الكلية الإسلامية العالمية بالمملكة المتحدة
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC COLLEGE
UNITED KINGDOM

IIC International Islamic College

National Quran Competition 2026

Media Coverage and Consent Policy

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1. Introduction and Purpose

This Media Coverage and Consent Policy ("the Policy") sets out the framework governing the capture, use, storage, and distribution of photographs, video recordings, audio recordings, and all other media produced in connection with the IIC International Islamic College National Quran Competition 2026 ("NQC 2026").

The Policy applies to all media produced at or in connection with any stage of the competition, including the Grand Finals at Masjid Taqwa, Leicester, any associated online sessions, and any promotional activity connected with the Competition.

This Policy should be read alongside the Competition Terms and Conditions, Privacy Policy, and Safeguarding Policy. In the event of any conflict between this Policy and another document, the more protective provision in relation to children's welfare and data protection shall prevail.

> **The protection of participants — particularly children — is the primary consideration governing all media activity in connection with NQC 2026.**

2. Scope

This Policy applies to:

- The Competition Administration Team and all authorised staff
- Judges and volunteers
- Any media partner, photographer, or videographer authorised by the College
- Members of the public and attendees at the Finals event
- Participants and their families

This Policy applies across all stages of NQC 2026, including:

- Promotional and marketing activity in advance of the competition
- Stage 3: Online Internal Semi-Finals
- Stage 4: Grand Finals at Masjid Taqwa, Leicester
- Any post-event coverage or reporting

3. Consent Framework

3.1 Registration Consent

During registration, participants and their parents or guardians will be asked to provide or withhold explicit consent for the use of photographs, video recordings, and other media for promotional purposes. This consent is collected by way of a dedicated consent option on the registration form.

Where consent is not given, the College will take reasonable steps to ensure that the relevant participant is not included in promotional media, though this cannot be guaranteed in all circumstances during live events. Consent may be withdrawn at any time by contacting the Competition Administration Team. Withdrawal of consent applies to future use only and does not affect any use that has already occurred.

The consent option at registration covers the following uses:

- Photographs and video recordings in College promotional materials
- Media published on the College's social media channels and website
- Media used in connection with future editions of the NQC competition
- Media used in press coverage facilitated by the College

> **Withholding consent for promotional media use will not affect a participant's eligibility or standing in the competition in any way.**

3.2 Consent for Children

For all participants under the age of 18, consent for promotional media use must be provided by the participant's parent or guardian. The College will not use media featuring participants under 18 for promotional purposes without such consent having been obtained.

> **Under no circumstances will media featuring an identifiable child be used for promotional purposes without prior explicit parental consent.**

3.3 Withdrawal of Consent

Consent for promotional media use may be withdrawn at any time by contacting the Competition Administration Team using the details at Section 12 of this Policy. Withdrawal of consent applies to future use only and does not require the College to remove media that has already been published or distributed, unless there are reasonable grounds to do so.

Where consent is withdrawn, the College will take reasonable steps to ensure the relevant participant's media is not used in future promotional activity.

3.4 Consent Records

Consent records are maintained by the Competition Administration Team and stored securely in accordance with applicable data protection legislation, including the UK GDPR. Consent records will be retained for a period of three years following the conclusion of NQC 2026, or until consent is withdrawn, whichever is the sooner.

4. Authorised Media Capture

4.1 Official Competition Media

The College may appoint authorised photographers, videographers, or media representatives to capture content at the Finals event and other competition activities. Authorised media personnel will be clearly identified and briefed on the requirements of this Policy before attending any event.

Authorised media personnel are only permitted to capture content in designated areas and may not photograph or film participants in private spaces, changing areas, overnight accommodation, or any area that would constitute an invasion of privacy.

4.2 Competition Administration Recordings

The Competition Administration Team may record online sessions (Stage 3: Semi-Finals) for the purposes of judging, quality assurance, and safeguarding review. Participants and guardians will be notified at the start of any session that is being recorded. Recordings will be stored securely and accessed only by authorised personnel.

4.3 Video Submissions — Stage 2

Video submissions made by participants as part of Stage 2 are submitted for the purposes of competition assessment only. These recordings will not be used for promotional purposes regardless of consent status. They are stored securely and accessed solely by the judging panel and authorised Competition Administration staff.

5. Children — Additional Protections

Given the significant number of participants under the age of 18, the following additional protections apply in respect of all media involving children:

- No close-up photographs or videos of children will be taken without explicit parental consent on file

- Children will not be photographed or filmed individually or in a manner that could identify them without parental consent
- Media featuring children will not be published on social media or any public platform without explicit parental consent
- No media featuring children will be used in any commercial or monetised context without explicit consent
- The full name, school, address, or other identifying information of a child will not be published alongside any media without explicit consent
- Any adult found photographing or filming children without authorisation will be asked to cease immediately and may be removed from the event

> **The safeguarding and dignity of all children at NQC 2026 takes absolute precedence over any media or promotional interest.**

6. Attendee Photography and Filming

6.1 General Attendees

Members of the public and families attending the Grand Finals are permitted to photograph and film within reasonable bounds for personal, non-commercial purposes. The following restrictions apply to all attendees:

- Photography and filming must not intrude upon the privacy, dignity, or safety of other attendees
- Photographs or videos of other participants' children may not be taken without the permission of the child's parent or guardian
- Photography and filming is not permitted in designated private areas, including any overnight accommodation spaces
- Live streaming of any competition session to public platforms is not permitted without express written permission from the Competition Administration Team
- Media captured at the event must not be used for commercial purposes

6.2 Recitation Sessions

Photography and filming of assessed recitation sessions at the Finals is permitted for personal use only, subject to the restrictions in Section 6.1. The Competition Administration Team reserves the right to impose further restrictions on photography or filming during specific sessions where it considers this appropriate for safeguarding, operational, or religious reasons.

6.3 Compliance with Instructions

All attendees must comply with any photography and filming instructions issued by the Competition Administration Team or venue staff. Failure to do so may result in removal from the event.

7. Press and Media Access

7.1 Press Accreditation

Any press, media organisation, or journalist seeking to cover NQC 2026 must obtain prior written accreditation from the Competition Administration Team. Requests for accreditation should be submitted to admin@theiic.uk. The College reserves the right to grant or refuse accreditation at its absolute discretion.

7.2 Conditions of Press Access

Accredited press and media are required to:

- Comply with all requirements of this Policy and the Competition's Safeguarding Policy
- Obtain prior written confirmation from the Competition Administration Team before photographing or filming any participant under the age of 18
- Seek the Competition Administration Team's approval before publishing any media featuring identifiable participants
- Not publish any media that could be detrimental to the welfare, dignity, or reputation of any participant

7.3 Pre-Publication Review

The College reserves the right to request pre-publication review of any media content relating to NQC 2026. Accredited press are encouraged to liaise with the Competition Administration Team prior to publication where there is any uncertainty about the suitability of content.

8. Social Media

8.1 Official Channels

Official social media coverage of NQC 2026 will be managed by the Competition Administration Team via the College's authorised channels. All official social media content will comply with this Policy and the Safeguarding Policy.

8.2 Participants and Families

Participants and their families are welcome to share their own experiences of NQC 2026 on personal social media accounts, subject to the following:

- Content must not include identifiable images or videos of other participants' children without the relevant parent or guardian's permission
- Content must not be defamatory, harmful, or disrespectful to other participants, judges, staff, or the College
- Content must not disclose the outcome of competition stages before official announcements have been made
- Live streaming of assessed recitation sessions is not permitted without prior written permission from the Competition Administration Team

8.3 Reporting Concerns

Any concerns about social media content relating to NQC 2026 that may compromise the welfare or dignity of a participant should be reported to admin@theiic.uk without delay.

9. Storage and Data Protection

All media captured in connection with NQC 2026 that constitutes personal data — including photographs and video recordings of identifiable individuals — will be processed and stored in accordance with applicable data protection legislation, including the UK GDPR. Such media is subject to the College's Privacy Policy.

Media will be stored securely and accessed only by authorised personnel. Retention periods are as follows:

Media Type	Retention Period

Promotional media where consent has been given	Until consent is withdrawn, or 3 years following the conclusion of NQC 2026, whichever is sooner
Stage 2 video submissions	6 months following the conclusion of NQC 2026, then securely deleted
Stage 3 session recordings	6 months following the conclusion of NQC 2026, then securely deleted
Press and accredited media content	As agreed at point of accreditation, subject to minimum 3-year review

At the conclusion of the applicable retention period, media will be securely deleted or anonymised in accordance with the College's data management procedures.

10. Breach of This Policy

Any breach of this Policy by Competition Personnel, authorised media, or attendees may result in one or more of the following:

- Immediate removal from the Finals event or other competition activity
- Withdrawal of press accreditation
- Referral to relevant authorities where the breach constitutes a safeguarding concern or legal violation
- Disqualification of the relevant participant where the breach involves a participant or their family
- Legal action where the breach constitutes an unlawful act

> **Any breach involving the unauthorised capture or distribution of media featuring a child will be treated as a matter of the utmost seriousness and will be referred to the Designated Safeguarding Lead immediately. Referral to external safeguarding or law enforcement authorities will be made where appropriate.**

11. Amendments

The College reserves the right to amend this Policy at any time. Material changes will be communicated via the Competition's official communication channels.

12. Contact

For all media, consent, and accreditation enquiries relating to NQC 2026, please contact the Competition Administration Team:

Email	admin@theiic.uk
WhatsApp	07984 531669