



STOCKPORT COUNTY ACADEMY FOOTBALL CLUB

PHOTOGRAPHY & FILMING POLICY STATEMENT

Stockport County FC Academy works with young players (children under the age of 18) and families as part of its events and activities. These include providing football and education provision. Tournaments, training, and fixtures.

The purpose of this policy statement is to:

- Protect young players who take part in Stockport County FC Academy services, events, and activities specifically those where photographs and videos may be taken.
- Set out the overarching principles that guide our approach to photographs/videos being taken of young players during our events and activities.
- To ensure that we operate in line with our values and within the law when creating, using, and sharing images of young players. This policy statement applies to all staff, volunteers, and other adults (including parent/guardians) associated with Stockport County FC

This policy has been drawn up based on legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England.

We believe that:

- young players should never experience abuse of any kind.
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all young players and to take, share and use images of children safely.
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We recognise that:

- Sharing photographs and films of our activities can help us celebrate the successes and achievements of our young players, provide a record of our activities, and raise awareness of our organisation. the welfare of the young players taking part in our activities is paramount.
- Young players, their parents and carers have a right to decide whether their images are taken and how these may be used, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

Consent to take images of young players is only meaningful when young players, their parents and carers understand how the images will be used and stored and are fully aware of the potential risks associated with the use and distribution of these images.

County education photography and filming policy

There are potential risks associated with sharing images of young players online.

We will seek to keep young players safe by:

- Always asking for written consent from a young player and their parents or carers before taking and using a child's images.
- Always explaining what images will be used for, how they will be stored and what potential risks are associated with sharing images of children.
- Making it clear that if a young player or their family withdraw consent for an image to be shared, it may not be possible to delete images that have already been shared or published.
- Changing the names of young players whose images are being used in our published material whenever possible (and only using first names if we do need to identify them)
- Never publishing personal information about individual children and disguising any identifying information.
- Making sure young players, their parents and carers understand how images of children will be securely stored and for how long (including how we will control access to the images and their associated information)

Reducing the risk of images being copied and used inappropriately by:

- Only using images of young players in appropriate clothing (including safety wear if necessary)
- Avoiding full face and body shots of young players taking part in activities such as swimming where there may be a heightened risk of images being misused.
- Using images that positively reflect young players involvement in the activity.

We will also develop a procedure for reporting the abuse or misuse of images of young players as part of our child protection procedures. We will ensure everyone involved in our organisation knows the procedures to follow to keep young players safe. Photography and/or filming for personal use.

When young players themselves, parents, carers, or spectators are taking photographs or filming at our events and the images are for personal use, we will publish guidance about image sharing in the event programmes and/or announce details of our photography policy before the start of the season. This includes:

- Reminding parents, carers, and young players that they need to give consent for Stockport County FC Academy to take and use their images.
- Asking for photos taken during the event not to be shared on social media or asking people to gain permission from young players, their parents, and carers before sharing photographs and videos that include them.

Recommending that people check the privacy settings of their social media account to understand who else will be able to view any images they share.

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Reminding young players, parents, and carers who they can talk to if they have any concerns about images being shared.

Photography and/or filming for Stockport County FC Academy use; We recognise that our group leaders may use photography and filming as an aid in analysis activities. However, this should only be done with Stockport County FC Academy permission and using our platforms and equipment. Young players, parents and carers must also be made aware that photography and filming is part of the programme and give written consent.

If we hire a photographer for one of our events, we will seek to keep young players safe by:

- Providing the photographer with a clear brief about appropriate content and behaviour. always ensuring the photographer wears identification.
- Informing young players, their parents, and carers that a photographer will be at the event and ensuring they give written consent to images which feature their child being taken and shared.
- Not allowing the photographer to have unsupervised access to young players.
- Not allowing the photographer to carry out sessions outside the event or at a child's home.
- Reporting concerns regarding inappropriate or intrusive photography following our child protection procedures.

Photography and/or filming for wider use If people such as local journalists, professional photographers (not hired by Stockport County FC Academy) parent/guardians or students wish to record one of our events/ activities and share the images professionally or in the wider world, they should seek permission in advance.

They should provide:

- The name and address of the person using the camera.
- The fixture or training session that they wish to film.
- The reason for taking the images and/or what the images will be used for, and how the images will be stored.
- A signed declaration that the information provided is valid and that the images will only be used for the reasons given.

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Stockport County FC Academy will verify these details and decide whether to grant permission for photographs/films to be taken. We will seek consent from the young players who are the intended subjects of the images and their parents and inform the photographer of anyone who does not give consent. At the event we will inform young players, parents, and carers that an external photographer is present and ensure they are easily identifiable, for example by using them with a coloured identification badge. If Stockport County FC Academy is concerned that someone unknown to us is using their sessions for photography or filming purposes, we will ask them to leave and (depending on the nature of the concerns) follow our child protection procedures.

Storing images

We will store photographs and videos of young players securely, in accordance with our safeguarding policy and data protection law. We will keep hard copies of images in a locked drawer and electronic images in a protected folder with restricted access. Images will be stored for a period of 6 years.

We will never store images of young players on unencrypted portable equipment such as laptops, memory sticks and mobile phones. Stockport County FC Academy does not permit staff and volunteers to use any personal equipment to take photos and recordings of young players. Only cameras or devices belonging to the Stockport County FC Academy should be used.

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies and procedures, including:

- Child protection procedures for responding to concerns about a child or young person's wellbeing.
- Code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Online safety policy and procedures for responding to concerns about online abuse.

Contact details

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NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000