

**PHOTOGRAPHING,  
FILMING &  
RECORDING  
STUDENTS  
POLICY  
2021 - 2024**

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**RATIONALE:** This Policy provides comprehensive guidelines as to how the College intends to collect photography and video material in which students feature and can be identified, as well as stating how the College, in line with DET guideline recommendations, intends to communicate to parents on an annual basis about imagery collection and use.

## PURPOSE

To explain to parents/carers how Brighton Secondary College will collect, use and disclose photographs, video and recordings of students, how parent/carer consent can be provided and how it can be withdrawn.

## SCOPE

This policy applies to the general collection, use and disclosure of photographs, video and recordings (“images”) of students. It does not cover the use of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV). The use of CCTV is covered in our school’s CCTV policy.

## POLICY

This policy outlines the practices that Brighton Secondary College has in place for the collection, use and disclosure of images of students to ensure compliance with the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic). It also explains the circumstances in which Brighton Secondary College will seek parent/carer consent and how consent can be provided and/or withdrawn.

Brighton Secondary College will ensure that parents/carers are notified upon enrolment and at the commencement of each school year of the ways in which our school may use images of students. There are many occasions during the school year where staff photograph, film or record students participating in school activities or events, for example: classroom activities, sports events, concerts, excursions, camps etc. We do this for many reasons including: celebrating student participation and achievement, showcase particular learning programs, document a student’s learning journey/camps/excursions/sports events, communicate with our parents/carers and school community in newsletters and college annual magazine etc.

Brighton Secondary College will use student images reasonably, appropriately and sensitively, consistent with our obligations under the Child Safe Standards and our school’s [Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#). If at any time a parent/carer or student has a concern about the use of any images they should contact the relevant sub-school Assistant Principal.

In addition to the processes outlined below, parents/carers can contact the General Office at [brighton.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:brighton.sc@education.vic.gov.au) to provide a written statement at any time to withdraw their consent for any future collection, use or disclosure of images of their child. However:

- if the images have already been published and are in the public domain, it may not be possible for consent to be withdrawn.
- there may be occasions when the school will record whole of school or large group events such as sporting events (swimming carnival, athletics, PASE), school events (production, chorals, presentation evening, theme week activities) and other events where your child participates as part of college operation, they may appear in these recordings which will be available to the whole school community.
- the school can still collect, use and disclose images in circumstances where consent is not required (see below for more information).

## OFFICIAL SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Each year Brighton Secondary College arranges for a professional photographer to take official school photographs of students. This will generally involve both class photos and individual photos being taken.

Official school photographs may be:

- purchased by parents/carers
- used for school identification cards
- stored on CASES21 for educational and administrative purposes.

Brighton Secondary College will notify parents/carers in advance of the official school photographs being taken to give them an opportunity to decide whether their child will be included in the official school photographs.

Parents/carers who choose to opt-out of having their child participate in official school photographs must contact General Office at [brighton.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:brighton.sc@education.vic.gov.au) to provide a written statement before the date photos are scheduled to be taken to advise that their child will not participate. There is no obligation on any parent or carer to purchase any photographs taken.

## IMAGES FOR USE AND DISCLOSURE WITHIN THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY AND ORDINARY SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

From time to time General Office at [brighton.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:brighton.sc@education.vic.gov.au) will provide a written statement and may photograph, film or record students to use within the school community, including:

- in the school’s communication, learning and teaching tools (for example, emails, classroom blogs or apps that can only be accessed by students, parents or school staff with passwords eg Compass, Class Dojo etc)
- for display in school classrooms, on noticeboards, tv screens etc
- in the school’s newsletter
- to support student’s health and wellbeing (eg photographs of pencil grip to assist in OT assessments)
- other publications on a case-by-case basis.

An Annual Consent Form and Collection Notice will be distributed to parents/carers on enrolment and also at the beginning of each school year through the online re-enrolment process through Compass.

## IMAGES TO BE USED OR DISCLOSED OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

### EXTERNAL USE OR DISCLOSURE BY THE SCHOOL

Photographs, video or recordings of students may also be used in publications/locations that are accessible to the public, including but not limited to:

- school website
- school newsletter
- school social media accounts (facebook, instagram, linked in and youtube)
- school voyager (yearbook & year level photos)
- school handbooks (prospectus, year level and program specific)
- school external visual display systems
- school internal and external visual/promotional material (brouchures, billboards, banners and videos)
- other situations on a specific case basis

The Annual Consent Form and Collection Notice also covers these types of uses and will be distributed to parents/carers on enrolment and also at the beginning of each school year through the online re-enrolment process through Compass. Parents and students have the opportunity to optout at the beginning of every year at which time, they will be asked to complete the Annual Consent From and Collection Notice.

### MEDIA

The media, or the Department of Education and Training’s media team, may seek to photograph, film or record students for a news story or school event. This may include broadcast media, online or social media or print media, including newspapers and magazine publications.

When our school receives such requests Brighton Secondary College will:

- provide parents/carers with information about the organisation involved and when/for what purposes the photography, filming or recording will occur
- seek prior, express parent/carer consent in writing.

Students will only be photographed, filmed or recorded by the media at school if express consent is provided for that

specific media event. Neither the school nor the Department own or control any photographs, video or recordings of students taken by the media.

#### **OTHER EXTERNAL COLLECTION, USE OR DISCLOSURE**

If there is a situation which will involve the collection, use or disclosure of images of students by or to third parties which is not otherwise covered by this policy, Brighton Secondary College will:

- provide parents/carers with information about the event or activity, the organisation involved and when the photography, filming or recording will occur
- seek prior, express parent/carer consent in writing.

### **SCHOOL PERFORMANCES, SPORTING EVENTS AND OTHER SCHOOL APPROVED ACTIVITIES**

Brighton Secondary College gives conditional approval to parents/carers, students and invited guests to photograph, film or record school performances, sporting events and other school-approved activities, subject to the paragraph below.

The College requests that parents/carers, students and invited guests who photograph, film or record school activities only do so for their own personal use and do not publish the images in any form, including on social media, without the prior consent of persons whose children also appear in the images.

Neither the school nor the Department own or control any images of students taken by parents/carers, students or their invited guests at school activities.

Images to manage student behaviour or fulfil our school's legal obligations

On occasion it may be necessary for school staff to photograph, film or record students when necessary to:

- fulfil legal obligations, including to:
  - take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable harm to students staff and visitors (duty of care)
  - provide a safe and suitable workplace (occupational health and safety law)
- for identification purposes, when necessary to implement discipline and/or behaviour management policies.

Brighton Secondary College does not require or obtain consent from parents/carers or students to photograph, film or record students for these reasons. However, when Brighton Secondary College photographs, films or records a student for any of these purposes, staff will only collect and use such images in a way that is reasonable and appropriate in the circumstances.

### **STAFF USE OF PERSONAL DEVICES**

School staff may use their own personal devices to capture images of students for reasonable and legitimate educational purposes. If this occurs, staff are expected to upload the images to the school database and delete the images from their device within a reasonable time frame of the images being captured.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- the Department's Policy and Advisory Library: [Photographing, Filming and Recording Students](#)

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LAST UPDATED: 19/05/2021

LAST RATIFIED BY COLLEGE  
COUNCIL: NA

DATE OF NEXT REVIEW: 19/05/2024

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## **REVIEW CYCLE AND EVALUATION**

This policy was last updated in May 2021 and is scheduled for review in May 2024.



**BRIGHTON**  
SECONDARY COLLEGE