

MRC photography specification and guidance

Check if you need permission from the venue and inform people that photography will be taking place.

Some simple tips for stunning pictures

Clean your lens

Nothing will ruin your photos as much as smudges across them.

Turn on gridlines

Check in settings if this is available to you. It will superimpose some lines across your screen which follow the 'rule of thirds'. Placing the main subject along one of the lines creates a more interesting image. It can also help keep your picture straight.

Avoid using zoom

Smart phones only use digital zoom, which decreases the quality of the image. If possible, just get closer to your subject.

Use natural lighting where possible

Most flashes are harsh and will over-expose (as well as bring up red-eye)

Use high dynamic range (HDR)

When your camera is open, you might see a button named 'HDR'. Just taking a picture as normal produces one shot from several exposures, giving better light/dark tones and colour.

Keep steady

Sadly, most phone cameras and some very simple point-and-click cameras do not have auto-stabilise, so your legs will have to do that for you.

Saving your photos

Please name the photo in the following way:
event/description – name of photographer – date that photo was taken.
e.g. ScienceInTheSquareNewbury-JohnSmith-062016.JPEG

Submitting for use by MRC Head Office

Submit photos by emailing them to imagearchive@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk
Email size cannot be more than 13MB

Please copy and paste the following text into your email

I grant the Medical Research Council (MRC) non-exclusive rights concerning any photographs that I have provided, to use, reuse, publish and republish the photographs and share with other sources for republication where the MRC deems appropriate, in whole or in part, individually or in connection with other material, in any and all media, including publicity, information, exhibition and via the internet, from now on, and for any purpose. I have read this information and fully understand its contents.

