



Permission to Observe

The Permission To Observe Form specially requests that you consider the use of photographs as a form of documentation of your child's learning and engagement in curriculum experiences. We also seek your approval for the use of photographs for a variety of purposes outlined below. Ongoing observation and documentation of children's interactions with peers, materials and adults is one of the most powerful ways that teachers build understanding of each child's learning and development. Teachers employ a wide variety of observational tools including written observations; transcriptions of children's conversation; work samples and photographic evidence of the learning experience. Issues related to permission to observe relate most specially to photographic documentation.

Classroom teacher observation:

Classroom teachers observe children on a daily basis to better understand the child's overall growth and development over a period of time. Many of these observations are shared with you via your child's portfolio, notice board displays and the regular class newsletter as 'evidence' of children's learning.

Student observation:

Middleton also serves as host centres for early childhood students undertaking studies at EtonHouse Education Centre. Throughout the year there may be student teachers working in your child's classroom as part of their practicum placements. These students are required to observe and record children's learning and development. Observations are used for the purpose of student learning only. Student teachers must seek permission (informed assent) from the children i.e. student teachers must ask the children if they are willing to support the student's research project.

Please Note: All observational work undertaken by students will be under the direct supervision of your child's classroom teacher.

Observation for other purposes:

1. At times there may be adults present in the classroom environment e.g. parents of children within the class. This may be the case for celebratory reasons e.g. child's birthday; a class outing. In documenting their own child, parents may (inadvertently) include photographic images of your child.
2. There may also be overseas visitors present in the children's classroom from time to time. The class teacher may and or Principal/Director hosting these visits will carefully monitor the situation and may require that no photographs be taken.
3. Middleton also works closely with professional media consultancies which at times seek media images of children engaged in curriculum experiences for marketing purposes. Inclusion of photographic images may be hard copy (brochure) or electronic media.

At all times the confidentiality of the child and his/her family is paramount. In public forums no individual child's name will be used, However children will be identified as EtonHouse children via the uniform. We seek your cooperation and understanding in consulting to offer permission to observe your child(ren). Should you have any specific queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Principal/Director of your school/centre.

In signing below you are indicating that you:

Have read and understand the details given to you in the Permission To Observe Form.

Have had any questions about the observation process answered to your satisfaction.

Agree to give consent to Middleton Pre-School access to my child/children's photograph(s) for the following purpose (please tick accordingly):

- For inclusion into my child's individual portfolio, class newsletter and documentation panels within the classroom and school/preschool environment.**
- Student research projects as part of the EEC training teacher research requirements. In situations where other Middleton parents are present in the classroom documenting special events e.g. birthdays; school outings.**
- For Middleton marketing/promotional materials (including electronic media formats).**

Name of Child : _____

Name of Parent : _____

Signature : _____

Date: _____