CCTV Policy

December 2024



This policy is informed by our Trust's vision of inspiring all - pupils, staff and our communities - to believe in their own ability in order for them to achieve the best possible outcomes, both academically and socially. By living by our values of being innovative, responsible and caring, we create powerful learning communities - positively impacting all of the Weaver Trust community.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Weaver Trust uses closed circuit television (CCTV) images for the prevention, identification and reduction of crime and to monitor Weaver Trust 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.
- 1.2 CCTV surveillance at Weaver Trust is intended for the purposes of:
 - protecting Weaver Trust buildings and school assets, both during and after school hours;
 - promoting the health and safety of staff, pupils and visitors;
 - preventing bullying;
 - reducing the incidence of crime and anti-social behaviour (including theft and vandalism);
 - supporting the Police in a bid to deter and detect crime;
 - assisting in identifying, apprehending and prosecuting offenders; and
 - ensuring that Weaver Trust rules are respected so that Weaver Trust can be properly managed.
- 1.3 The system comprises of a number of fixed cameras. (11 see site map if required).
- 1.4 The CCTV system is owned and operated by Weaver Trust and the deployment of which is determined by Weaver Trust's leadership team.
- 1.5 The CCTV can be monitored from Weaver Trust offices. This gives us 'live view'.
- 1.6 Weaver Trust's CCTV Scheme is registered with the Information Commissioner under the terms of the Data Protection Act. This policy outlines Weaver Trust'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. All operators are trained 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.
- 1.8 Weaver Trust 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.

- 1.9 The use of the CCTV system will be conducted in a professional, ethical and legal manner and any diversion of the use of CCTV security technologies for other purposes is prohibited by this policy e.g. CCTV will not be used for monitoring employee performance.
- 1.10 CCTV monitoring of public areas for security purposes will be conducted in a manner consistent with all existing policies adopted by Weaver Trust including, including Equality, Information and Objectives, Antibullying and Professional Relations.

2. Justification for Use of CCTV

- 2.1 The use of CCTV to control the perimeter of Weaver Trust buildings for security purposes has been deemed to be justified by the leadership team/governors. The system is intended to capture images of intruders or of individuals damaging property or removing goods without authorisation or of antisocial behaviour.
- 2.2 CCTV systems will not be used to monitor normal teacher/student classroom activity in the schools.
- 2.3 In other areas of Weaver Trust where CCTV has been installed, e.g. Weaver Trust offices and Reception areas, Weaver Trust has demonstrated that there is a proven risk to security and/or health & safety and that the installation of CCTV is proportionate in addressing such issues that may have arisen prior to the installation of the system.

3. Data Protection Impact Assessments

- 3.1 Where new CCTV systems or cameras are to be installed, Weaver Trust will carry out a full Data Protection Impact Assessment identifying risks related to the installation and ensuring full compliance with data protection legislation. This may involve the need for consultation with staff, parents and local residents.
- 3.2 Where existing CCTV systems are in operation as of May 2018, Weaver Trust will endeavour to carry out a full Data Protection Impact Assessment on any upgrade or replacement of the system or within a 3-year period from the date of the implementation of UKGDPR, whichever is sooner. (May 2021 unless changes are made before this).

4. Location of Cameras

- 4.1 Cameras will be sited so they only capture images relevant to the purposes for which they are installed and care will be taken to ensure that reasonable privacy expectations are not violated.
- 4.2 Weaver Trust will ensure that the location of equipment is carefully considered to ensure that images captured comply with the Data Protection Act. Weaver Trust will make every effort to position cameras so that their coverage is restricted to Weaver Trust premises, which may include outdoor areas.
- 4.3 CCTV will not be used in classrooms.
- 4.4 Use of CCTV to monitor areas where individuals would have a reasonable expectation of privacy would be difficult to justify. Weaver Trust has endeavoured to select locations for the installation of CCTV cameras which are least intrusive to protect the privacy of individuals.

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- 4.5 Cameras placed so as to record external areas are positioned in such a way as to prevent or minimise recording of passers-by or of another person's private property.
- 4.6 CCTV Video Monitoring and Recording of Public Areas may take place for the following purposes:
 - **Protection of School Buildings and Property:** The building's perimeter, entrances and exits, lobbies and corridors, special storage areas, office locations, receiving areas for goods/services
 - Monitoring of Access Control Systems: Monitor and record restricted access areas at entrances to buildings and other areas
 - Verification of Security Alarms: Intrusion alarms, exit door controls, external alarms
 - Video Patrol of Public Areas: Parking areas, Main entrance/exit gates, Traffic Control
 - Criminal Investigations (carried out by police): Robbery, burglary and theft surveillance

5. Covert Surveillance

5.1 Weaver Trust will not engage in covert surveillance.

6. Notification

- 6.1 A copy of this CCTV Policy will be provided on request to staff, students, parents and visitors to Weaver Trust and will be made available on Weaver Trust website.
- 6.2 The location of CCTV cameras will also be indicated and adequate signage will be placed at each location in which a CCTV camera(s) is sited to indicate that CCTV is in operation.
- 6.3 Adequate signage will also be prominently displayed at the entrance to Weaver Trust property. Signage shall include the name and contact details of the data controller as well as the specific purpose(s) for which the CCTV camera is in place in each location.
- 6.4 Appropriate locations for signage will include:
 - at entrances to premises i.e. external doors, school gates
 - reception area
 - at or close to each internal camera

7. Storage and Retention

- 7.1 The images captured by the CCTV system will be retained for a maximum of 28 days, except where the image identifies an issue and is retained specifically in the context of an investigation/prosecution of that issue.
- 7.2 The images/recordings will be stored in a secure environment with a log of access kept. Access is restricted to authorised personnel.
- 7.3 Access will be restricted to authorised personnel. Supervising the access and maintenance of the CCTV Systems is the responsibility of the school Headteachers. The Headteachers may delegate the administration of the CCTV System to another staff member.

- 7.4 In certain circumstances, the recordings may also be viewed by other individuals, including police and other investigatory authorities, in order to achieve the objectives, set out above. When CCTV recordings are being viewed, access will be limited to authorised individuals on a need-to-know basis. A record will be kept of who has accessed the recording and any additional actions needed.
- 7.5 Files/Tapes/DVDs will be stored in a secure environment with a log of access to tapes kept. Access will be restricted to authorised personnel. Similar measures will be employed when using disk storage, with automatic logs of access to the images created.

8. Access

- 8.1 Recorded footage and the monitoring equipment will be securely stored in a restricted area. Unauthorised access to that area will not be permitted at any time. The area will be locked when not occupied by authorised personnel. A log of access to footage will be maintained.
- 8.2 Access to the CCTV system and stored images will be restricted to authorised personnel only.
- 8.3 When accessing images two authorised members of staff must be present. A written record of access will be made. Records of access will be kept.
- A record of the date of any disclosure request along with details of who the information has been provided to (the name of the person and the organisation they represent), why they required it and how the request was dealt with will be made and kept, in case of challenge.
- 8.5 Data will be provided to those requests authorised in a permanent format where possible. If this is not possible the data subject will be offered the opportunity to view the footage.
- 8.6 In relevant circumstances, CCTV footage may be accessed:
 - By the police where Weaver Trust (or its agents) are required by law to make a report regarding the commission of a suspected crime; or
 - Following a request by the police when a crime or suspected crime has taken place and/or when it is suspected that illegal/anti-social behaviour is taking place on Weaver Trust property, or
 - To the HSE and/or any other statutory body charged with child safeguarding; or
 - To assist the Headteachers in establishing facts in cases of unacceptable student behaviour, in which case, the parents/guardians will be informed; or
 - To data subjects (or their legal representatives), pursuant to a Subject Access Request or
 - To individuals (or their legal representatives) subject to a court order.
 - To Weaver Trust insurance company where the insurance company requires same in order to pursue a claim for damage done to the insured property.

9. Subject Access Requests (SAR)

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

- 9.2 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.
- 9.3 Weaver Trust will respond to requests within 30 calendar days of receiving the request in line with Weaver Trust's right of access policy.
- 9.4 Weaver Trust reserves the right to refuse access to CCTV footage where this would prejudice the legal rights of other individuals or jeopardise an on-going investigation.
- 9.5 A record of the date of the disclosure along with details of who the information has been provided to (the name of the person and the organisation they represent) and why they required it will be made.
- 9.6 In giving a person a copy of their data, Weaver Trust provide a still/series of still pictures, a tape or a disk with relevant images. However, other images of other individuals will be obscured before the data is released.
- 9.7 Where footage contains images relating to 3rd parties, Weaver Trust will take appropriate steps to mask and protect the identities of those individuals.

10. Complaints

10.1 Complaints and enquiries about the operation of CCTV within Weaver Trust should be directed to the Headteachers in the first instance.

11. Staff Training

- 11.1 Staff authorised to access the CCTV system will be trained to comply with this policy. Staff will understand that all information relating to the CCTV images must be handled securely.
- 11.2 Staff will receive appropriate training to enable them to identify and handle different requests according to regulations.
- 11.3 Staff misuse of surveillance system information will lead to disciplinary proceedings.

12. Responsibilities

- 12.1 The Headteachers (or nominated deputy) will:
 - Ensure that the use of CCTV systems is implemented in accordance with the policy set down by Weaver Trust
 - Oversee and co-ordinate the use of CCTV monitoring for safety and security purposes within Weaver Trust
 - Ensure that all existing CCTV monitoring systems will be evaluated for compliance with this policy
 - Ensure that the CCTV monitoring at Weaver Trust is consistent with the highest standards and protections
 - Review camera locations and be responsible for the release of any information or recorded CCTV materials stored in compliance with this policy

- Maintain a record of access (e.g. an access log) to or the release of tapes or any material recorded or stored in the system
- Ensure that monitoring recorded tapes are not duplicated for release
- Ensure that the perimeter of view from fixed location cameras conforms to this policy both internally and externally
- Give consideration to both students and staff feedback/complaints regarding possible invasion of privacy or confidentiality due to the location of a particular CCTV camera or associated equipment
- Ensure that all areas being monitored are not in breach of an enhanced expectation of the privacy of individuals within Weaver Trust and be mindful that no such infringement is likely to take place
- Co-operate with the Health & Safety Officer of Weaver Trust in reporting on the CCTV system in operation in Weaver Trust
- Ensure that external cameras are non-intrusive in terms of their positions and views of neighbouring residential housing and comply with the principle of "Reasonable Expectation of Privacy"
- Ensure that monitoring footage are stored in a secure place with access by authorised personnel only
- Ensure that images recorded on tapes/DVDs/digital recordings are stored for a period not longer than <u>28</u> days and are then erased unless required as part of a criminal investigation or court proceedings (criminal or civil).
- Ensure that when a zoom facility on a camera is being used, there is a second person present with the operator of the camera to guarantee that there is no unwarranted invasion of privacy
- Ensure that camera control is solely to monitor suspicious behaviour, criminal damage etc. and not to monitor individual characteristics
- Ensure that camera control is not infringing an individual's reasonable expectation of privacy in public areas

Approved by:				
	Chair of Trust	CEO		
Date:				