



Apple Tree Farm Services CIC

Photography and Filming Policy Statement

Apple Tree Farm Services CIC works with children and families as part of its activities. These include farming activities, pastoral support, weekend and holiday respite.



Purpose and Aims

The purpose of this policy statement is to:

- protect children and young people who take part in **Apple Tree Farm Services CIC**'s 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 children and young people 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 children and young people.

This policy statement applies to all staff, volunteers and other adults associated with **Apple Tree Farm Services CIC**.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up based on legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. Summaries of key legislation and guidance is available on NSPCC Learning: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/>

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- 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



- there are potential risks associated with sharing images of children online.

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

- always asking for written consent from a child and their parents or carers before taking and using a child's image
- 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 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
- changing the names of children 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 (for example the name of their school or a school uniform with a logo)
- 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 (including safety wear if necessary)
 - 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
 - using images that positively reflect young people's involvement in the activity.

We will also develop a procedure for reporting the abuse or misuse of images of children as part of our child protection procedures. We will ensure everyone involved in our organisation knows the procedures to follow to keep children safe.

Photography and/or filming for *Apple Tree Farm Services CIC's* use

We recognise that our group leaders may use photography and filming as an aid in activities such as music or drama. However, this should only be done with ***Apple Tree Farm Services CIC's*** permission and using our equipment.

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
- always ensuring the photographer wears identification
- 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.



Photography and/or filming for wider use

If people such as local journalists, professional photographers (not hired by **Apple Tree Farm Services CIC**) or children wish to record one of our events 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 names of children they wish to take images of (if possible)
- the reason for taking the images and/or what the images will be used for
- a signed declaration that the information provided is valid and that the images will only be used for the reasons given.

Apple Tree Farm Services CIC will verify these details and decide whether to grant permission for photographs/films to be taken. We will seek consent from the children 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 children, parents, and carers that an external photographer is present and ensure the photographer is easily identifiable, for example by issuing them with a coloured identification badge.

If **Apple Tree Farm Services CIC** 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.

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.

Mobile phone use by parents, carers and visitors

To protect the privacy, dignity and safeguarding of all children and young people attending Apple Tree Farm Services CIC, parents, carers, visitors and other members of the public are not permitted to use mobile phones or other personal devices while on the farm site.

This restriction applies throughout the farm, including all barns, classrooms, animal areas, outdoor learning and play spaces, pathways and other areas accessed by children and young people.

Mobile phones must remain put away and must not be used once a visitor has left their vehicle.



Parents, carers and visitors who need to make or receive a telephone call, send or read a message, use social media, take photographs or videos, or otherwise use their mobile device must do so inside their own vehicle while it is parked in the designated car park.

Mobile phones must not be used while standing or walking in the car park, at drop-off or collection points, or anywhere else on the farm site.

The only exception will be where use of a mobile phone is required in a genuine emergency or where prior permission has been given by a member of the Senior Leadership Team for a specific reason.

Photography, video recording or audio recording by parents, carers or visitors using personal devices is not permitted anywhere on the farm unless expressly authorised in advance by Apple Tree Farm Services CIC.

Anyone observed using a mobile phone outside of their vehicle will be asked to put the device away or return to their vehicle. Repeated or deliberate failure to comply with this policy may result in the individual being asked to leave the site and may affect their future access to the farm.

This restriction is necessary because children attending the farm may have differing safeguarding, privacy and photography requirements. It also ensures that children and young people can access our provision without the risk of being photographed, filmed or recorded on another person's personal device.

Mobile phone use by children

The use of mobile phones at the farm can disrupt learning and compromise the safety onsite of children and staff. Children will be expected and reminded to leave their phones securely stored in their bags in the barn kitchen or placed in their allocated storage within the barn room. It may be possible in exceptional circumstances, by individual negotiation with SLT for a child to check their phone in an agreed place for an agreed time. This must be limited to a maximum of 15mins, in the presence of a farm practitioner and in the barn kitchen/barn room.

Storing images

We will store photographs and videos of children 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 an undermined period, so long as they are still required. Under GDPR rules, everyone has a 'right to be forgotten.'

We will never store images of children on unencrypted portable equipment such as laptops, memory sticks and mobile phones.

Apple Tree Farm Services CIC does not permit staff and volunteers to using any personal equipment to take photos and recordings of children. Only cameras or devices belonging to **Apple Tree Farm Services CIC** should be used.



CCTV

We use CCTV in various locations around the farm to ensure it remains safe. We will adhere to the ICO's code of practice for the use of CCTV in line with our Data Protection policy.

Related policies and procedures

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

- Safeguarding and child protection policy and procedures.
- Code of conduct for staff and volunteers.
- Data Protection Policy

Contact details

Photography and images co-ordinator

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We will review this policy annually, or sooner if necessary.

This policy was last reviewed on: 26/02/2026