

Headteacher: Nicola Cryer

reception@oakfieldpark.wakefield.sch.uk

E Mail:

17.9.2025

Parent/Carer Consultation on the Proposed Use of CCTV in School until 26.9.2025.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of a proposal to use **Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV)** in selected areas of Oakfield Park School and to invite your views as part of our consultation process.

Our school is a specialist provision for children and young people with complex Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). As you know, many of our students require highly personalised support, and some present with behaviours of concern which can pose a risk to themselves, others, and the staff working with them.

Why CCTV?

This academic year, we have recorded:

- **930 serious incidents**, including:
 - **704 physical assaults on staff**
 - **142 incidents involving physical aggression between students**
- **40 staff injuries**, including **8 serious injuries** requiring hospital treatment
- **57 student allegations made against staff**
- **178 safeguarding concerns involving sexualised behaviour**
- **132 low level concerns raised about staff**

In a number of cases, serious incidents and safeguarding concerns have been difficult to fully investigate due to conflicting accounts. This has limited our ability to take swift and appropriate action to improve practice, ensure fairness, or respond effectively to concerns raised by students or staff.

The primary purpose of installing CCTV is to:

- **Protect vulnerable children and staff** from harm, injury, or false allegations
- **Improve safeguarding and incident response**
- **Support staff training and reflective practice**
- **Ensure transparency and fairness** during incident investigations

CCTV would not be used to monitor children continuously or intrude on their privacy. It would only be used for the above safeguarding and safety purposes.

Where CCTV Would Be Installed?

We are proposing to install CCTV in:

- SEND classrooms, where most serious incidents occur
- Shared areas and corridors, used during transitions
- Entrance and Exit to school where visibility is limited

We want to reassure you that **CCTV will never be installed in private areas**, such as toilets, changing areas, therapy spaces, or staff rest areas.

Your Child's Rights and Our Legal Responsibilities

All use of CCTV will be managed in line with:

- The **UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)**
- The **Data Protection Act 2018**
- **Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)** statutory guidance
- Guidance from the **Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)**

All footage will be securely stored, access will be strictly limited, and it will only be viewed when there is a clear safeguarding, welfare, or safety reason to do so. Our Data Protection Policy and a dedicated CCTV Policy will be made available to families.

How to Share Your Views

We want to hear from you. You can share your views by:

- Completing our short online feedback form: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/L8GXdhhdim>
- Attending a parent consultation meeting on request
- Emailing us directly at safeguarding@oakfieldpark.wakefield.sch.uk
- Speaking to a member of the Senior Leadership Team

All feedback will be carefully considered before a final decision is made.

Thank You

We understand that any changes related to the care and education of your child must be handled with sensitivity, respect, and clear communication. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for taking the time to share your views.

Yours sincerely,

Nicola Cryer



Headteacher