

Eldad Elim Pentecostal Church

Photography, Video & Social Media Policy

Website: <https://www.eldadchurch.org.gg>

Pastors: Rev Howard Davenport, Rev Nicole le Goupillot

1. Purpose of this Policy

Eldad Elim Pentecostal Church values people above publicity. This policy exists to:

- Protect the dignity, privacy, and safety of all who attend our services and events
- Safeguard children and vulnerable adults
- Comply with data protection law in the Bailiwick of Guernsey
- Enable the church to share its life, worship, and mission responsibly

Until this point, the church has not operated with a formal written policy in this area. This document marks the **introduction of a clear and consistent approach going forward**, ensuring transparency, accountability, and trust.

We also recognise that appropriate visibility of leadership supports trust, accountability, and accessibility within church life.

Photos and video are a gift when used well. They become a problem when consent, care, or safeguarding are overlooked. This policy ensures clarity, consistency, and trust.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All staff and volunteers
 - Designated photographers and videographers
 - Parents and guardians
 - Members and visitors
 - Anyone taking photographs, video, or audio recordings on church premises or at church-run events
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3. Legal and Safeguarding Framework

This policy operates in line with:

- The Data Protection (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2017
- Guernsey safeguarding legislation and recognised UK safeguarding best practice
- Elim Pentecostal Church safeguarding standards

Images of identifiable individuals are classed as personal data and must be handled lawfully, fairly, and transparently.

4. Consent

4.1 Adults

- Clear notice is given when photography, filming, or live streaming takes place
- Written consent is required for identifiable images used on:
 - The church website
 - Social media
 - Printed or promotional materials
- Consent may be withdrawn at any time
- Attendance alone does not imply consent for identifiable images

The church operates a **consent-based participation approach**, meaning individuals will only be featured in identifiable ways if they have opted in.

Exception – Leadership Roles:

Those serving in recognised leadership roles may be photographed and identified as part of church life. This is important so that leaders are visible, recognisable, and accessible to the congregation.

4.2 Children and Young People (Under 18)

- Written parental or guardian consent is required before any photography or filming
- **Photographs of children will not be used on the church website**
- Children's images will never be published with names or identifying details
- No one-to-one photography of children is permitted
- If consent is not held, the child must not be photographed or filmed

Children may occasionally appear incidentally in the background of wider service scenes (for example, near the front), but they will not be the subject of images.

Safeguarding always takes precedence over media value.

4.3 Vulnerable Adults

Extra care is taken where individuals may be vulnerable due to health, personal circumstances, or pastoral context.

Photography or filming in these situations requires clear, informed consent and pastoral discretion.

5. During Services (Livestreaming & Photography)

- Services are **livestreamed and photographed weekly**
- Clear notice is provided to attendees
- Cameras and photography primarily focus on:
 - Speakers
 - Worship leaders
 - Platform activity

The church will take every reasonable care to:

- Avoid clearly capturing the faces of congregation members
- Respect the privacy of those attending

Anyone who willingly participates on stage does so with the understanding that:

- They will appear on the livestream
- They may be photographed

This is particularly important for those in **leadership roles**, who are expected to be visible as part of their ministry.

6. Where Photography and Filming Are Appropriate

Permitted

- General worship scenes (non-identifiable congregation)
- Church buildings and public events
- Baptisms, dedications, and celebrations (with appropriate consent)

Not Permitted

- Pastoral care or prayer ministry moments
 - Safeguarding situations
 - Toilets, changing rooms, or private spaces
 - Anyone who has opted out
 - Any situation that may cause embarrassment, distress, or harm
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7. Representing Church Life

While privacy is prioritised, the church also values reflecting the wider life of the church community.

- Those serving in **leadership roles will normally be identifiable** in church media
- Congregation members will not be featured in identifiable ways unless **explicit consent** has been given
- We aim to avoid using images of the congregation unless permission has been clearly established

If you are happy for your image to be used on the church website or social media, please complete a **consent form**.

8. Designated Photographers and Videographers

- Must be appointed by church leadership
 - Must comply fully with this policy
 - Must be DBS-checked where appropriate
 - Images involving children must be reviewed before use
 - Only authorised adults may photograph or film children's activities
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9. Social Media Use

Official Church Platforms

- Content is shared by approved administrators only
 - Consent must be confirmed before posting
 - Content must reflect the dignity and values of the church
 - No sensitive personal information is shared
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Personal Social Media Accounts

We ask all members of the church community to act with care and respect:

- Do not post images of others without their consent
- **Do not post photos of other people's children without parental permission**
- Do not share pastoral moments, prayer ministry, or sensitive situations

While the church cannot control personal accounts, we seek to foster a culture of honour, responsibility, and care.

10. Live Streaming

- Services are streamed regularly
 - Cameras are positioned to focus on the platform
 - Congregation members are not singled out
 - Children and vulnerable adults are not featured unless explicit consent exists
 - Recordings are retained for a limited and appropriate time
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11. Storage, Security and Retention

- Images are stored on secure, church-approved systems only
- Images must not be kept long-term on personal devices or cloud storage
- Access is restricted to authorised individuals

Retention guidelines:

- General events: up to 3 years
 - Children's images: up to 12 months (if held at all)
 - Baptisms, weddings, and dedications: longer, with consent
 - Live streams: typically up to 6 months
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12. Right to Removal

Anyone may request that images of themselves or their child be removed from:

- The church website
- Social media platforms
- Promotional materials

Requests will be honoured promptly and without challenge.

13. Data Breaches and Concerns

Any concern, misuse, or suspected data breach should be reported immediately to:

- A Senior Pastor
- The Church Safeguarding Lead

Where required, matters will be reported to the Office of the Data Protection Authority (Guernsey).

14. Review and Responsibility

This policy will be reviewed regularly by the church leadership team.

Ultimate responsibility rests with the trustees and Senior Pastors of Eldad Elim Pentecostal Church.

A Pastoral Commitment

We believe people matter more than pictures.

Our priority is always dignity, safety, and care — before visibility, content, or promotion.