



WHAT TO EXPECT AT YOUR MINI SESSION

Thank you for booking a mini session with Vicki Knights Photography.

Please read through this welcome guide to get some useful tips on what to expect at your session.

I look forward to capturing some beautiful images of your family!

Vicki



VICKI KNIGHTS
PHOTOGRAPHY



THE MINI SESSION

My mini sessions are relaxed and informal. As we only have 25 minutes for the session I normally start shooting straight away. I usually start taking photos of your whole family then do individual photos of your children towards the end when they have got used to me!

As I only have a short space of time to capture your family interacting naturally and having fun together, you may find I jump around and act silly a bit more than I would in a full custom session!

I will ensure you are in the right light and position then suggest things for you to do to capture lovely happy shots like the ones you will have seen on my website.

It's natural to feel nervous about the session (especially the Dads!) so I do everything I can to ensure that you feel as relaxed as possible.

I will get many different combinations of your family...kids on their own, mum with kids, whole family. Please let me know in advance if there are any specific photos you would like.



YOUR LITTLE ONES

I want your children to just be themselves during the shoot and I won't be asking them to sit still or say 'cheese'!

I don't want them to be on their 'best behaviour' and as their parents you can really help me with this! All you need to do is trust me to get the best out of your children. I have had many a gorgeous shot ruined by a well-meaning parent suddenly diving in to rearrange hair or telling their child to sit up straight!

Better an amazing expression with a hair out of place, than a miserable child with perfect hair! Also if lots of people are calling their name from different directions, they won't know where to look!

I want your children to know that you are coming to see me to have fun for a while, not just take their photo. So it really helps me out if you don't make it into a big deal that they are about to have their photograph taken.



YOUR LITTLE ONES

The mini session isn't the time for perfect parenting!

Now I know Supernanny wouldn't approve, but if your little one does something they shouldn't do during the session, then it's usually best to just let it go. Kids can sometimes take hours to get their smiles back after they've been told off!

And I'm not against bribery either...it's worth it for a lovely shot that you will treasure forever!

There may be times during the shoot that I will ask you to entertain your children behind my back, so I can capture some lovely natural shots. But if I don't ask, please just leave me to it.

I promise I know what I'm doing!



THE WEATHER

Only a British photographer could dedicate a whole page to the weather! But it is something that I get asked about a lot.

Don't worry if the sky is grey and overcast on the day of your mini session. In fact, that makes my life much easier as it creates a lovely diffused light and I can shoot just about anywhere. This photo on the left was taken on a very grey day...this shows how lovely the light can be.

Only if it's raining (or snowing!) will I cancel the mini sessions and then we will do them on the back up date. If it's still raining on the back up date then I will either refund your deposit in full or you can put it towards a future mini session or custom session with me.



WHAT TO WEAR

Now onto that big question of what to wear!

The clothes your family wear for the shoot can make a big difference to the look of your images (no pressure then!)

The most important thing is that you all wear clothes that you feel comfortable in and things you would wear normally. We're not going to capture lovely natural images if you're all dressed up in your Sunday best! I'm a big fan of jeans and they suit my natural style of photography.

Avoid words or obvious logos on clothes as these will date your images quickly and will detract from the face. And avoid stark white or jet black if possible, as well as narrow stripes as they don't photograph well.

Accessories are good! In colder weather, please bring along hats, scarfs and coats. Hats shouldn't have a peak on them as this puts shadows onto the face.

WHAT TO WEAR

color palette



I know how challenging it can be to style your whole family appropriately so here are a couple of examples so you know the kind of thing I am talking about.

Subtle toned tops work well such as earth tones, greys, and even blues or reds/pinks. You don't all need to wear the same colour or style of top (in fact, please don't!)

You should be in complimenting colours in the same colour tones (darks, pastels, earthy, lights etc) and all reflect a similar style be it casual, smart etc. A good way to plan the colours you will wear is to choose a top for one family member with a number of different colours, then pick the colours out of that for the rest of the families outfits.

Texture is great and photographs well. Please make sure that your colours and/or patterns don't clash!

Also, please bear in mind the season your mini session is taking place. So in spring there is a good chance we will shoot in daffodils so makes sure your outfits look good with yellow. So greys and blues tend to work well in the spring. And in the autumn, earthy colours look great.

color palette





YOUR GALLERY

After the mini session I will choose the best images from your shoot (normally around 15 images) and then edit each one individually in my digital darkroom for the best possible finish.

Your gallery details will be emailed to you within 2 weeks of the mini session. Your gallery is live for 5 days for you to share with friends and family and choose your favourites. Please ensure your place your order within that time to avoid the £20 re-hosting fee.

You will then receive your chosen gift prints and digital images in the post within 3 weeks of payment being received. If you have ordered any extra items from my product list such as frames, they will be ready within 5 weeks.

I keep all images on file for a minimum of 12 months. For £20 you can have your gallery made live for 5 days during that period if you wish to order more prints or products.

As detailed in the mini session agreement, I retain the copyright on the images and may use them on my website/blog or marketing materials in the future. Please tell me if you aren't happy for me to do this.

I look forward to providing you with photos of your family that will make you smile everytime you look at them!