



THE FEDERATION OF ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

CLOSED CIRCUIT TV POLICY

(CCTV)

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Approved by Governors

Review frequency: 2 yearly

Agreed: Autumn 2020

Review due: Autumn 2022

1. Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to regulate the management, operation and use of the closed circuit television (CCTV) system at The Federation of St Mary's Catholic Schools.

The system currently comprises a number of static cameras located around the school site. All cameras are monitored from the school office under restricted access and the recordings are only available to nominated Senior Leaders, Administration staff and IT Manager. The system stores the information for one month before it is deleted and this information is kept on the school site.

This Code follows General Data Protection Regulations. The Code of Practice will be subject to review bi-annually to include consultation as appropriate with interested parties.

The CCTV system is owned by the school.

2. Objectives of the CCTV system

- To protect the school buildings and assets of the school.
- To increase personal safety of staff, students and visitors and reduce the fear of crime.
- To support the Police in a bid to deter and detect crime.
- To assist in identifying, apprehending and prosecuting offenders.
- To protect members of the public and private property.

3. Statement of intent

The CCTV system is registered with the Information Commissioner under the terms of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA), the Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005 and will seek to comply with the requirements of both the Data Protection Act and Commissioner's Code of Practice.

The school will treat the system and all information, documents and recordings obtained and used, as data which are protected by the Data Protection Act.

The system installed is compliant with the Data Protection Act, Human Rights Act and Regulatory Investigation Powers Act.

Cameras will be used to monitor activities within the school grounds and its car parks and in the vicinity of the access gates and reception area to identify adverse activity occurring, anticipated, or perceived, and for the purpose of securing the safety and wellbeing of the school and its staff, students and visitors.

Cameras are static and are focussed on the school buildings and around entrances/exits and are not focused on private homes, gardens and other areas of private property.

Materials or knowledge secured, as a result of CCTV, will not be used for any commercial purpose. Recordings will only be released to the media for use in the investigation of a specific crime and with the written authority of the Police. Recordings will never be released to the media for purposes of entertainment.

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 area of coverage.

Warning signs, as required by the Code of Practice of the Information Commissioner have been placed at key points in the building.

4. Operation of the system

The CCTV system will be administered and managed by the school in accordance with the values and objectives expressed in the code. The day to day management will be the delegated responsibility of the Headteacher. The CCTV system will be operated 24 hours each day, every day of the year, recording all activity. All operators and others with access to images must be aware of the access procedures that are in place.

5. Control and Liason

A member of the office staff will check and confirm the efficiency of the system on a regular basis and that the equipment is properly recording and that cameras are functional. The school will liaise with the appropriate company regarding servicing and /or repairs of the system.

6. Monitoring Procedures

Camera surveillance may be maintained at all times and footage continuously recorded and held on system memory. Applications received from outside bodies (e.g. solicitors) to view the footage will be referred to the Headteacher.

7. Breaches of the code (including breaches of security)

Any breach of the Code of Practice by school staff will be initially investigated by the Headteacher, in order for the Headteacher to take the appropriate disciplinary action. Complaints will be dealt with in accordance with the ICO Code of Practice.

8. Assessment of the scheme and code of practice

Performance monitoring, including random operating checks, may be carried out by a nominated member of the office staff.

9. Complaints

Any complaints about the school's CCTV system should be addressed to the Headteacher. Complaints will be investigated in accordance with the ICO Code of Practice.

10. Access by the Data Subject

The Data Protection Act provides Data Subjects (individuals to whom "personal data" relate) with a right to data held about themselves, including those obtained by CCTV.

Subject Access Requests should be made in writing to the Headteacher. The request should provide as much information as possible to enable the school to find the images including date, time, and location. If the Data Subject is unknown to the school, then photograph of the individual and/or a description of what they were wearing at the time they believe they were caught on the system may be requested, in order to aid identification.

11. Public Information

Copies of this Code of Practice will be available to the public from the school office and the school website.

Summary of Key Points

- This Code of Practice will be reviewed every two years.
- The CCTV system is owned and operated by the school.
- Liaison meetings may be held with the Police and other bodies.
- Recording discs used will be properly indexed, stored and destroyed after appropriate use.
- Discs may only be viewed by Authorised School Officers and the Police.
- Discs required as evidence will be properly recorded, witnessed and packaged before copies are released to the Police.
- Discs will not be made available to the media for commercial or entertainment.
- Discs will be disposed of securely by incineration.
- Any breaches of this code will be investigated by the Headteacher. An independent investigation will be carried out for serious breaches.
- Breaches of the code and remedies will be reported to the Headteacher.

Signage states: Images are being monitored for the purposes of public safety, crime prevention, detection and prosecution of offenders.



CCTV IN OPERATION

Images are being monitored and recorded for the purposes of crime prevention and public safety. This scheme is controlled by St Mary's Catholic Infant School.

**For more information, call 01744
678357**

