is a beautiful optional walk you can do during your day.

It takes you from the Castle Avenue behind our Anthony Hopkins Centre to your wedding breakfast and evening reception in the atrium.

It's a 15 minute walk, - depending on how many photos you take along the way in these stunning surroundings ...



Here's some examples....



We are very flexible with how you plan your day and are always open to new suggestions.

We are always here to guide you if you are unsure though.



If you have concerns about any of your guests not being able to enjoy the park walk, our Weddings Officer will help them take a much shorter route so they can watch you as you arrive.

Along the way, it's a lovely opportunity for you both to share a private moment while we make sure your guests are enjoying the prosecco and canapés.



The Bridge Walk

The atrium bridge walk is often voted amongst the favorite parts of the day (apart from the getting married part, of course!)

This can seamlessly follow your park walk so you can make a grand entrance as newlyweds – our Weddings Officer will show you how.

Once all your guests are seated, your best man can announce you as you walk along the bridge to the sounds of your guests cheering you on - another very happy moment.



Your choice of music, perhaps your favorite song, can be playing as you make your grand entrance arrive.

Following this, it's straight into your wedding breakfast and speeches unless you want to plan events differently.

There is a second chance to walk the bridge as a perfect lead into your first dance. All this can be planned during your meetings with our Weddings Officer.



Wedding Breakfast

We have a range of layouts for your wedding breakfast

Round table layout

Large round tables - the most popular option.

'U' table layout

Tables set up in a U layout with the option for something on display in the centre such as your cake!

Family style table layout

A more casual way of dining with tables in a row and your guests sat opposite each other.

Top table

Top table for you, your immediate family, bridesmaid and bestmen/man.



Our highly recommended in-house catering team can accommodate all your dietary requirements such as vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free and Halal.

Our menus are designed for you to select from each course to create a menu that is yours.

Whilst we are not able to permit external caterers.





Evening reception in atrium

This is where your evening reception will take place.

We can accommodate up to **300** guests non-seated in the atrium with its adjacent bar licensed until 1:30am.

We book two friendly and welcoming door staff who will make sure no-one uninvited comes to your party.

At the end of the evening, we have storage facilities for your decorations to be stored securely overnight. Our Weddings Officer will arrange with you when you can collect the following day.





Decoration
ideas...





Prices and Deposit

Venue Hire

- The deposit is £1,200 inc VAT. This deposit is non-refundable and is deducted from the total hire cost.
- The cost of the venue is £234 inc VAT for each hour you need. This includes all the rooms in the Anthony Hopkins Centre and the main College.
- The cost for the door staff is £360 inc VAT.
- Catering charges are invoiced separately.

Additional ways to make your day magical

- A sparkling wall of fairy lights £280 + VAT (£56) = **£336**
- Festoon bistro bulbs lighting across the atrium £240 + VAT (£48) = **£288**
- Fairy lights across the glass bridge in our atrium in single loops £80 + VAT (£16) = **£96**
- Fairy lights on the outdoor terrace £50 + VAT (£10) = **£60**
- Projected images from **£70 + VAT dependent on choice:**
 - wedding bells, hearts and snowflakes to a custom design that's unique to you
- Indoor coloured lights (Uplighters) £90 + VAT (£18) = **£108**
- Outdoor coloured Uplighters £60 + VAT (£12) = **£72**
 - Lighting up the exterior of the building in your colour theme adds another personal touch to the venue
- Evening technical package £220 + VAT (£44) = **£264**
 - includes disco lighting with mirror ball, our PA and one of our technicians to operate your iPad
- Wedding car arrival outside the Anthony Hopkins Centre and Castle Avenue, plus photographs in Bute Park £125 + VAT (£25) = **£150**

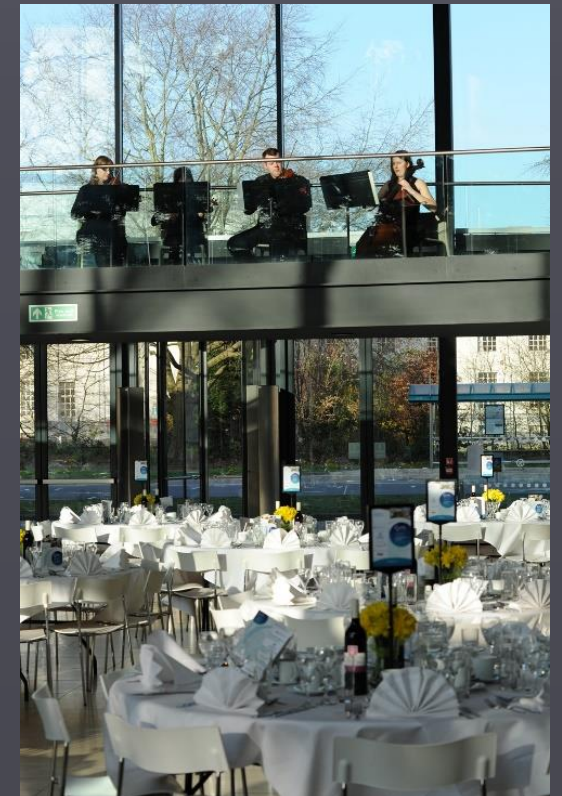


Hire a Performer service

Hire a Performer is a unique College scheme to provide a wide range of musicians, from quartets to jazz bands, pianists to singers. We are one of only nine specialist music conservatoires in the UK and our performers are amongst the most talented in the country. Their passion and professionalism will make your wedding extra special.

For all enquiries please contact:

musicians@rwcmd.ac.uk
029 2039 1402



General queries..

Policies with COVID-19

The College will be following the Welsh Government guidelines so restrictions may change throughout 2021. We keep updated and will inform you of any changes...

- If the building is operational and the college can host your wedding, then your wedding deposit is non-refundable.
- If the building is closed due to COVID then your deposit will be refunded. Depending on the number of meetings or tastings, there may be a small admin fee.
- We can postpone your wedding date with no fee and no fuss and we will always do our best to accommodate you. Your date can also be postponed more than once if necessary.
- We will assist you to plan a COVID-safe day for you and your guests and we will provide a COVID-safe environment for you all. Social distancing and other safety measures may continue to be required in 2021.

Parking and accommodation

- We have car parking for suppliers, photographers and registrars. For your guests, there are many car parks surrounding us. As we are close to the centre of Cardiff we are very close to public transport links and overnight accommodation.
- We have parking spaces available for blue badge holders and our venues are fully wheelchair user friendly.
- Our dressing rooms are perfect as changing rooms, quiet spaces for the babies and little ones and for storage for holding your belongings.

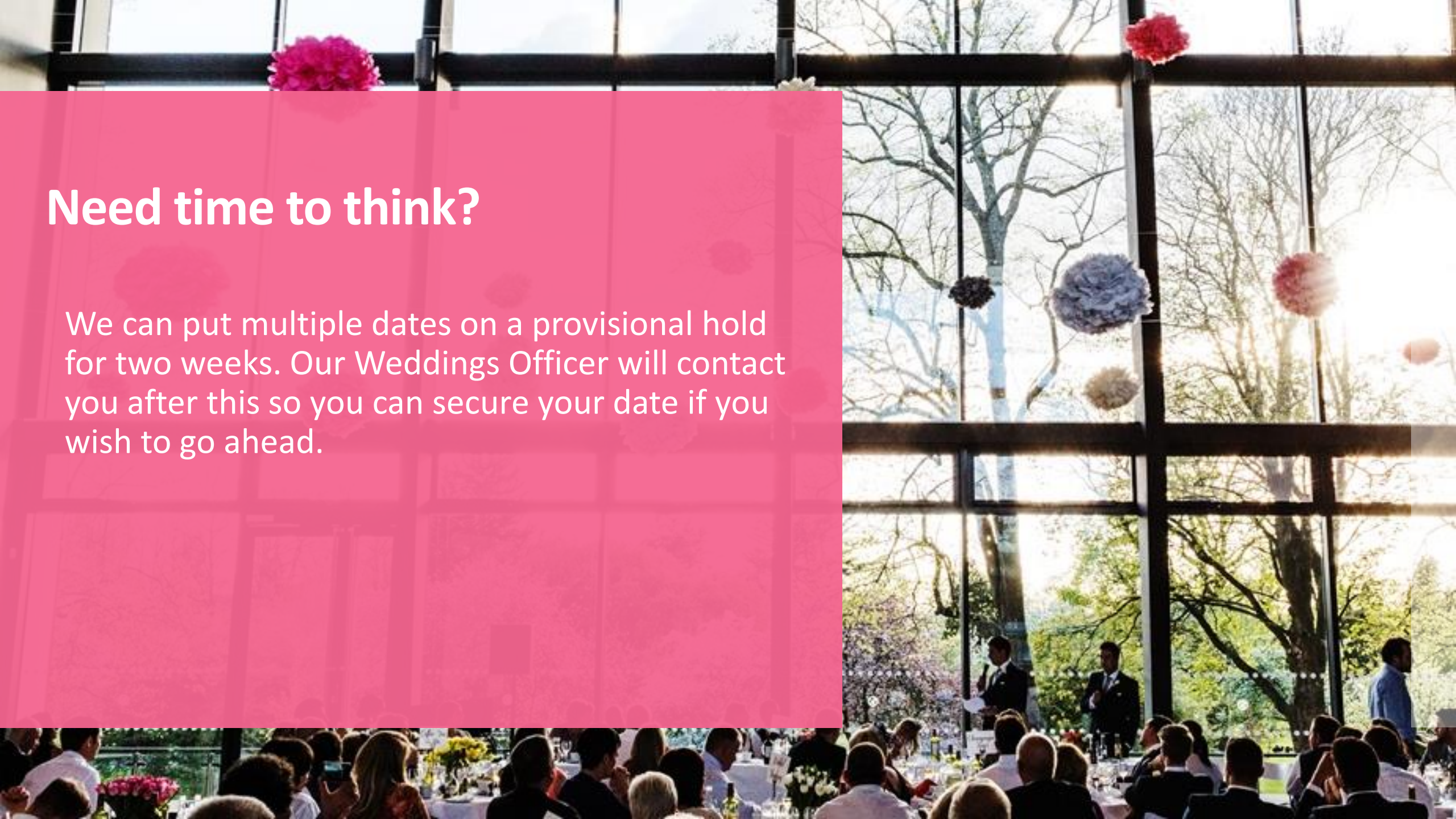
Anything we can't do?

We welcome your fun and creative ideas. There are just three things though that we cannot accommodate for safety reasons:

1. No open flames – this is due to a very sensitive fire alarm and for the safety of your guests and our staff.
2. No helium – we have some very high ceilings and when the balloons fly up, up and away, it is nearly impossible to get them back!
3. No bubble machines – as fun as they are, our marble flooring in the foyer would become a very slippery ice rink!

Need time to think?

We can put multiple dates on a provisional hold for two weeks. Our Weddings Officer will contact you after this so you can secure your date if you wish to go ahead.



***Thank you for
'visiting' the
College. I hope you
enjoyed your digital
tour!***

If you have any questions,
please feel free to contact
Cerys, our Weddings Officer -
weddings@rwcmd.ac.uk

