

Photography Policy

(Also refer to Confidentiality Policy, Data Protection, Social Networking Policy and Mobile Phone Policy)

For the purpose of this policy the term "photography" and "photographs" refers to all still and moving images both digital and non-digital.

We will follow the below policy to do our best to ensure photos are used in an appropriate manner whilst still keeping the children in our care safe and secure.

At Little Oaks we appreciate that photography is an invaluable tool for recording children's developmental achievements. We also see it as a useful tool for staff development training. Photographs of children at play are also an effective way of marketing and promoting Little Oaks Pre-school in print and on our website.

We also appreciate that many parents and carers may wish to, on occasions, take a photographic record of their child at Pre-school as a memento of this stage in their child's life.

Photography Permission

- To comply with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018, we need parents' permission to photograph or make any recording of their child.
- Parents will be asked to give or withhold written permission for a variety of photographic purposes when their child joins Little Oaks. This permission will be sought on the Enrolment Form via a signature. This is on the understanding that the permission is given for photography for personal use only and that pictures that include images of other children or members of staff should not be shared via personal blogs or social networking sites unless specific permission has been obtained from the member of staff or parents of the other children. However, verbal permission will be sought from all parents and/or carers before photography is allowed by other parents/carers at school plays, etc., reminding them of social media usage.
- If additional permission is needed during the year, then this will be sought in writing or verbally as appropriate. Parents' and carers' wishes will be respected at all times and Little Oaks acknowledges that parents are entitled to withhold permission and that there are many legitimate reasons for doing so.
- Parents and carers are entitled to withdraw their permission at any time.

Tapestry

- E-safety is extremely important and Little Oaks requests that no photographs, observations or videos will be published on any personal social media sites, such as Facebook. Log-in details should be kept within trusted family members who also must agree to the guidelines set out in this policy.

Developmental Records

- Photos of children will be taken in sessions as a record of their development and achievements. These will be included in their individual journals on Tapestry to share with parents on a regular basis. All photographs can only be accessed on Tapestry via a personal code.
- The digital images will be removed from devices as soon as they have been added to the individual journals.
- Parents will be asked to give or withhold permission for photos of their child to appear in other children's journals.

Pre-school Computers

- Images of children will only be stored on the office computer where they are needed for a future date. For example, for training purposes or to add to the website or newsletters. When they have been used, they will be deleted.
- The school computer is password protected. Only managers would have access to the stored photographs.

Website

- no photos will appear on the website.

Year photos

- A professional photographer comes to Little Oaks periodically to take whole class and individual photos. These proofs are sent home to all children.
- Parents can give their permission for their child to appear in such photos and for proofs including images of their child to be sent home with classmates.

"Family Books"

- To build a sense of belonging and community, staff will ask parents and carers to bring in photographs of those who are close to the child, to make into a "family" book. It will be the decision of the parents and carers as to who is included in their child's book. When the child leaves Little Oaks they will take the books home with them or they will be destroyed.

End of term singing sessions and plays

- When parents are to be invited in to see the children perform or to join us for a singing session, it will be made clear to them that verbal permission will be sought from all

parents/carers who are present. If verbal permission is not given by everyone then photography/videos will not be permitted.

Staff training

- Sometimes images of children at play could be used for in house staff training purposes or at parental information evenings.
- If this is the case, then written permission will be sought from the relevant child/children's parents. Once the images have been finished with, they will be destroyed.

Off-site visits

- When visiting other settings or meeting other children from different settings, such as Forest Schools, any photographs taken of children who do not attend Little Oaks, even if they are in the background, will be deleted or 'fuzzed out' so that they cannot be recognized as permission will not have been given to use the image.

Other publications

- Written permission will be sought from any relevant parents prior to a child's picture being included in newspapers, magazines, etc.

Facebook and Instagram

- Permission is sought on the Enrolment Form for photographs of children to be published on Little Oaks' Facebook and Instagram pages. No pictures will contain the children's faces.
- A member of staff from each room is responsible for updating these pages on a regular basis and responsible for ensuring that any photos of children appearing on the page have consent. This is overseen by the Early Years Manager and a member of the Management Committee.
- Photographs of children, activities and events that appear on Facebook and Instagram may be taken on the member of staff's personal device but this will always be disclosed and the images will be immediately deleted once uploaded.

As most mobile phones have cameras, parents and carers will be asked not to use mobile phones when on Little Oaks premises (unless for end of term sessions where permission has been given).

A list of any children for whom we do not have permission will be made available to all members of staff who will be expected to be diligent in ensuring parents' requests are respected., especially being careful when uploading group images to Tapestry or posting photographs on the Little Oaks Facebook and Instagram pages.

This policy was adopted at a committee meeting of Little Oaks held on.....

Signed on behalf of the committee.....

Role of signatory.....

This policy was written & reviewed Apr 2012; reviewed May 2014, reviewed Nov 14, Reviewed Jan 15, Updated June 17. Nov 17, April 2018. Reviewed and amended Feb 19.
Reviewed and updated March 2020 (Off-site visits). Reviewed Apr 2021.
Reviewed and updated May 2022 - added paragraph about Little Oaks' Facebook and Instagram pages. Updated and reviewed July 2023, updated March 2024.