

September 2024



PHOTOGRAPHY CONSENT POLICY

Issue date: September 2024

Signed: 

Review period: Annually

POLICY ISSUES AND UPDATES

PAGES	ISSUE	DATE
Whole	Review of whole document	23/06/2023
2	Added link to Grooming to NSPCC	23/06/2023
2	ThinkUKnow link added	23/06/2023
3	Removal of Engage specific photo policy.	23/06/2023
4	Including updated 2018 policy	23/06/2023
ALL	Review of whole document	22/07/2024
4	Appendix 1: new photo consent added	22/07/2024

The following policy has been approved by the Senior Leadership Team and the Board of Trustees.

The policy will be reviewed on an annual basis unless circumstances arise requiring the policy to be reviewed earlier.

Approved by Board of Trustees: July 2024.

Board signatory: Jon Drown

Planned review: July 2025

It's important that children and participant feel happy with their achievements and have photographs and films of their special moments. Family and friends also want to be able to share the successes of their children when they have been part of a special event or activity.

However, some children, parents or carers may not be comfortable with images of themselves, or their children being shared. For example:

- If a child and/or their family have experienced abuse, they may worry about the perpetrator tracing them online.
- Children who choose not to have contact with some members of their family may decide to minimise their online presence.
- families may have religious or cultural reasons for choosing not to be photographed.

It's important to be aware of child protection and safeguarding issues when taking photos of or filming children and participants. The potential for misuse of images can be reduced if organisations are aware of the potential dangers and put appropriate measures in place. You should also consider the data protection implications of making, using and storing images of children and participant for your organisation's use. We've put together guidance to help you think about and mitigate the risks involved with making and sharing images of children.

Risks of sharing images online

Sharing photographs and images of children on social media or other online platforms carries potential risks. For example:

- children may become vulnerable to [grooming](#) if a photograph is shared alongside information that makes them identifiable. This includes personal details; a tag with location information; visual details such as a school uniform.
- inappropriate images of children may be shared online.
- images may be copied, downloaded, screenshotted or shared by anyone.
- images of children may be adapted and used inappropriately.
- photos or videos may appear in internet search results.
- depending on the terms and conditions of using an online platform, the image may be owned by the platform once it's been posted. Platforms may then license images for use by third parties – such as for commercial purposes.
- each photo or video, and any comments on them, become a part of a child's public image. This may affect them later in life – for example, it may affect how they see themselves, or how they are viewed when applying for a job ([Thinkuknow, 2021](#)).

Before sharing images of children on social media, adults should consider how widely images may be shared, how long they may remain available and how this may affect the children's long-term wellbeing.

Appendix 1

Photo consent form

Occasionally we may take photographs and videos of participants, on the Foundation's programmes and events, to promote our services, share achievements and celebrate successes, helping the Foundation to reach its ambition.

This might include (but is not limited to), the right to use them in printed and online publicity, social media, press releases and funding applications.

From time to time, our setting may also be visited by the media who will take photographs or film footage of a high-profile events. Participants will often appear in these images, which may appear in local or national newspapers, or on televised news programmes.

To comply with the Data Protection Act 1998 we need your permission before we can photograph or make any recordings of the learner.

.....
(Tick below)

I give my consent for the publication of my child's photograph and video to be taken for the purpose mentioned above

I do not give my consent for the publication of my child's photograph and video to be taken for the purpose mentioned above

Name of individual	
Name of parent/guardian	
Signature of parent/guardian	
Date	

Please note that websites and social media can be viewed throughout the world and not just in the United Kingdom where UK law applies.