

Youth Ministry in Communion SW
St Mary's Church
High Street, Putney
London
SW15 1SN



Social Media and Photo Policy

Purpose

This policy exists to ensure the safety, privacy, and dignity of all young people involved with YMIC SW, while responsibly using photos, videos, and social media to share and celebrate what God is doing in our network.

Social Media Use

1. Official Accounts Only

All posts representing YMIC SW must come from official YMIC social media accounts.

2. Positive Representation

Posts should be respectful, uplifting, and reflect the values of YMIC SW. No content should embarrass, shame, or endanger any young person.

3. No Tagging of Minors

We will not tag children or young people (under 18) in any photos or posts.

4. Comments and Interaction

Leaders will monitor comments and interactions on posts to ensure they remain appropriate. Harmful, disrespectful, or inappropriate comments will be removed, and users may be blocked or reported if necessary.

Photos and Videos

1. Consent First

No photos or videos of any young person will be taken or shared without the consent of a parent/guardian via the sign up consent form. This form will specify whether:

- Photos can be taken
- Photos can be shared on social media
- Names can be used (first names only, if applicable)

2. **Safe and Respectful Content**

- We will never post images of young people in swimwear or other vulnerable contexts.
- Group photos are preferred. Close-up portraits will be used sparingly and only with consent.
- Photos will never be used to shame or embarrass a young person.

3. **Right to Withdraw**

Parents, guardians, or young people can request the removal of an image at any time, and we will act quickly to take it down.

4. **Storage and Security**

All photos and videos will be stored securely by leaders and only accessed by approved YMIC SW staff.

Use of Personal Mobile Devices by Young People

To protect everyone's privacy and create a safe, focused environment, we ask young people to follow these guidelines during events:

1. **Respect Privacy**

Young people must not take photos or videos of other participants without their permission and the knowledge of a leader.

2. **No Sharing During Sessions**

social media posting, live-streaming, or video calls are not allowed during YMIC SW events.

3. **Phone-Free Times**

There may be moments (e.g. small groups, prayer times, or team-building activities) where leaders will ask young people to put phones away to minimise distraction and encourage engagement.

4. **Inappropriate Content**

The use of phones to view or share inappropriate or harmful content (e.g. bullying, explicit material, gossip, etc.) is strictly prohibited and will be addressed according to our safeguarding policy.

5. **Emergency Use**

Phones may be used to contact parents/guardians in appropriate circumstances. Leaders are always available to assist if communication is needed.

**This policy applies to parents/guardians and any other adults present at the event.*

Staff and Volunteer Responsibilities

- All staff and volunteers must read and agree to follow this policy.

- All staff and volunteers must have undergone the relevant safeguarding training and safer recruitment processes.
- Personal devices should not be used to take or store photos unless explicitly approved and in line with safeguarding best practice guidance.

Any questions or concerns should be directed to the YMIC SW leadership team and safeguarding leads:

YMIC SW Director & Safeguarding Lead – Revd Kieron Rowley

Kieron.rowley@parishofputney.co.uk - 07572 748131

YMIC SW Chair – Revd John Whittaker

John.whittaker@parishofputney.co.uk - 07906 759326

YMIC SW Designated Safeguarding Officer – Kumba Ngegba

kumba@holytrinityroehampton.org

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