

Lowerhouses CE Primary School



CCTV Policy

Approved – November 2024
Review – November 2027

1. Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Policy

- 1.1 Lowerhouses CE Primary School uses closed circuit television (CCTV) images to reduce crime and monitor the school buildings in order to provide a safe and secure environment for pupils, staff and visitors, and to prevent the loss or damage to school property. The CCTV is not for surveillance use.
- 1.2 The system comprises of a number of fixed cameras.
- 1.3 The system does not have sound recording capability.
- 1.4 The CCTV system is owned and operated by the school and the deployment of which is determined by the school's leadership team.
- 1.5 The CCTV is monitored centrally from the Headteacher's Office.
- 1.6 The school's CCTV Scheme is registered with the Information Commissioner under the terms of GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. The use of CCTV, and the associated images and any sound recordings, is covered under GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. This policy outlines the school's use of CCTV and how it complies with the Act.
- 1.7 All authorised operators and employees with access to images are aware of the procedures that need to be followed when accessing the recorded images and sound. All operators are trained by the school data controller in their responsibilities under the CCTV Code of Practice. All employees are aware of the restrictions in relation to access to, and disclosure of, recorded images and sound. Breaches of the code of practice by staff may lead to disciplinary action and possible criminal proceedings.

2. Statement of Intent

- 2.1 The school complies with the 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.
- 2.2 CCTV warning signs will be clearly and prominently placed, including 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.
- 2.3 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.

3. Siting the Cameras

- 3.1 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 GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.
- 3.2 The school will make every effort to position cameras so that their coverage is restricted to the school premises, which may include outdoor areas.
- 3.3 CCTV will not be used in classrooms.
- 3.4 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.

4. Covert Monitoring

- 4.1 The school may in exceptional circumstances set up covert monitoring. For example:
- i) Where there is good cause to suspect that an illegal or unauthorised action(s), is taking place, or where there are grounds to suspect serious misconduct;
 - ii) Where notifying the individuals about the monitoring would seriously prejudice the reason for making the recording.
- 4.2 In these circumstances authorisation must be obtained from a member of the senior management team.
- 4.3 Covert monitoring must cease following completion of an investigation.
- 4.4 Cameras sited for the purpose of covert monitoring will not be used in areas which are reasonably expected to be private, for example toilets.

5. Storage and Retention of CCTV images

- 5.1 Recorded data will not be retained for longer than is necessary and will usually be deleted after 4 weeks unless it is recognised that it is needed for the purpose of an investigation, in which case it is retained until completion of that investigation. 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.
- 5.2 All retained data will be stored securely. When the retention period has passed, the data will be removed or erased and documented.

6. Access to CCTV images

- 6.1 Access to recorded images will be restricted to those staff authorised to view them, and will not be made more widely available, unless authorised and documented by the Headteacher, stating the reason for the authorisation (to be recorded as per form attached at Appendix D). In Lowerhouses CE Primary School only the following staff have authorisation to access CCTV images with good reason to do so: these staff have received appropriate training and been issued with the school's CCTV policy:

Name	Post Title
Rachel Shaw	Headteacher
Dan Lord	Deputy Headteacher
Debbie Mark	School Business Manager

7. Subject Access Requests (SAR)

- 7.1 Individuals have the right to request access to CCTV footage relating to themselves under GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.
- 7.2 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. All requests and action to be recorded on form attached at Appendix D.
- 7.3 The school will respond to requests within 30 calendar days of receiving the written request and fee.
- 7.4 All requests will be documented, including whom the request was from, the response received and date of response.
- 7.5 A fee of £10 will charged per request.

- 7.6 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.

8. Access to and Disclosure of Images to Third Parties

- 8.1 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).
- 8.2 Requests should be made in writing to the Headteacher and the form attached at Appendix D used.
- 8.3 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.
- 8.4 The data may also be used and shown to students and/or parents as appropriate, in relation to student disciplinary and/or suspension processes and parental complaints.

9. Complaints

- 9.1 Complaints and enquiries about the operation of CCTV within the school should be directed to the Headteacher in the first instance.

Further Information

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

- CCTV Code of Practice Revised Edition 2014 (published by the Information Commissioners Office)
- www.ico.gov.uk
- Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) 2000
- GDPR Data Protection Act 2018

Appendix A - Checklist

This CCTV system and the images produced by it are controlled by Rachel Shaw 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 under GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018).

Lowerhouses CE Primary 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. 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. We conduct an annual review of our use of CCTV.

	Checked (Date)	By	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.			
Staff named as CCTV authorised users have received appropriate training and received a copy of the school's CCTV Policy			
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 under GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 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 – GDPR & Data Protection Act 2018

GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 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 GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018

Appendix D – External Requests
Subject Access & Third Party Request Disclosure Log

NB: Please follow the Subject Access Request Policy procedures before disclosing any data

Date request received and from whom (name & organisation)	Date referred to DPO	Subject Access Request or Third Party Request	State the reason (if third party)	Date & nature of disclosure (viewing or copy of image)	Images viewed/sent (state location, date,time of original image/s and internal image reference)	The outcome if applicable