



Reviewed: July 2024

Next Review: July 2027

CCTV Policy

At Bewdley Primary School, we take our responsibility towards the safety of staff, visitors and pupils very seriously. The school uses Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras to monitor members of our school community and visitors for the security and protection of staff, students and visitors to the premises.

The CCTV system is owned and operated by Bewdley Primary School and no other third parties will have direct access to the contents recorded (except police, upon request).

The purpose of this policy is to manage and regulate the use of the surveillance and CCTV systems at the school and ensure that:

- We comply with the UK GDPR.
- The images that are captured are useable for the purposes we require them for.
- We reassure those persons whose images are being captured, that the images are being handled in accordance with data protection legislation.

This policy covers the use of surveillance and CCTV systems which capture moving and still images of people who could be identified, as well as information relating to individuals for any of the following purposes:

- Maintain a safe environment.
- Ensure the welfare of pupils, staff and visitors.
- Deter criminal acts against persons and property.
- Assist the police in identifying persons who have committed an offence.

Purpose and justification

The school will only use CCTV for the safety and security of the school and its staff, pupils and visitors. The school will only conduct surveillance as a deterrent and under no circumstances will the surveillance and the CCTV cameras be present in school classrooms, toilets or any changing facility. If the surveillance and CCTV systems fulfil their purpose and are no longer required, the school will deactivate them.

Security

Access to the surveillance system, software and data will be strictly limited to authorised operators, and will be password protected, and where appropriate, will be encrypted.

In exceptional cases where large amounts of information need to be collected and retained, the school will consider using cloud storage. This will be secure and only accessible to authorised individuals.

The school's authorised CCTV system operators are:

- Amanda Bradley, Headteacher
- Jacqui Bennett, Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Mark Ward, Caretaker

Code of practice

The school understands that recording images of identifiable individuals constitutes as processing personal information, so it is done in line with data protection principles.

The school notifies all pupils, staff and visitors of the purpose for collecting surveillance data via notice boards, signs, letters and emails.

CCTV cameras are only placed where they do not intrude on anyone's privacy and are necessary to fulfil their purpose.

The school has a surveillance system for the purpose of the prevention and detection of crime and the promotion of the health, safety and welfare of staff, pupils and visitors.

The surveillance and CCTV system is owned by the school and images from the system are strictly controlled and monitored by authorised personnel only.

The school will ensure that the surveillance and CCTV system is used to create a safer environment for staff, pupils and visitors to the school, and to ensure that its operation is consistent with the obligations outlined in data protection legislation.

The surveillance and CCTV system will:

- Be designed to take into account its effect on individuals and their privacy and personal data.
- Have clear responsibility and accountability procedures for images and information collected, held and used.
- Have defined policies and procedures in place which are communicated throughout the school.
- Only keep images and information for as long as required.
- Restrict access to retained images and information with clear rules on who can gain access.
- Consider all operational, technical and competency standards, relevant to the surveillance and CCTV system and its purpose, and work to meet and maintain those standards in accordance with the law.
- Be subject to stringent security measures to safeguard against unauthorised access.
- Be regularly reviewed and audited to ensure that policies and standards are maintained.
- Only be used for the purposes for which it is intended, including supporting public safety, the protection of pupils, staff and volunteers, and law enforcement.
- Be accurate and well maintained to ensure information is up-to-date.

Review of CCTV footage can only be authorised by the headteacher/assistant headteacher and will be documented along with the purpose at the time of authorisation.