

# **CCTV Policy**

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#### Introduction

Heather Ridge Infant School is fully committed to the safety of its staff, students and visitors and to this extent has invested in the security of its buildings and facilities. The purpose of this Policy is to regulate the management, operation and use of the closed-circuit television (CCTV) system at Heather Ridge Infant School.

Common CCTV systems are based around digital technology and therefore need to be treated as information that will be processed under the Data Protection Act 1998. The person ultimately responsible for data protection for the school is the Governing Body.

The system comprises of many fixed cameras located both internally and externally around the school site. All cameras maybe monitored and are only available for use by approved members of staff.

The CCTV system is owned by the school and will be subject to review annually on an annual basis.

#### Statement of Intent

The school complies with Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) CCTV Code of Practice to ensure it is used responsibly and safeguards both trust and confidence in its continued use. The Code of Practice is published at:

http://www.ico.gov.uk/~/media/documents/library/Data Protection/Detailed specialist guides/IC O CCTVFINAL 2301.ashx

CCTV warning signs will be clearly and prominently placed at all external entrances to the school, including school gates if coverage includes outdoor areas. Signs will contain details of the purpose for using CCTV (see appendix B). In areas where CCTV is used, the school will ensure that there are prominent signs placed at both the entrance of the CCTV zone and within the controlled area.

The planning and design has endeavoured to ensure that the Scheme will give maximum effectiveness and efficiency, but it is not possible to guarantee that the system will cover or detect every single incident taking place in the areas of coverage.

# Siting the Cameras

Cameras will be sited so they only capture images relevant to the purposes for which they are installed (described above) and care will be taken to ensure that reasonable privacy expectations are not violated. The School will ensure that the location of equipment is carefully considered to ensure that images captured comply with the Data Protection Act.

The school will make every effort to position cameras so that their coverage is restricted to the school premises, which may include outdoor areas.

Members of staff should have access to details of where CCTV cameras are situated, with the exception of cameras placed for the purpose of covert monitoring.

## **Covert Monitoring**

The school may in exceptional circumstances set up covert monitoring. For example:

- Where there is good cause to suspect that an illegal or unauthorised action(s), is taking place,
- where there are grounds to suspect serious misconduct;

Where notifying the individuals about the monitoring would seriously prejudice the reason for making the recording.

In these circumstances authorisation must be obtained from a member of the senior management team.

Covert monitoring must cease following completion of an investigation.

Cameras sited for the purpose of covert monitoring will not be used in areas which are reasonably expected to be private, for example toilets.

## Storage and Retention of CCTV images

Recorded data will not be retained for longer than is necessary. While retained, the integrity of the recordings will be maintained to ensure their evidential value and to protect the rights of the people whose images have been recorded.

All retained data will be stored securely.

### Access to CCTV images

Access to recorded images will be restricted to those staff authorised to view them, and will not be made more widely available.

## Subject Access Requests (SAR)

Individuals have the right to request access to CCTV footage relating to themselves under the Data Protection Act.

All requests should be made in writing to the Headteacher. Individuals submitting requests for access will be asked to provide sufficient information to enable the footage relating to them to be identified. For example, date, time and location.

The school will respond to requests within 40 calendar days of receiving the written request and fee.

A fee of £10 will charged per request.

The school reserves the right to refuse access to CCTV footage where this would prejudice the legal rights of other individuals or jeopardise an ongoing investigation.

## Access to and Disclosure of Images to Third Parties

There will be no disclosure of recorded data to third parties other than to authorised personnel such as the Police and service providers to the school where these would reasonably need access to the data (e.g. investigators).

Requests should be made in writing to the Headteacher/Governing Body.

The data may be used within the school's discipline and grievance procedures as required, and will be subject to the usual confidentiality requirements of those procedures.

## Complaints

Complaints and enquiries about the operation of CCTV within the school should be directed to the Governing Body in the first instance.

#### **Further Information**

Further information on CCTV and its use is available from the following:

CCTV Code of Practice Revised Edition 2008 (published by the Information Commissioners Office)

#### www.ico.gov.uk

Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) 2000

Data Protection Act 1998

# Appendix A – Checklist

This CCTV system and the images produced by it are controlled by ....... who is responsible for how the system is used and for notifying the Information Commissioner about the CCTV system and its purpose (which is a legal requirement of the Data Protection Act 1998).

...... School has considered the need for using CCTV and have decided it is required for the prevention and detection of crime and for protecting the safety of customers. It will not be used for other purposes. We conduct an annual review of our use of CCTV.

	Checked (Date)	Ву	Date of next review
Notification has been submitted to the			
Information Commissioner and the next renewal			
date recorded.			
There is a named individual who is responsible for			
the operation of the system.			
A system had been chosen which produces clear			
images which the law enforcement bodies			
(usually the police) can use to investigate crime			
and these can easily be taken from the system			
when required.			
Staff and members of the school community will			
be consulted about the proposal to install CCTV			
equipment.			
Cameras have been sited so that they provide			
clear images.			
Cameras have been positioned to avoid capturing			
the images of persons not visiting the premises.			
There are visible signs showing that CCTV is in			
operation. Where it is not obvious who is			
responsible for the system contact details are			
displayed on the sign(s).			
Images from this CCTV system are securely			
stored, where only a limited number of			
authorised persons may have access to them.			
The recorded images will only be retained long			
enough for any incident to come to light (e.g. for a			
theft to be noticed) and the incident to be			
investigated.			
Except for law enforcement bodies, images will			
not be provided to third parties.			
The organisation knows how to respond to			
individuals making requests for copies of their			
own images. If unsure the controller knows to			
seek advice from the Information Commissioner			
as soon as such a request is made.			
Regular checks are carried out to ensure that the			
system is working properly and produces high			
quality images.			

# Appendix B – CCTV Signage

It is a requirement of the Data Protection Act 1998 to notify people entering a CCTV protected area that the area is monitored by CCTV and that pictures are recorded. The school is to ensure that this requirement is fulfilled.

#### The CCTV sign should include the following:

- That the area is covered by CCTV surveillance and pictures are recorded
- The purpose of using CCTV
- The name of the school
- The contact telephone number or address for enquiries



## Appendix C – Data Protection Act

#### The Data Protection Act 1998: Data Protection Principles

- 1. Personal data shall be processed fairly and lawfully and, in particular, shall not be processed unless:
  - (a) at least one of the conditions in Schedule 2 is met, and
  - (b) in the case of sensitive personal data, at least one of the conditions in Schedule 3 is also met.
- 2. Personal data shall be obtained only for one or more specified and lawful purposes, and shall not be further processed in any manner incompatible with that purpose or those purposes.
- 3. Personal data shall be adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to the purpose or purposes for which they are processed.
- 4. Personal data shall be accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date.
- 5. Personal data processed for any purpose or purposes shall not be kept for longer than is necessary for that purpose or those purposes.
- 6. Personal data shall be processed in accordance with the rights of data subjects under this Act.
- 7. Appropriate technical and organisational measures shall be taken against unauthorised or unlawful processing of personal data and against accidental loss or destruction of, or damage to, personal data.
- 8. Personal data shall not be transferred to a country or territory outside the European Economic Area unless that country or territory ensures an adequate level of protection for the rights and freedoms of data subjects in relation to the processing of personal data.

This is not a full explanation of the principles, for further information refer to the Data Protection Act.