



GDPR

Photograph Policy

Last Updated: September 2025
Review Date: September 2026
Chair of Governors, Martin Vickery

Safeguarding:

At Templars Primary School, safeguarding and child protection is paramount and we are fully committed to ensuring the welfare and safety of all our children. We believe that safeguarding is the responsibility of all the adults in the school community. We believe that pupils have a right to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment which includes the right to protection from all types of abuse including bullying. All school staff are vigilant for signs of any pupil in distress and are confident about applying the processes to avert and alleviate any such problems. If any behaviour is a concern in relation to safeguarding Templars Primary School procedures and processes will be followed at all times in accordance with the Child Protection Policy. Any concerns will be referred to the Designated Safeguarding team, these people are identified on the noticeboard in the staffroom and on the website.

Please note in this policy where it states camera this includes the school's digital cameras, staff member's iPads or school iPads. This policy will be made available to staff parents and visitors.

The purpose of the Policy document is to safeguard children by promoting appropriate and acceptable use of photographic equipment and resources for storing and printing images.

Photographs are taken for the purpose of recording a child or group of children participating in activities or celebrating their achievements and are an effective form of recording their progression in the School. They may also be used on our website and on School social media sites with permission from the parents.

1. Legislative Framework

- Data Protection Act (2018)
- General Data Protection Regulation as amended (GDPR)
- Freedom of Information Act 2000
- Human Right Act 1998
- The Children Act 1989 and 2004
- The Data Protection Policy
- Acceptable Use Policy
- The Record Retention Schedule
- SEND Policy

2. Definitions

2.1 **“Personal Use”** of photography and videos is defined as the use of cameras to take images and recordings of children by relatives, friends or known individuals, e.g. a parent taking a group photo of their child and their friends at a school event. These photos and videos are only for personal use by the individual taking the photo and are not intended to be passed on to unknown sources. The principles of the GDPR do not apply to images and videos taken for personal use.

2.2 **“Official School Use”** is defined as photography and videos which are used for school purposes, e.g. for building passes, assessments and workbooks where there is no alternative method of recording attainment. These images are likely to be stored electronically alongside other personal data. The principles of the GDPR apply to images and videos taken for official school use.

2.3 **“Media Use”** is defined as photography and videos which are intended for a wide audience, e.g. photographs of children taken for a local newspaper. The principles of the GDPR apply to images and videos taken for media use.

2.4 **“Educational Purposes”** are not intended for official school use, but may be used for a variety of reasons, such as school displays and special events. The principles of the GDPR apply to images and videos taken for educational purposes.

3. Responsibilities

3.1 The headteacher is responsible for:

- (a) Submitting consent forms to parents at the beginning of the academic year with regards to photographs and videos being taken whilst at school;
- (b) Ensuring that all photos and videos are stored and disposed of correctly, in line with the GDPR;
- (c) Deciding whether parents are permitted to take photographs and videos during school events with consideration to potential safeguarding issues;
- (d) Communicating this policy to all the relevant staff members and the wider school community, such as parents.

3.2 The designated safeguarding lead (DSL) is responsible for:

- (a) Liaising with social workers to gain consent for photography and videos of LAC pupils;
- (b) Liaising with the data protection officer (DPO), to ensure there are no data protection breaches;
- (c) Reporting any pupils who may be at risk
- (d) Informing the headteacher of any known changes to a pupil’s security, e.g. child protection concerns, which would mean that participating in photography and video recordings would put them at risk.

3.3 Staff are responsible for:

- (a) Ensuring that the consent spreadsheet is checked before taking photographs of pupils

- (b) Ensuring that a parent(s) consent wishes are adhered to as per the spreadsheet before processing the photograph
- (c) Ensuring a spreadsheet of photograph consents is updated regularly and shared with relevant members of staff

3.4 Parents are responsible for:

- (a) Completing the Consent Form on an annual basis; Annex 1 below.
- (b) Informing the school where there are any changes to their consent.
- (c) Acting in accordance with this policy.

3.5 In accordance with the school's requirements to have a DPO, the DPO is responsible for:

- (a) Informing and advising the school and its employees about their obligations to comply with the GDPR in relation to photographs and videos at school.
- (b) Monitoring the school's compliance with the GDPR in regard to processing photographs and videos.
- (c) Advising on data protection impact assessments in relation to photographs and videos at school
- (d) Conducting internal audits, in regard to the school's procedures for obtaining, processing and using photographs and videos.

4. Consent

4.1 Where a pupil can be identified from a photograph for Media Use and Educational Purposes, consent is the lawful basis for processing.

4.2 Consent forms will clearly indicate each purpose for processing.

4.3 Consent will comply with the requirements of Article 4 and 7 GDPR. Consent will be:

- 4.3.1 Freely given;
- 4.3.2 Specific;
- 4.3.3 Informed;
- 4.3.4 Unambiguous; and
- 4.3.5 Provided with a clear affirmative action.

4.4 Consent forms will state that parents can withdraw consent at any point.

4.5 The school will update their records as and when consent is received and withdrawn and no later than by one calendar month and share this with the

relevant staff in accordance with clause 3.3 (c).

4.6 Where consent is withdrawn, the school will ensure all related media hard copy or electronically stored will be securely destroyed.

4.7 Consent for the use of images applies to adults (including staff) as well as children.

4.8 Consent forms must be signed by parents/carers with parental responsibility when they register their child with the school.

5. Procedures

5.1 All images are to be stored and disposed of in line with Data Protection Act 2018 and the schools related policies and procedures.

5.2 If images are to be stored for a short period of time they must be password protected on a computer storage device.

5.3 Security procedures must be monitored and reviewed regularly by the designated safeguarding officer. The security procedures include protection against theft of equipment and computer security.

5.4 Where photographs are used for Official School Use, consent may not be the most appropriate lawful basis. Parents will be notified of the intention of the school to use photographs for assessments where appropriate.

5.5 Images must not be used for anything other than the agreed purposes unless parents are notified and consent is gained where appropriate.

5.6 Photographs must be securely disposed of should they be no longer required or consent has been withdrawn. This could include giving the images to parents, deleting or shredding.

5.7 The purpose and context for any proposed images should always be considered to decide whether a photograph or video are the most appropriate method of recording the information.

5.8 The purpose of taking any images is to be clearly explained for example marketing of the school, prospectus, website, or local newspaper, use in display and to document children's learning.

5.9 A child's full name should not appear alongside their photographs particularly if the images could be viewed by the general public.

5.10 Only school devices are to be used to take any photos within the setting or on

outings.

- 5.11 All staff are responsible for school equipment and staff will adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy. All devices should be placed in the locked cupboard at the end of the day.
- 5.12 Images taken and stored on the camera must be downloaded on site as soon as possible, preferably daily by a member of staff then deleted.
- 5.13 Under no circumstances must cameras of any kind be taken into the toilet area or nappy changing area without prior consultation with the Headteacher. e.g. for hand washing lessons

6. Use of a Professional Photographer

- 6.1 Only a reputable photographer who can provide evidence of authenticity should be used and the school office shall ensure their identity is checked upon arrival.
- 6.2 They should be viewed as visitors therefore appropriate supervision should be in place at all times to ensure no unsupervised access to children. They should be supervised by an appropriate member of staff.
- 6.3 They should be asked to sign an agreement to ensure that they comply with Data Protection requirements, to agree that images will only be used for the agreed specified purpose and not be disclosed to any third person. A GDPR compliant contract will be in place between the school and the photography company.

7. Parents/Carers

- 7.1 The use of any photographic equipment by parents or visitors must be with the consent of the headteacher or person in charge.
- 7.2 Staff have the authority to challenge anyone using photographic equipment without prior staff consent.
- 7.3 Parents and carers are not covered by Data Protection Act / GDPR if they take photographs or make a video recording for their own private use.
- 7.4 Parents must ensure that any images and recordings 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.
- 7.5 Photographs maybe taken during productions if permission has been granted by the Headteacher as occasionally there are restrictions for safety reasons. If permission is granted then photographs are only for parental/carers personal use and must not be placed on any social network sites.

8. School Trips

8.1 Photographs may only be taken on a school device.

8.2 Parents can take photos on a school device on request by a member of staff.

8.3 Parents and carer should not take photographs on school trips using personal devices.

9. Learning Journals

9.1 Learning Journals are to be treated as personal data as each journal relates to an individual, identifiable child.

9.2 Parents should be encouraged to contribute information to this learning journal, by including some information and photographs which show what their child enjoys doing at home.

9.3 Parents and carers must be reminded that they must not share, distribute or display images containing other children.

Retention

10.1 Official school photos are held on the schools management information system alongside other personal information, and are retained for the length of the pupil's attendance at the school, or longer, if necessary, e.g. due to a police investigation.

10.2 The school will retain photographs as per the consent form and school's Record Retention Schedule.



Dear Parent/Carer

Why are we asking for your consent

You may be aware that there are new data protection regulations and domestic legislation that came in from May 2018. To ensure we are meeting the new requirements, we need to seek your consent to take and use photos of your child. We really value using photos of pupils, to be able to showcase what pupils do in school and show what life at our school is like to others, so we would appreciate you taking the time to give consent.

I am happy for the school to take photographs of my child

We share your information with Academy Photography (school photographers) and ensure General Data Protection Regulation compliance within a written agreement.

I am **NOT** happy for the school to take or use photos of my child.

We would like your consent to take photos of your child, and use them in the ways described above. If you're not happy for us to do this, that's no problem – we will accommodate your preferences.

If you change your mind at any time, you can let us know by emailing admin@templars.coventry.sch.uk, calling the school on 02476 466337. We have one month to comply with your withdrawal request.

Child's Name..... Class

Parent or Carer's signature:

Parent or Carer's name (please print).....

Date