

### Preparing for you photoshoot

#### **Can the shoot be inside or outside?**

Either in your home or garden, or another outdoor location such as a park. This allows the children to find their own space. An area with a variety of backdrops is best, some grass, some trees and some old buildings will give different images a different feel.

#### **How long does a shoot take?**

Typically a shoot will take one to two hours, however this depends on your family. I am flexible and patient, if a baby needs feeding or changing that's fine. A two or three year old will have a shorter attention span than a ten year old so I can work quickly when required.

#### **When is the best time?**

The best time of day is when the children will be relaxed but responsive. So not when they may be tired or hungry. Tell them what the session is about so they are included and feel special.

#### **What clothes/toys should I bring?**

Two or three different outfits will vary the pictures. Avoid clothes that are too fussy or that might date quickly. Dress appropriately for the weather: we won't get great pictures if the children are cold or uncomfortable. Have a hairbrush handy if needed. A CD of favourite music may relax babies and favourite toys/teddies can be helpful for small children. Scooters, bikes, skateboards, etc can make nice images as well.

#### **What if my child is ill or the weather is bad on the day?**

My aim is to provide you with a great set of pictures, we need the right conditions to do this. If someone is not well on the day then we'll reschedule, no extra charge. Overcast weather is most suitable, bright sunlight can be a bit harsh but we can work with that, but if it's wet we can reschedule.

#### **What if my child is very shy/very energetic?**

I'm used to working with children of all characters. It's important to let me form a connection with the children and that you resist telling the child how to behave. We don't want to inhibit their character and natural behaviour. Relaxed parents will lead to relaxed children.

#### **How will we see the images?**

We schedule a viewing approximately two weeks after the shoot. I'll come to you, usually during an evening, and show you the edited pictures on screen. We can then discuss albums and books and look at framing options. A viewing generally takes between one and two hours. I offer a bespoke framing service and we can fit frames to any particular space you may have. I bring frame and album samples from which you can choose and I'll advise on different layouts and groupings. I don't pressure sales at all and you can take as long as you like to view the images, however it does help to make decisions at the viewing. It's useful, therefore, to have an idea of what you may like in terms of frames, books or albums beforehand.