

Bedroom Monitoring Policy

Adopted by Governors: 23rd February 2023

Reviewed: January 2025

Next review: Spring 2027

Kings Mill School & Residence



What is it

The 'Alert It' system installed in selected residence bedroom can be set to monitor the individual needs of students enabling the waking night staff to respond quickly to any issue arising in-between their regular checks on the children. It is physically compact and portable and can run on its own battery or with a mains transformer. The system we use is a monitoring system which alerts staff to children in distress. It does not listen in or watch but uses pressure and moisture sensors to raise an alarm.

The monitoring system can alert staff to someone having a seizure, being wet either through enuresis or vomiting. We can use monitors to alert staff if a young person leaves the room.

Where appropriate, we use commercially available audio listening devices to alert staff to someone in distress or requiring assistance. These are for use for those children with more complex health needs.

What it cannot do and what we would not want it to do

The system cannot monitor anything visually, staff cannot listen in to the room or communicate with the children through it, nor can it record anything either visually or audibly and we would not want it to.

What we do with it

Each student who stays with us in the Residence is risk assessed for the monitoring system and we only connect the equipment we consider is required for that child. For example, if someone has a history of epilepsy and is nocturnally dry we would only install and connect the seizure monitor. For students who require only the regular, physical night staff half hourly check we would turn off the system at that bed or remove it from the room altogether.

Each piece of monitoring equipment connects to the hub by wire; if we consider that this itself poses a risk to students we would remove the whole thing from the room.

Why we ask you for permission to use it

The system we use is a monitoring system which alerts staff to children in distress it does not listen in or watch but uses pressure and moisture sensors to raise an alarm. Never-the-less it is in the child's bedroom and we would like your permission to use it only as assessed need requires.

However, the monitoring technology can be used, where appropriate, to reduce unnecessary visual checks on children who are 'light sleepers' as physically checking on some children might prove too invasive.

If you do not feel able to give your consent for the use of this technology, then it will not be used. Your child will still be monitored physically by night staff checking the room at pre-determined regular intervals.

For children / young people who lack mental capacity and are over 16 years of age, a 'best interests' decision will be sought in consultation with parents, guardians and any appropriate professionals involved in the care of the individual, to ensure that the principles of The Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019 are upheld. This ensures that our young people who lack the ability to give consent are safeguarded.

All such decisions are explicitly recorded in the young people's care planning.

Policy review and monitoring

This policy will be reviewed by the Head of Care every two years unless legislation changes and updates communicated to all staff.

Record of review/amendment

Review Date:	January 2025	Page No (Other info):	1, paragraph 2
Original:	'having a wet bed or being sick'		
Amendment:	'being wet either through enuresis or vomiting'		

Review Date:		Page No (Other info):	
Original:			
Amendment:			

Review Date:		Page No (Other info):	
Original:			
Amendment:			

Parental/Carer agreement to use the bedroom monitoring system

I /we agree / do not agree (please delete as appropriate) to the use of the bedroom monitoring system as used at the Residence at Kings Mill School.

We understand that its use is to assist staff to keep children safe and enable them to react to emergencies which may occur between the physical rounds and is not used as a surveillance system.

I/we (delete as appropriate) understand that if we do not agree to the monitoring system being used it will be removed from the bedroom when our child stays in the Residence.

For those young people over 16 and are deemed to lack Mental Capacity to give consent a best interests meeting will be sought as part of the care planning process.

Child's name: _____

Signed: _____

Print name: _____

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Print name: _____

Date: _____

Please return to Steve Miller at the Residence.

Thank you.