



Photography, Filming and Consent

Last Updated: April 2026

Photography, Filming and Consent

Purpose of this policy

This policy outlines how MENT4 manages photography, filming and media content involving young people. It ensures that all images, videos and recordings are captured, stored and shared safely, respectfully and with appropriate consent.

MENT4 uses media to celebrate young people's achievements, showcase programme impact and support communications. However, this must always be balanced with safeguarding, dignity and respect.

Key principles

All photography and filming must be:

- safe and appropriate
- consent based
- respectful
- purposeful
- in line with safeguarding procedures
- handled securely

The wellbeing and privacy of young people must always come first.

Consent

Images, videos or recordings of young people must not be taken or used without appropriate consent.

MENT4 will:

- obtain consent from a parent or carer where required
- obtain consent from the young person where appropriate
- clearly explain how images or videos may be used
- respect any limitations or restrictions placed on consent

Staff must check that consent has been given before capturing or using any media.

Types of consent

Consent may cover different uses, such as:

- internal use for records or monitoring
- promotional use (website, social media, reports)
- press or media use
- partner or funder communications

Staff must ensure that content is only used in line with the level of consent given.

Taking photos and videos

When capturing content, staff must:

- ensure it is appropriate and respectful
- avoid images that could be considered sensitive, intrusive or exploitative
- consider the dignity and comfort of the young person
- avoid identifying details where consent is limited
- be aware of cultural or personal sensitivities
- avoid taking images in private or inappropriate settings

Staff should not take photos or videos for personal use.

Use of devices

Where possible, photography and filming should be carried out using MENT4 devices or approved equipment.

If personal devices are used, this must be approved and images must be:

- transferred to MENT4 systems as soon as possible
- deleted from personal devices once transferred
- not stored or shared outside approved systems

Storage of media

All media content must be stored securely using MENT4's approved systems.

Staff must:

- ensure files are stored in the correct location
- follow naming and storage guidance where provided
- restrict access to those who need it
- not store media on unsecured devices or platforms

Sharing and publishing content

Images and videos may only be shared or published where:

- appropriate consent has been confirmed
- content is suitable and respectful
- approval has been given where required

Content may be used across:

- MENT4 website
- social media channels
- promotional materials
- reports and funding applications
- partner communications

Staff must not share content through personal accounts or unapproved platforms.

Identifying young people

Care should be taken when identifying young people in media content.

Staff should:

- avoid sharing full names unless appropriate and consented
- avoid sharing personal details such as location, school or background unless necessary and approved
- consider whether anonymity is required for safeguarding reasons

Withdrawal of consent

Consent can be withdrawn at any time.

If consent is withdrawn, MENT4 will:

- stop using the content moving forward
- remove content where reasonably possible
- respect the wishes of the young person or parent

Staff must act quickly if they are made aware that consent has changed.

External partners and media

Where external photographers, videographers or media partners are involved, MENT4 must ensure that:

- they understand and follow MENT4's safeguarding expectations
- consent requirements are met
- their role is supervised where necessary
- they only use content in agreed ways

Inappropriate or unauthorised use

Any inappropriate or unauthorised use of images or videos must be reported immediately.

This includes:

- sharing content without consent
- storing images insecurely
- using content for personal purposes
- posting images on personal social media
- capturing inappropriate or sensitive content

Such actions may be treated as a serious matter.

Final note

Photography and media can be a powerful way to celebrate young people and share the impact of MENT4's work. However, it must always be handled with care, professionalism and respect.

Protecting the dignity, safety and privacy of young people is more important than capturing or sharing content.

This document has been approved by:

Luke Peters
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "L. Peters".



Helping young people discover what they are MENT4

Tel: 07808 595151

E-mail: luke.peters@ment4.org

