



Keeta Williams

FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHY FAQ

Is real-life photography right for my family?

My style of photography is not right for everyone. If you want high levels of control over your session and your family to look "perfect", real-life photography isn't right for you.

However, if you want authentic and natural photos that show the personalities of your loved ones, I can help. My photos will not just capture your family, but your relationships and experiences.

Do you photograph absolutely everything?

No. Many family documentary photographers photograph everything, but I only want to tell positive stories. I avoid photographing nudity, even though some children are always running around naked. I also avoid moments of vulnerability, like tantrums and family arguments.

I care greatly about respect and dignity. There is space in my pre-session questionnaire to list anything specific that you don't want me to photograph.

Will this style of photography be unflattering?

I never purposely take unflattering photographs, I still want you to look great. Most importantly though, I want you to look the way your children want to remember you. They won't care if your hair isn't perfect, you're in your pyjamas, and you don't have makeup on. They love you exactly the way you are.

What activities can our family do together during a session?

- When are you the happiest?
- When are your children the happiest?
- What does your family love doing every day?
- What do your children really want to do, but they haven't done in ages? While I photograph daily routines, you may also plan something incredibly special for your photoshoot.

Every family will answer these questions differently, but here are some ideas that might inspire you:

- Draw a massive chalk mural on your driveway, take a break for lunch, and have a water fight as you wash it off.
- Spend the day at the beach, build sandcastles, eat icecream and fly a kite.
- Clean the house, wash the dog, and hang wet laundry on the line before watching a movie.
- Ride your bikes through parklands and stop to share a picnic.
- Stay at home on a rainy day - bake biscuits, play board games, play hide and seek, and watch raindrops fall down the windows.
- Let me arrive at your home before you wake up. Get ready slowly before walking together to a local cafe for breakfast.

Do we always need to be doing something interesting?

Absolutely not. Some people think they don't have interesting lives, but the small things are actually the most memorable. I don't always take photos, I spend a lot of time waiting and observing. Storytelling sessions go for many hours because real life isn't action-packed and fast-paced.

Your family don't need to be together for the entire session. A child might be playing in one room while their siblings are in another. One parent may be in the kitchen and the other is washing the car. I will wander between everyone, taking photos of what people are doing in different places.

What should we wear for a storytelling session?

Anything you like. Wear your favourite clothes, the ones you feel most comfortable in. I don't care if your family matches or clashes in outfits. If you don't know what clothes your children should wear, let them choose!

What should we wear for a portrait session?

I photograph people of all looks and styles, and what you wear is completely up to you. You may decide to coordinate your clothes for a timeless family portrait or celebrate everyone as unique individuals. Most importantly, ensure you are comfortable and like the way you look.

Here are some general tips for portraits:

- Avoid logos, brand names, pictures and children's characters on your clothing as these are distracting.
- Patterns are fine as long as everyone isn't wearing them.
- Do your best to tame flyaway hair, especially if it is windy or you are at the beach.
- If you are concerned about your appearance, consider hiring a professional hair and makeup artist for the portrait part of your photoshoot.

I usually take portraits first, before a storytelling session. This allows everyone time to get ready before I arrive, as most people want to look their best for portraits. If this is less important to you, I can take them at the end.

What is the best location for a photoshoot?

Storytelling photography is less about the location and more about relationships. Your home would be a fantastic location, even if it isn't perfect. You don't even need to clean before I arrive! I can also follow you to other locations like parks, shops or playgrounds. Wherever your family goes, I will go too.

Shorter storytelling sessions work best if you choose one location you can stay at for two hours.

Portraits can be taken anywhere with good natural light, and ideally a neutral background.

When is the best time of day for a storytelling session?

Storytelling sessions can be held at any time of the day or night - from early in the morning when your family is still in bed, until late at night when you are trying to get your children into bed!

Children can take naps during a longer session. It is best to arrange shorter sessions around children's nap times, so I don't miss out on photographing them.

When is the best time of day for portraits?

A photographer's favourite time for outdoor portraits is just after sunrise or an hour or two before sunset. Families usually choose mid-morning because that seems to be a sensible time, but bright light causes harsh face shadows. If you do choose a sunny period, we may look for a shady location. Indoor portrait photography can be taken at any time, but I prefer the hours when window light is the brightest.

What happens if my children are crying or in a bad mood?

I don't usually photograph children who are crying or distressed. I take a step back and wait, or photograph someone else in your family instead. The great thing about storytelling sessions is there is no pressure for everyone to be happy. There will be plenty of time for children to cheer up. And if someone in your family is sick, you can definitely reschedule.

Can I cancel or reschedule?

I completely understand that some days don't work. Rescheduling for any reason is fine, if you provide at least four hours' notice. If you need to cancel your session without rescheduling, I will refund your deposit if you provide at least twenty-four hours' notice. If not enough notice has been given, your deposit will be non-refundable.

What happens if it rains?

I love photographing on cloudy, drizzling days and some of my best shoots have been with storms approaching. Rain will not usually impact storytelling sessions if they are indoors. It may even provide a great opportunity for children to wear gumboots and splash in puddles.

We can reschedule if the experiences you want photographed cannot go ahead e.g. a day at the beach, horse riding.

What happens after the photoshoot?

Once your session is complete, I start editing your photos. This takes longer than the session itself! As a professional photographer, my camera takes RAW files which can be viewed and edited using specialist software.

I cull the photographs taken on the day and keep those which meet my professional and artistic standards. If there are more frame-worthy images than promised in your package, I will send these too at no additional cost.

I crop and adjust the colours and light of each selected photograph. I retouch scratches and blemishes on skin for portraits, but I don't usually do so for storytelling photos.

Most of the photos will be in colour, however some will be in black and white if they look better this way. Photos with high levels of contrast or unflattering colours may look brilliant in black and white.

After the photos have been edited, I convert the RAW files to a different file type that can be easily viewed and printed. This is usually JPG. I can also send TIFF files if requested.

Please allow one week for your photos to be delivered. I will email you a link to an online folder that contains high-resolution images for you to download. These photos can be viewed on screens, shared on social media and printed.

Keeping a backup of your digital files is highly recommended. Your files will be available to download for at least one month and then archived for at least another two months.

Will we see a gallery to select our photos from?

Not exactly. You will receive the number of photos as listed in your package, as a minimum. This is your gallery, and all of these photos are yours to keep. You will not need to select the ones you want or pay extra to purchase more.

Am I obligated to purchase prints or products from you?

I am an all-inclusive photographer, which means your session fee includes your set of images as downloadable, high-resolution digital files. While you can purchase photographic prints from me, there is no requirement to do so.

Can I print the photos myself?

Your photos can be printed up to approximately A2 without loss of quality, and many printers can print them at much larger sizes.

If you haven't printed digital photos before, it is important to know they always look different on paper. Your photos may appear darker than on your screen, and the colours may be different or duller.

I spend a lot of time editing photos to look their best for both print and screen however, your choice of printer makes an incredible difference. If you would like my advice on choosing a quality printer, please ask.

How is payment made?

When you book a session, I will send you an invoice. A 50% deposit of the full amount is due before the day of your session. The remaining 50% is due after your session, before you receive your photographs. Payment can be made via bank transfer or PayPal.

Do you photograph family events, like birthdays, births and weddings?

I don't photograph weddings and births as these are specialist fields of family photography. I can photograph newborns during their first few days or weeks. I can also attend family events like birthdays, cake smashes, and family reunions. I still photograph these events like a normal storytelling session.

Can we involve extended family members in the photoshoot?

Of course! I am experienced in photographing large groups and I love seeing different generations come together. You could visit relatives during a storytelling session, invite relatives over to your house, or arrange a family event like a party or picnic.

Do you photograph pets?

Pets are cherished family members. I love all animals and will always include them in a photoshoot. I can also take pet portraits if requested.

Do you offer gift vouchers?

Yes, absolutely. Please contact me for more details.

When are you available?

I am available on weekends, public holidays and most days in the summer holidays. I am not limited by time of day and don't mind meeting you before sunrise or leaving after midnight.

While I do get booked out at popular times of the year, I accept last-minute bookings if I am available.

Where in Adelaide are you available?

My family photography prices include my travel to all suburbs of Adelaide. Some regional areas of South Australia are also included with no extra charges. Please contact me and I can confirm the exact price for your location. I love meeting new people and visiting new places.

Enquire or make a booking

I would love to answer any questions you may have, and the opportunity to meet and photograph your family. Please phone or email me anytime. I am available to chat most days between 8am and 8pm.

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