



Young Climate Warriors

Photography, Filming and Image-Sharing

Policy Statement

Young Climate Warriors provides a platform for schools and families to engage with children about climate change, to empower them to become agents of change within their homes, and to provide an opportunity to harness the power of collective action to respond to climate change and cut carbon emissions.

We provide schools with a range of resources, we set challenges for children, and young people, to complete at home, and we offer school visits, including sharing assemblies, or helping lead other smaller classroom-based discussion groups as part of the YCW Ambassador programme.

Young Climate Warriors aims to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for every child or young person.

The purpose and scope of this policy statement

The purpose of this policy statement is to:

- protect children and young people who take part in Young Climate Warriors events where photographs and videos may be taken or who share photographs or videos with Young Climate Warriors; and
- ensure that we operate in line with our values and within the law when creating, using and sharing images of children and young people.

This policy statement relates to photographs or videos of children or young people. It does not apply to photographs which do not contain images of children and young people, for example photographs of completed challenges for the Gallery page of the website.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Young Climate Warriors, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff and volunteers.



Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. Summaries of key legislation and guidance is available on:

- [online abuse learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/online-abuse](https://online.abuse.learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/online-abuse)
- [child protection learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system](https://child.protection.learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system)

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind; and
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to take, share and use images of children safely.

We recognise that:

- sharing photographs and films of our activities can help us celebrate the successes and achievements of our children and young people, provide a record of our activities and raise awareness of our organisation;
- the welfare of the children and young people taking part in our activities is paramount;
- children, 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 children is only meaningful when children, 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; and
- there are potential risks associated with sharing images of children online.

More information about this is available from learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/briefings/photography-sharing-images-guidance.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- asking for written consent from a child and their parents or carers before photographing or videoing a child;



- asking for written consent before using any images or videos submitted to Young Climate Warriors;
- 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 child 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;
- in published material only using: either first names of children, disassociated from a school (and disguising identifying information, for example school uniform logo), and disassociated from a geographical region; or school name without any personal information, ie without first names;
- making sure children, 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 children in appropriate clothing;
 - avoiding full face and body shots of children taking part in activities such as swimming where there may be a heightened risk of images being misused; and
 - using images that positively reflect young people's involvement in the activity.
- ensuring everyone involved in our organisation knows the procedures to follow to keep children safe.

Photography and/or filming for Young Climate Warriors' use

We recognise that our team may use photography and filming as an aid in school-based activities. However, this should only be done with the permission of the school and Young Climate Warriors.

Children, young people, 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 children and young people safe by:

- providing the photographer with a clear brief about appropriate content and behaviour
- ensuring the photographer wears identification at all times



- informing children, 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 children
- 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

If consent to take photographs is not given

If children, parents and/or carers do not consent to photographs being taken, we will respect their wishes. We will agree in advance how they would like to be identified so the photographer knows not to take pictures of them, and ensure this is done in a way that does not single out the child or make them feel isolated. We will never exclude a child from an activity because we do not have consent to take their photograph.

Storing images

We will store photographs and videos of children securely, in accordance with our safeguarding policy and data protection law.

We will keep any hard copies of images in a locked drawer and electronic images in a protected folder with restricted access, except where written permission has been given to use photos for display, website or other public purposes. In such cases we may store images on unencrypted portable equipment such as laptops, memory sticks and mobile phones. Images will be stored for a maximum period of 5 years.

Inappropriate Use of Images

We will take all steps to ensure photographs and videos of children are used solely for the purposes they are intended. If you become aware that these images are being used inappropriately, you should inform saraha@youngclimatewarriors.org immediately.

Related policies and procedures

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents, including:



- Safeguarding policy
- Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers
- Online safety policy
- Emergency procedure

All these documents can be found at:

<https://www.youngclimatewarriors.org/youngclimatewarriorspolicies>

Contact details

Photography and images co-ordinator : Katrina Judge

Nominated Lead for Safeguarding: Katrina Judge -
katrina@youngclimatewarriors.org

Lead Trustee for safeguarding: Sarah Austin – saraha@youngclimatewarriors.org

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000 or email: help@NSPCC.org.uk

Reviewed: 11th March 2026

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.
This policy is due for review in November 2026.