

Cahermore N.S.

Photography Policy

This Policy was formulated by the staff: Mr. Padraig O'Sullivan (Principal), Mrs. Siobhán O'Driscoll, Mrs. Nuala O'Neill. This policy was reviewed on the 2nd of May 2018.

Photography

At Cahermore N.S. we welcome positive publicity. Photographs and video clips add colour, life and interest to school activities and initiatives and help the school community to identify and celebrate the schools' achievements.

We recognise that images must be used in a responsible way. We respect young people's and adults' rights of privacy and are aware of child protection issues. However we need to balance the risk against promotion. Risks can be minimised by following the guidelines detailed in this policy.

Data Protection Act

Photos and video images of pupils and staff are classed as personal data under the terms of the Data Protection (Amendment) Act 2003. For this reason we require the consent of either the individual concerned or in the case of pupils, their legal guardians before we can display these images in the media, in publications or on websites or in public places.

Child Protection Issues

- Risk occurs when individual pupils can be identified by their names alongside photographs. Therefore we will only name the children in photographs that are displayed within the school building. We will not provide names for any other purpose unless special parental consent has been received.
- Also, the content of the photograph can be used or adapted for inappropriate use. Therefore only images of children in suitable dress will be taken.
- Should the school learn about any inappropriateness of image use involving our pupils, we will immediately act and report it as we would for any other child protection issue.

Images taken for use in the Parish Church or Community Hall

From time to time the school is asked to provide photographs for use for display in the parish church or community hall. We feel that if taken using the guidelines set out in this policy they can be used to promote, add life, colour and interest to school, parish and community activities.

Images taken by adults other than school staff

The school encourages parents/carers to take videos and photographs of school events. However if any image is taken by a parent/carer or third party with a view to publication in the press then the permission of the Principal teacher must be obtained and special parental consent given.

When a commercial photographer/film maker is used we will:

1. Provide a clear brief
2. Issue identification
3. Inform parents and children
4. Obtain consent
5. Not allow unsupervised access to children

Images taken by children

The school encourages children to take photographs and videos of each other as a way of recording events. This may take place in school, on school trips or on residential visits. The use of cameras within school, on trips or visits is part of the pleasure and learning in the experience. There is no reason why pupils should not be allowed to take photographs so long as anyone photographing respects the privacy of the person being photographed. This is seen as part of the school's code of behaviour.

Infringement of this respect of privacy is akin to bullying and will be dealt with in the same way as any other breach of school discipline.