As a camp using CampSite's facial recognition functionality for Camp Today Media, congratulations! You're about to take advantage of the latest technology in camp software and take your parent's summer photo experience to the next level.

We've put together some best practices that we want to share with you to ensure your camp makes the most of this functionality.

Getting ready - study up!

First, we suggest reading through our facial recognition support articles (it shouldn't take more than 10 minutes). Pay special attention to Guidelines for High Quality Reference Photos - the quality of the reference photos you take will make a huge difference in the number and quality of facial recognition matches you get once summer is underway.

How to get reference photos into Campsite

There are **two** ways to get reference photos into CampSite:

1. Take and upload reference photos when campers arrive at camp
2. Have parents upload reference photos from home before camp starts

When possible, we recommend Option 1 - taking and upload reference photos on arrival at camp ensures they are consistent and high quality. We realize this is not practical for all camps, so Option 2 - allowing parents to upload reference photos themselves - is available. This is enabled by default, and can be turned off if desired under Admin -> Camp Today Media ->Permissions.

If you do choose Option 2, be sure that parents upload recent photos right before camp starts, to ensure that the camper's appearance in the reference photo is as close as possible to their appearance at camp. (Note that there is no special interface for uploading a reference photo on the Parent Dashboard - the reference photo will be captured when the parent updates their child's photo on the 'Enrollment' or 'My account' page.)

Reporting on reference photos - who's missing, and identifying low quality reference photos

The "Ready for facial recognition?" field in Advanced Reports (under the "Enrollment" tab) will tell you which campers are missing reference photos for the year.Once most of your campers have reference photos on file, you can use our Reference Photo Quality Report (available on the Camp Today Media landing page) to identify campers with low quality reference photos, and upload better ones for them. Reference photo quality in this report is determined automatically by the brightness, sharpness and 'pose' of the camper in the photo - bear in mind the guidelines that CampSite provides as well when deciding if a reference photo is high quality or not. This report has a handy e-mail button, to let you contact those parents with low quality photos and request a better quality upload (if your camp has decided to allow parents to upload reference photos).

Lights, cameras, action! Time to start shooting!

Once you've got high quality reference photos uploaded for all of your campers, the hard work is done! CampSite will automatically match campers when photos are uploaded in Camp Today during the summer and make them available to parents (see our facial recognition support articles for the details on how this works).

Stay tuned to CampSite's release notes, as we continue to improve and add new features for facial recognition. And as always, please feel free to reach out to our support team if you have any questions about this functionality or need assistance - we're here to help!