

# Policy on the Use of Video Recording Glasses and Wearable Recording Devices

## 1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to protect the privacy, safety, dignity, and safeguarding of all individuals attending church activities, while recognising that wearable technology, including video recording glasses and other recording devices, is becoming increasingly common.

This policy applies to all church services, meetings, events, activities, ministries, and premises operated by the church.

## 2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- Members and regular attenders
- Visitors and guests
- Volunteers and staff
- Contractors and external organisations using church facilities

For the purposes of this policy, “wearable recording devices” include, but are not limited to:

- Video recording glasses
- Smart glasses with camera functionality
- Body-worn cameras
- Wearable cameras attached to clothing or accessories
- Any other device capable of discreet audio or video recording

## 3. General Principle

The church seeks to create an environment where people can worship, participate, and receive pastoral support without concern that they are being secretly recorded.

The use of wearable recording devices that capture audio or video is therefore restricted on church premises and at church activities.

## 4. Prohibited Use

The following is not permitted:

- Covert or undisclosed recording of any person.
- Recording during children's or youth activities.
- Recording during prayer ministry, pastoral conversations, counselling, or safeguarding situations.
- Recording in toilets, changing facilities, or any private areas.
- Recording individuals who have requested not to be filmed or photographed.
- Live streaming through wearable devices without prior written approval from church leadership.

## 5. Permitted Use

Wearable recording devices may only be used when:

- The wearer has informed church leadership in advance;
- Permission has been granted by an authorised church leader;
- Appropriate consent has been obtained where required;
- The recording is for a legitimate purpose, such as accessibility needs, personal note-taking, journalism by prior arrangement, or authorised church media production.

Where permission is granted, the wearer may be asked to display a visible indicator that recording is taking place.

## 6. Safeguarding Considerations

The church has a duty to safeguard children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

Accordingly:

- Wearable recording devices must not be used in any children's, youth, or vulnerable adult ministry setting unless expressly authorised by the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- Any concerns regarding unauthorised recording should be reported immediately to a church leader or the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- Church leaders reserve the right to require the removal or deactivation of any recording device.

## 7. Church-Authorised Recording

The church may itself record or livestream certain services or events. Where this occurs:

- Appropriate notices will be displayed;
- Reasonable steps will be taken to inform attendees;
- Special care will be taken regarding children and vulnerable adults;
- Individuals may request seating in areas outside of camera view where practical.

## 8. Responding to Concerns

If a person is suspected of making unauthorised recordings, church leaders may:

- Request that the recording cease immediately;
- Ask to verify whether recording is taking place;
- Request deletion of unauthorised recordings where appropriate;
- Ask the individual to leave the premises;
- Restrict future attendance where necessary to protect the safety and privacy of others;
- Refer serious concerns to safeguarding authorities or law enforcement where required.

## 9. Accessibility and Disability Considerations

The church recognises that some individuals may use wearable technology for accessibility or medical reasons. Any such requirements should be discussed confidentially with church leadership, who will seek to make reasonable accommodations while maintaining safeguarding and privacy obligations.

## 10. Policy Acceptance

Attendance at church activities constitutes acceptance of this policy. The church reserves the right to amend this policy at any time to ensure compliance with safeguarding, privacy, and legal requirements.