

EQUAL

THE CAMPAIGN FOR EQUAL MARRIAGE IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Equal, the Campaign for Equal Marriage in the Church of England, is campaigning for a change in the teaching and practice of the Church of England to allow all couples to marry in church, regardless of their sex or sexuality. This principle of equality already applies in English law and in some other churches.

The Church of England's current official position is that only opposite-sex couples can marry in its churches. Same-sex couples cannot marry in church. They cannot even officially receive a blessing after a civil marriage. Christians who have married their same-sex partner are discriminated against in the ministry of the church, both lay and ordained.

In this parish:

- ***We believe that same-sex couples should be able to be married in Church of England parishes.***
- ***We believe that people in such marriages should have the same opportunities for lay and ordained ministry in the Church of England as anyone else.***
- ***We believe that the consciences of everyone should be protected – no member of the clergy should be forced to conduct a marriage they disagree with. No member of the clergy should be prevented from celebrating a marriage involving a same-sex couple.***