

1st Claygate Scout Group

(Founded 1909)



The photographing and videoing of young people whilst on Scouting activities has raised some questions as to what is and what is not acceptable. This has prompted us to re-visit the Group's views on this issue and for the policy below to be developed. This policy will hopefully clarify some points and set out the Group's position.

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Photography and Social Media Policy

Promoting Scouting is important as it is in the interests of all to promote the Scout Group and its achievements and the Scout Movement as a whole through the use of appropriate and positive images. This means that we have to manage how we use photographs and video to publicise the Group and its activities. The use of the images may include locations such as; the group website, local newspapers, the newsletter and the noticeboard at the Scout Centre.

The Group may use YouTube as a way to display Video using links on the Group's website.

The Group has a Twitter account which it mainly uses to promote fundraising events and that is not intended to change at present..

This policy has been prepared in 2015 due to the high profile of the Group locally and also in recognition of the way in which modern technology has developed. The use of modern technology makes it very easy and accessible for people to photograph and video our members. We need to also point out that as a Scout Group we attend/participate in many District and County organised events (District Camps. Scoutabout, Bazzaz etc) and during the event photographs maybe maybe taken by others at the event and used without checking with us as the young people may not be in uniform at the time.

This policy seeks to set out clear guidelines to our members as to how we will manage images which we believe are pragmatic and are not overly burdensome for the Group to administer.

Thus, for ease of administration 1st Claygate Scout Group is adopting a policy that unless the Group is otherwise informed, it is deemed that the Parent/Guardian has no objection to their child or children appearing in published media and agrees to the terms of this policy. If there are particular reasons that photographs/video of your child may not be used, please contact the Group Scout Leader (Hugh Gostling) directly for a discussion - contact details are in the welcome pack(s) and via email on the [Contact Us] button of the Web Site.

Concerns about our Web Site Content should be made directly to the Group Scout Leader, initially by email to: gsl@claygatescouts.org.

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There is a separate extension of this policy which applies to members of the 1st Claygate Scout and Guide Band which includes members of the Guide Association who are members of the band.

For this reason the assumption is that by taking part in Scouting as part of 1st Claygate Scout Group you have accepted that appropriate and positive images of your child can be used by the Scout Group on the basis set out below:

It is our policy to:

- Never identify children appearing in our media by name.
- Endeavour to remove any identifying metadata from graphics (e.g. location, comments etc.).
- Ensure parents are aware of this policy by including it in the welcome pack(s), posting it on the Group web site and initially sending to all current members.
- Only use photos/videos of members in appropriate situations
- Only encourage the use of photos/videos in materials promoting Scouting (including the wider press) providing the above criteria have been met.
- If we publish material on our website which causes concern to a member then we will remove it as quickly as possible after it is brought to our attention. Members can sign up to the website to receive a notification when the website has been updated. This is done via the [Contact Us] button on the side menu of the website, also on the Home Page or on any Photo Page of the web site <http://www.claygatescouts.org/>

Please be aware that 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 are subject to the normal Press Complaints Commission Code of Practice.

Social Media

The group does not have any control over the private use of social media sites (Facebook, Fliker Instagram, Twitter YouTube etc.) by a member of the public or the press. These forms of social media may be used by parents or youth members - they are acting as individuals and are therefore responsible for the content of their own social media account.

However, we would request that youth members and parents are mindful of any content that you or your child may post to this type of site and that any pictures that are set in a Scouting context should not bring the Group or movement into disrepute or put young people at risk. We would also ask that you respect the wishes of other parents if they ask for their child's picture to be removed.