

## CANDIDATES UNDER TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE

A candidate for Freemasonry should normally be over the age of twenty-one when he is Initiated. He can be proposed and balloted for before he is twenty-one.

A candidate can be Initiated under the age of twenty-one (but after he is eighteen) by Dispensation from the Provincial Grand Master. Each case is considered on its own merits and the issues which will be considered important centre upon the candidate, rather than upon those proposing him or the keenness of a Lodge to receive him.

The age-range of the Lodge should offer the candidate adequate opportunity to meet men of similar age. If he is entering or about to enter Further Education, thought should be given to joining an alternative Lodge where he will be or is studying. There is a growing network of 'University' Lodges offering exciting opportunities for young candidates for the Craft.

The Provincial Grand Master will not allow sentiment (a proud father wishing to Initiate his own son or a Lodge keen to Initiate someone they know well) to overbalance a judgement which is right for the candidate in question. Detailed justification in writing will be required of any Lodge making application for such a Dispensation.