

Group Photography Policy

Adapted from Scout Association Factsheet FS295428

Photographing and videoing children whilst on Scouting activities has raised some questions as to what is and what is not acceptable. This policy will hopefully clarify some points.

Promoting Scouting is important and it is in the interests of all to advertise the Movement through the use of appropriate and positive images. We therefore have to manage how we publicise these materials.

When a new member joins the Scout Group, their parents or guardian will be asked to sign a permission form. This allows the use of photos and videos from activities within Scouting for Scouting purposes for the duration of the young persons time with us. These include (but not inclusive of) the group, district or county websites, local newspapers, the newsletter, the noticeboard at the Scout Hut and the local press. Videos may appear on sites such as YouTube, however no photographs or videos will be published to publicly available social networking sites.

It is our policy to

- Never identify children appearing in photos/videos
- Seek prior parental permission via a form upon joining the group
- Only use photos/videos of suitably dressed subjects and in appropriate situations
- Follow the Scout Association's "Young People First" policy
- **Encourage** the use of photos/videos in materials promoting Scouting (including the wider press) providing the above criteria have been met.

It is not a legal requirement to obtain parental permission (as the copyright of the image belongs to the photographer and not the subject) however we ask parents to sign the permission form as a matter of good practice and manners.

The local press (and sometimes the national press) are often invited to Scouting events and may wish to photograph or film members doing Scouting Activities.

We are unable to control members of the public or the press taking photos when Scouts are appearing in a public place (such as parades). In these situations they require no invitation or permission. Photographs taken by Press photographers without invitation or permission when it is required, are subject to the normal Press Complaints Commission Code of Practice.

We are also unable to control photographs taken by other parents whilst at Scouting events. We ask that all parents are sensible when sharing media (particularly via social networking) and follow the guidelines set out in this policy.

Please speak to a leader if you are unsure as to any aspect of this policy.