

Lincolnshire Naming Ceremony - Young Person Sample Script

START OF THE CEREMONY

Good morning/afternoon. My name is <Registrar> and it will be my privilege and pleasure to conduct the ceremony here today.

On behalf of _____ and _____ (*parents*), and of course _____ (*young person/individual first name*), I would like to welcome you all here to share their special day with them.

Almost all cultures have ceremonies to mark the important stages of our lives. Such celebrations solidify and celebrate a bond between all those who participate; they enable us to define new roles and to acknowledge new relationships and new responsibilities.

They mark a person's transition through life stages and highlight the values and beliefs important to us.

Today _____ and _____ (*parents*) wish to share with you all their hopes for _____ (*young person/individual first name*).

Together they, and all of you here today will be making promises to love and nurture _____ (*young person/individual*) as he/she/they continue their journey through life's rich tapestry.

Everyone here today offers their support to _____ and _____ (*parents*), as they embark on this new and exciting chapter in their lives.

Some of you have been chosen by them to take on additional responsibilities in the upbringing of _____ (*young person/individual*) by taking on the role of Supporting Adults or Guide Parents.

The supporting adults/guide parents and grandparents [if applicable/optional] of _____ (*young person/individual*) will be joining _____ and _____ (*parents*) in making promises to cherish, love and nurture son /daughter / insert name as he /she/ they grow(s).

The arrival of a new child into a family not only marks the beginning of a new chapter in the lives of the parents, but also strengthens the bond between them as they work together to raise their child.

Suitable place for a reading (suggested length 3 minutes or less).

FORMAL NAMING

We have now come to the moment for _____ and _____ (*parents*) to formally name their son/daughter/child. Names give us our first identity, and the meanings, history and gift of a name can shape futures, encouraging us to grow into our best version of ourselves.

Whilst our first names create our individuality, our family name gives us a sense of belonging and today _____ (*young person/individual*) is extending his/her/their family's history into another generation.

_____ and _____ (*parents*), I ask you now to please bring forward _____ (*child*) and please tell us the name(s) you have chosen.

Parents to say out loud the full name(s) chosen.

_____ (*young person/individual full name*), on behalf of your family and friends who are here today in your honour, we welcome you. Our wish for you is that you are always surrounded by love, peace, security, and happiness and that your life is full of joy, good health, and adventure.

Suitable place for a second reading (suggested length 3 minutes or less).

PARENT'S PROMISES

_____ and _____ (*parents*), I am now going to ask you to declare your promises to your son/daughter/child.

Parents may choose one or more of the promises from the options below.

Parents to say "I promise" after each declaration

- 1. Do you promise that you will always love and support person's name to the very best of your ability?**
- 2. Do you promise to work hard to create a safe and loving home to raise person's name**
- 3. Do you promise that you will always be ready to listen to person's name and to teach him / her / them the importance of honesty, generosity, and tolerance?**
- 4. Do you promise to inspire person's name to follow his / her / their dreams and teach him / her / them to persevere in his / her / their every endeavour?**
- 5. Custom promises**

_____ and _____ (*parents*), you have now made promises to _____ (*young person/individual*).

Everyone here today wishes you strength, courage, and happiness as you continue this very special journey in your lives.

GRANDPARENTS AND/OR SUPPORTING ADULTS/GUIDE PARENTS PROMISES

If I could now invite _____ (*child*) and the Grandparents and/or any chosen supporting adults/guide parents to come forward and pledge their commitment to playing a supportive and caring role in _____ (*young person/individual*) upbringing.

<List guide parents / grandparents names>

Do you gladly accept the responsibility of acting as _____ (*child*) supporting adult/guide parent; and do you promise to offer your support and assistance to _____ and _____ (*parents*).

Answer: We do

Choose ONE or more promises from the options below.

Guide parents, reply "I promise" after each declaration.

- 1. Do you promise that person's name will be able to trust you with his / her / their thoughts and turn to you for reassurance and help whenever he / she / they may need it?**
- 2. Do you promise that you will always be there for person's name as a shoulder to lean on and someone to trust and confide in?**
- 3. Do you promise that you will teach person's name to persevere in his / her / their every endeavour, offering your encouragement and guidance as he / she/ they grow(s)?**
- 4. Do you promise to love and treasure person's name and inspire him / her / them to achieve his / her / their dreams and ambitions, whatever they may be?**
- 5. Custom promises**

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE AND PHOTOGRAPHS

If I could ask you all now to please confirm these promises by signing the record of this happy event.

Option to play music as commemorative certificate is signed by parents and guide parents (approx. 5 mins)

_____ (*young person/individual*), you have been welcomed into a loving family and circle of friends and today is evidence that you will receive love and support throughout your life. Our wish for you is that this will give you the best possible start in life. Everyone here today wishes you good health, happiness, and a very bright future.

It now gives me great pleasure to present you with your certificate of naming for _____ (*young person/individual*).

CONCLUSION

Thank you all for being here today to share this ceremony with the _____ (*surname*) family!

It has been a real privilege to be part of this special day and I do hope that today becomes one of your very precious memories.

Please join me in a round of applause for the _____ (*surname*) family!

CONGRATUALATIONS

Option to play a final song as you exit the ceremony room, followed by your guests.