



If you are reading this, firstly congratulations on your pregnancy, or for the new niece, nephew or grandchild your about to welcome to the family. Perhaps you've seen some photos online or on my Facebook and "think I want that done."

And you absolutely should. There is no turning back time on this one, no booking in next month. Babies are considered Newborns in the photography world in a very small window of 1-3 weeks. After this time baby is more awake, alert and less flexible to get into the positions you have seen in your research. Surely at 4 weeks it can be done but your expectations of what can be achieved may not be as you imagined.

My next point is safety; who is qualified to handle your new baby? Is it that person on a buy and sell page that is half the price? You can't put a price on safety training and years of knowledge. This is a very specialised area of photography and you should only book with a trained professional. You can check from my reviews, degrees and certificates that I am confident in posing your baby correctly. No picture is worth the slightest risk and not all babies are as chilled as others. It is important to be aware that babies are babies and we need to find their comforts and meet them safely. That being said, it is the best job in the world and now let's answer some questions you may have.

### **Can I bring my other child(ren)?**

This is the most frequently asked question I get. Perhaps you didn't get round to it with your first few, or in many cases photographers weren't as widely available 5, 10 years ago as they are now. Personally there is nothing sweeter than a big brother proudly holding or watching over his new best friend. Or you may have a little girl who is watching your every move and wanting the hand you every nappy and wipe. Regardless, siblings bring love to any room and I love having them.

## What do I bring?

I get asked this a lot and although it is important, it's more of a case of what you can expect. As I've said before babies are babies and your session may go over the 2 hour slot, this is fine and don't panic. It's probably best to keep the day free when you're coming as you don't know how it will go. Your routine maybe all over, but one preparation I would suggest is giving baby the full feed **with me in the studio**, so I would change baby and dress in white baby grow before your arrival. If baby is still asleep on when we begin we can quickly get through some family snaps before we have to disturb and undress. I usually begin with some outfits and wraps that you can choose at the beginning. We keep nappies on for this but bring more than you would normally go through incase of accidents. Should a pee pee or other occur please don't stress and start cleaning my studio as it's more than common. Maybe bring a change of clothes incase baby is sick or other and you get caught.

If your breast feeding you can use the Mum Hub or I have microwave and kettle for bottles. If your bottle feeding bring more than usual and hold off on feeding at home, they will go through more here than normal usually. If your breast feeding, I would suggest some lunch or snacks to keep you going and water for hydration as the room can get hot. Partners, siblings or Grans can use the waiting room for much needed chill time and will only be very briefly required for family poses at beginning. They are able to come and go as they please or come back if needed. Dress any siblings/parents/grans in white or something neutral if you want photographed at beginning. Other things to bring would be dummies, bibs, bribing tools for siblings and any teddies or items you would like included. Mums have brought name in letters, special presents...one Mum even brought her Wedding dress.

Or let me do my thing as I love getting creative.

## **The Session**

The session itself will be discussed on booking. You will have told me your colour palette you've used in the nursery or plans to paint at least so that all this is ready on your arrival. You will have been thinking about frames and spaces you will hang your wall art. In the beginning we do the family photo, and then if there are other children we pose them with baby. Then everyone is more or less free, with Mum staying with me in case of feeds. I want you to relax and enjoy the experience and so I will do most posing while you have a cuppa. You created this miracle so sit back and enjoy this moment.

We may go through many changes and poses on beanbag, and if we are lucky we will pose baby in buckets, beds and other props you have full use of. If we are in a particular session, like December, we might push the Christmas theme. If you have a spring baby you might want to use yellows or burnt oranges if you have an autumn bub. Again keep in mind colours and how this will sit in your home, you don't want to redecorate based on your wall art. You also don't want to go to this bother to have one 6 x 4 sitting in a sea of framed photos on your tv stand, the idea is print large and make it a feature in your home.

After your session we will arrange a viewing for you to see the gallery and choose your products. This is the best part so bring some tissues as chances are this will be the most touching and memorable day since they came into the world. You will look at them like you're seeing them for the first time. They will have changed by now so you need one of everything.

It really is a case of a photograph captures 1 billion emotions, 1 million memories and a lifetime of love.

## **How do I book?**

A Newborn photoshoot is priced at £150, to be paid **IN FULL** on booking via either paypal or bank transfer. My paypal is [carrie@carriemckee.com](mailto:carrie@carriemckee.com). As a babies arrival is unpredictable, I will make sure you get a date if you go over or before, that is my guarentee.

If you need to cancel, I ask for at least 48 hrs notice so the space can be given to another child. Cancelations less than 24hrs will receive an invoice for slot as chances are it will I will be already set up. This is only after baby has arrived and has been booked in not based on due date\*\*

I only take bookings over the phone as I like to speak to anyone coming as I'm a bit old school and like to talk.

\*\*You will also be required to confirm your booking one week before if possible.

If you have had a difficult birth and need rest, I can arrange an assistant so you don't have to move from sofa but do need as much notice as possible...min 3 days.

I always try to make my Mums and families as comfortable as possible and provide free coffee, tea and in a warm and family friendly space. Should you have any requirements, Ill do my best to meet them. The studio is a nut free zone incase of any allergies so if you could refrain from bringing anything with nuts.

**To book please ring 07590368295 between 9 – 5pm Monday to Friday.** I may not have time to respond to emails.

Thank you.

### **Whats included?**

Your £150 is a session fee and includes full use of my skills, props and outfits. You will be given **One** mounted print with the option to upgrade to larger collection. After your session your images will be edited and presented to you a short time after with me back at studio. At this viewing consultation will see examples of wall arts and the best way to display these at home.

### **Who can come and where do we find you?**

It's recommended one adult there to help you. As space is tight this is all I'm able to accommodate. There is a waiting room if siblings need to come but they would need separately supervised. My address is **507 CRUMLIN ROAD, BELFAST BT14 7GA**. Located above the Nail Lounge at Ardoyne shops with access via side door. As I'm upstairs I'm not accessible for prams but you can bring your carseat or I can come and help you if you ring the bell.

<https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/507+Crumlin+Rd,+Belfast+BT14+7GA/@54.6140246,-5.9671959,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x4861086d0cd0108b:0xa5b3b93e95eb7a6d!8m2!3d54.6140246!4d-5.9650072>