

Facial Recognition Image Protection System

Helping us protect your child's privacy

At Chamboree, we take photography permissions very seriously. We understand that some parents and carers do not wish for their child to appear in photographs that may be published. We also recognise that Chamboree is an extremely large event (with over 6,000 people attending site across the week). Due to this size and nature, we are unable to guarantee that photos or videos are not published – please see specific health and permission form wording at Appendix A. We have put in place a number of procedures designed to help stop this from happening wherever possible.

In addition to group leaders looking out for members of the media team around site, we also have the option to enrol in a facial recognition system to provide an additional layer of protection for young people who do not wish for the for their images to be published.

How the system works

If you do not wish for your child's image to be published, we will ask you to provide **two recent, good-quality photographs** of your child.

These photographs will be securely stored on our server (owned by Cheshire Scouts) and used only to create a facial recognition profile for the purpose of identifying your child within photographs taken during the event.

As event photographs are uploaded to the server by our photographers, the system compares faces within those images against the stored profile. If it believes your child may appear in a photograph, it flags that image for manual review before any decision is made about publication.

This helps our media team identify photographs that may need to be removed from the selection for publication.

Group photographs

Please be aware that this system is designed to help identify young people who appear as the main subject, or one of a small number of people, in close-up photographs.

It is **not** intended to identify young people who appear as a very small part of a large crowd or wide-angle image, such as opening and closing ceremonies, arena events or other large group activities. In these situations, it would not be practical or reasonable to exclude individual participants from photographs containing hundreds or thousands of people.

The purpose of this system is to help prevent the publication of photographs where a child without photo permission is a recognisable subject of the image, rather than incidental to a large crowd scene.

Accuracy

Although the technology has performed well during our testing and has proved to be fairly accurate, **no facial recognition system is 100% accurate.**

This means that:

- the system may occasionally flag photographs that do not contain your child; and
- there is a small possibility that it may fail to identify your child in every photograph.

For this reason, the system is used as an additional safeguarding tool alongside our existing photography procedures and manual checks. It does not replace human review on site.

Storage and security

The photographs you provide will:

- be stored securely;
- be used **only** for the purpose of identifying your child in event photographs to help prevent accidental publication;
- not be used for any other purpose, including any form of automated profiling beyond this specific image-matching process;
- not be shared with any third party unless required by law.

The photographs and the facial recognition profile created from them will be permanently deleted once they are no longer required following the event.

Your consent

By sending us the requested photographs, you are confirming that:

- you are the child's parent or legal guardian, or are authorised to provide consent on their behalf;
- you consent to Chamboree securely storing these photographs solely for the purposes described above;

- you understand that the facial recognition system is intended to reduce the risk of accidental publication but cannot guarantee that every photograph containing your child will be identified.

If you do not wish to provide photographs for this process, we will still continue with our other procedures to, as far as practicable, respect your wishes. However, they will not benefit from this additional AI-assisted checking process.

Please submit two recent, clear, good-quality photographs of your child via this form: <https://www.chamboree.org.uk/photo-consent-opt-out> . To ensure we have the appropriate consent, these photographs **must** be sent by the child's parent or legal guardian. They should not be submitted by the group leader, as the parent or legal guardian is confirming the consent described above.

Appendix A – Health and Permission form Wording re Photography and Videography

Scout

“I understand and agree that photographs and digital images of the young person named above taken at the event may be used for Chamboree 2026, the Scouts or Girlguiding publicity.”

Girlguiding

“This is a large-scale event (where over 100 participants are present) Please tell your unit leader if you DO NOT wish photos or videos of your child to be taken at this event. As far as possible the event organiser will make sure that your child doesn’t appear in any images, but this can’t be guaranteed.”