



Love God, Love each other, Love Learning

PHOTOGRAPHY AT SCHOOL EVENTS POLICY

At Sacred Heart RC Primary School, we recognise that parents/carers may wish to take videos or photos of their children participating in school events. However, we are also sensitive to the wishes of parents who are concerned about the use of such content and may not want their children to be photographed or filmed.

Taking photographs at school events is an increasingly sensitive area as it is now much easier for photos and video to be used and distributed inappropriately, both online and in print.

Child Protection issues occur when individual pupils can be identified in photographs used in promotional material, newspapers or websites. There is also the risk of such photographs being used or adapted for inappropriate use.

School events can include, but are not limited to, concerts, plays or theatre productions, performance events, sports events, fêtes, educational visits, and trips etc.

Sacred Heart RC Primary School has implemented a policy on the safe use of cameras/videos by parents/carers to reflect the protective ethos of the school with regard to pupil safety. The policy regarding the use of cameras/videos by school staff is different and is covered in the Staff Code of Conduct.

In order to ensure that as far as possible the use of photography and video is used safely in connection with school events, the policy provided below should be followed. This policy is applicable to all forms of media, including, film, print, video, DVD and websites.

Principles

- According to the DfE, photographs and video images of pupils and staff are classed as personal data under the terms the latest GDPR legislation. Therefore, the use of such images for school publicity purposes will require the consent of either the individual concerned or, in the case of pupils, their legal guardians.
- The Headteacher is responsible for deciding whether parents/carers can be permitted to take photographs and/or video recordings during school events.
- **If permitted to do so, by the Headteacher**, parents/carers may use photographs/videos at school events for their personal use only and these must not be circulated (including, on the internet). The same applies to photos taken on personal mobile phones or tablet devices.

Aims

- To protect the rights of parents/carers to consent to their child/children being photographed for particular purposes at school
- To protect the rights of the child and their image being shared
- Emphasise the school's protective ethos towards pupils in respect of potential inappropriate use of visual images of children
- Avoid children being distracted by photographic activity during events
- Enable all visitors at school productions to enjoy the event without the distraction of others taking photographs or videos near them
- Allow personal family photography where possible

Parental Consent

- Permission will be sought for children to be photographed (including video) during school events. This will be obtained via the New Entrants Data Collection form. This consent remains in place while the child is a student of Sacred Heart RC Primary school or until permission is withdrawn by parents.

- Parents are required to gain permission to publish photographs in public or on a website.

Use of images in publication and on the internet

- Images/video footage of students may be used in a publication, such as the school website or prospectus, once the consent has been obtained
- Only images of children appropriately dressed will be used to reduce the risk of images being inappropriately used.
- The school will ensure that any images/video of children are stored securely and used only by authorised individuals. Electronic images are to be stored on a secure network so that they are not accessible to members of the public.
- The school will not use an image of any child who is subject to a court order.
- The school will not use photographs of children or staff members who have left the school without their consent.
- Any concern relating to inappropriate or intrusive photography or publication of content, as determined by the Headteacher/Governors, is to be reported to the Headteacher.

Use of a professional photographer

If the school decides to use a professional photographer for school events, Sacred Heart Primary School will:

- Provide a clear brief for the photographer about what is considered appropriate, in terms of content and behaviour.
- Issue the photographer with identification which must be worn at all times
- Communicate to the photographer that the material may only be used for the school's own purposes and that permission has not been given to use the photographs for any other purpose.
- Ensure that the photographer will comply with the requirements set out in the latest GDPR legislation.
- Ensure that if another individual, such as, a parent or governor, is nominated to be the photographer, they must be clear that the images are not used for any other anything other than the purpose indicated by the school.

Permissible photography during school events

If the Headteacher permits parents/carers to take photographs or video during a performance, the following must be adhered to:

- Remain seated while taking photographs or videos during concerts, performances and other events.
- Minimise the use of flash photography during performances.
- In the case of all school events, make the focus of any photographs or video your own children.
- Avoid disturbing others in the audience or distracting children when taking photographs or video.
- Ensure that any and all images and video taken at school events are exclusively for personal use and are not uploaded to the internet, posted on social networking sites or openly shared in other ways.
- In certain circumstances, refrain from taking further photographs and/or video if and when requested to do so by staff.