

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO FOR JUNIORS POLICY

Statement

We are committed to ensure that all our students are kept safe and that everyone responsible for juniors takes all necessary steps to prevent inappropriate images from being taken; and that innocent images are not used inappropriately.

Appropriate photographic and video controls are essential to good safeguarding practice.

Our staff are trained to take the appropriate steps to keep children safe, however parents and carer's will not be prevented from taking appropriate pictures or filming their children, as we believe this is normal family practice and is incredibly important in marking milestones, etc.

Understanding the Law

It is not an offence to take appropriate photographs in a public space, even if asked not to do so. No one is permitted to decide who can and cannot take images on public land. Therefore, should there ever be concerns about safeguarding in relation to images and footage being taken in a public space and a staff member genuinely and in good faith believe that someone is acting unlawfully or putting a child at risk then they should call the Police.

When activities are being undertaken on private land, then it is at the discretion of the land or facility owner whether images and footage can be taken. However, whether permission for images or footage to be taken is granted must be made clear to individuals prior to them being allowed access to the private property. If someone then fails to comply with the **no images or footage** instruction they can then be instructed to leave.

The Risks

- Images in which children are named can create opportunities for people to groom a child.
- Someone may use activities in public places as an opportunity to take inappropriate images and footage of children.
- Images and footage of children can be used inappropriately and be circulated and copied via websites and email.
- Children can be identified and located in circumstances where this would be inappropriate and unsafe for the child and/or parent and carer.

Photography and Video Use Rules:

- Parents, carers and guardians will be permitted to take appropriate photographs and footage of their children.
- If we wish to take photographs or footage of a junior student, a **Consent Form** will always be used.
- Where possible and appropriate we will also obtain a junior's permission to use their image.
- No images will be used without consent.
- We will avoid using children's names in captions.
- Where permission has been granted, we will only use images of children in a suitable dress to reduce the risk of inappropriate use.
- We are very aware that certain activities **e.g.**, swimming, gymnastics and athletics presents much greater risk of potential misuse and will therefore risk-assess appropriately in relation to permission to photograph such activities.
- We will take all steps necessary to ensure that a child who is under care proceedings is protected and ensure that their image is not placed in the public domain. This will be achieved through requesting appropriate information on the **Consent Form**.

- All images and footage taken will focus on the activity and not the child.
- Unsupervised access to children - or a child - on a one-to-one photo shoot will not be permitted.
- Images and footage will represent diversity.
- We will not permit - and will take all steps necessary to prevent - images or footage being taken in changing rooms, showers or toilets.

- **Use of professionals:** Where we may engage with professionals to take images or footage it will be clear at the outset and all-in line with this **Photography & Video Policy**.

