



# Aylesbury Methodist Church and Centre

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Minister: Rev. Helen Kirk

## FILMING & LIVE-STREAMING POLICIES

### Background

As part of our outreach to a wider audience and with the full support of the Church Council, since March 2018, we have been live-streaming our 10.30am services. This is by means of a fixed video camera provided by The Sunday Service, a Christian charity funded by the Joseph Rank Foundation. Each service can be seen for seven days by anyone with an internet connection on [www.thesundayservice.org](http://www.thesundayservice.org) website and on YouTube.

To maintain a welcoming and safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults, we have adopted the following policies. They are designed to ensure that the only people seen on screen are those who have given their permission to be filmed.

### Policies

1. To safeguard children and vulnerable adults, the only camera shots used will be on the sanctuary side, rather than the congregational side of the communion rail, apart from the choir. This creates a 'virtual safety curtain'.
2. All children and young people asked to take part in a service by, for instance, reading a lesson, lighting an advent calendar, singing in the Youth Choir, or taking part in a Youth Service, will each need to have written parental permission to do so.
3. 'Known participants' in a service who will be in camera shot in the sanctuary area, such as preachers, worship leaders, readers, sketch participants, baptismal parties and others, will be informed of our live-streaming policies beforehand. Their participation signals their permission to be filmed.
4. 'Unknown participants' in a service, such as volunteers from J Team invited to help a preacher in the sanctuary area will not be filmed. This is because it is neither possible nor desirable for the camera operator or youth leaders to ensure only those with parental permission forms can respond. A 'safe' shot will be used instead, such as the choir or the central banner.
5. Whilst we will make every effort to ensure a safe environment for all, given the widespread use of mobile phones as cameras, the church and most other public places are not 'camera-free zones.' Nor can we always avoid the potential for some toddlers and/or a retrieving parent to creep into camera shot.
6. Based on advice from Boys' Brigade HQ, we will use the same permission form on church letter-heading for all our youth organisations.
7. A succinct message about our live-streaming is included in the Welcome slides shown before the start of the service and in the weekly notices.
8. This leaflet is made available to explain our live-streaming and safeguarding policies and the Church Stewards will be responsible for ensuring that preachers and all service participants are made aware of them.

Peter Green  
19th<sup>st</sup> May 2018