



CCTV Policy

Name of Headteacher:	Tom Johnston
Date Policy approved and adopted:	Mar 2026
Date Due for review:	Mar 2027

Equality at Merdon Junior School

Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school. (See Initial Equality Impact Assessment)

CCTV POLICY

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1. Introduction

This policy is to regulate the management, operation and use of the CCTV scheme at Merdon Junior School.

2. Purposes of the CCTV Scheme

The school's use of CCTV must only be for specified purposes which are in the pursuit of legitimate aims and are necessary to meet an identified pressing need. The specified purposes for the school's use of CCTV are:

- For security and safety reasons
- To protect school property and assets

3. The guiding principles of the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice

The school adopts the guiding principles in the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice which are as follows:

1. Use of a surveillance camera system must always be for a specified purpose which is in pursuit of a legitimate aim and necessary to meet an identified pressing need.
2. The user of a surveillance camera system must take into account its effect on individuals and their privacy, with regular reviews to ensure its use remains justified.
3. There must be as much transparency in the use of a surveillance camera system as possible, including a published contact point for access to information and complaints.
4. There must be clear responsibility and accountability for all surveillance camera system activities including images and information collected, held and used.
5. Clear rules, policies and procedures must be in place before a surveillance camera system is used, and these must be communicated to all who need to comply with them.
6. No more images and information should be stored than that which is strictly required for the stated purpose of a surveillance camera system, and such images and information should be deleted once their purposes have been discharged.
7. Access to retained images and information should be restricted and there must be clearly defined rules on who can gain access and for what purpose such access is granted; the disclosure of images and information should only take place when it is necessary for such a purpose or for law enforcement purposes.

8. Surveillance camera system operators should consider any approved operational, technical and competency standards relevant to a system and its purpose and work to meet and maintain those standards.

9. Surveillance camera system images and information should be subject to appropriate security measures to safeguard against unauthorised access and use.

10. There should be effective review and audit mechanisms to ensure legal requirements, policies and standards are complied with in practice, and regular reports should be published.

11. When the use of a surveillance camera system is in pursuit of a legitimate aim, and there is a pressing need for its use, it should then be used in the most effective way to support public safety and law enforcement with the aim of processing images and information of evidential value.

12. Any information used to support a surveillance camera system which compares against a reference database for matching purposes should be accurate and kept up to date

In addition, the school will ensure that its use of CCTV complies with data protection legislation (including the UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018).

4. Details about the CCTV system

- The system comprises of *fixed cameras located around the school site*.
- The CCTV system will operate between the hours of 4pm and 7am. *Recording will, as practically possible, be restricted to those times of day only.*
- The system does not have sound recording enabled
- The site manager will be responsible for the day to day operation of the system.
- The school's Data Protection Officer will be responsible for monitoring compliance with this policy.

5. Operation of the CCTV system (including location)

- The system used produces clear images and these images can easily be taken from the system when required
- The cameras have been sited so they provide clear images
- The cameras have been positioned to avoid capturing the images of persons not visiting the school
- The location of cameras have been carefully considered. Cameras are restricted to only monitor areas required under the scheme. Cameras will not be positioned in areas where there is a particularly high expectation of privacy e.g. toilets and changing rooms.
- Recorded material will be stored in a way that maintains the integrity of images.

- Regular checks are carried out to ensure that the system is working properly and produces high quality images. Checks should be made that data is being deleted at the end of the retention period.
- Viewing of any live monitors must be restricted to the operator. Viewing of recorded images should take place in a restricted area to which only authorised staff have access to.
- The images from the CCTV system are securely stored where only a limited number of authorised persons may have access to them
- Where cameras store data, the data stored will be encrypted in order to prevent viewing should any unauthorised removal/theft occur.

6. Signs and privacy notices

Individuals have the right to be informed about the use of their data including any CCTV images of them. The school will ensure that where cameras are in use clear signage is put in place so that members of the public and staff are aware that they are entering an area that is monitored by cameras. The school will ensure that the signs are clearly visible and confirm that the school is responsible for the CCTV scheme, the purpose of the scheme, include contact details and where further information can be found.

The school's privacy notice which covers its use of CCTV can be found at www.merdon.hants.sch.uk

7. Storage and Retention

The school will retain the data for no longer than *30 days* (except where it is necessary to retain specific data for longer for example for the purposes of an ongoing investigation).

The data will be stored securely at all times, and in line with the retention period. The data will be erased permanently and securely at the end of the retention period.

8. Staff training

Staff using camera systems will have appropriate training. Staff will be trained in their responsibilities under this policy and related policies and procedures and should be aware of the security and disclosure procedures for the scheme and the rights of individuals regarding their recorded images.

9. Requests for CCTV footage

(a) Data subject requests

Individuals have certain legal rights in respect of their personal data including their CCTV images. The rights that will be most relevant to CCTV use will be:

- **Right of access** (i.e. data subject wishes to access their CCTV images)
- **Right to object** (i.e. data subject objects to the use of CCTV capturing their image)

- **Right to be forgotten** (i.e. data subject wishes to have their CCTV footage erased)

Any data subject requests in respect of CCTV footage, will be dealt with in accordance with the school's data subject requests process details of which can be found at: www.merdon.hants.sch.uk.

(b) Freedom of Information requests

As the school is a public authority for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 it may receive FOI requests for CCTV footage. The school will deal with any FOI requests concerning CCTV in accordance with its FOI procedure.

10. Review

The school's use of CCTV will be reviewed annually.

This policy shall be reviewed annually and updated as required.

11. Complaints and concerns

Any complaints or concerns about the school's use of CCTV should be sent to:

Data Protection Officer

Merdon Junior School

Merdon Avenue

Chandlers Ford

Eastleigh

SO53 1EJ

Telephone: 02380 265255

E-mail: The Data Protection Officer dpo@merdonschool.co.uk

12. Related policies and procedures

Freedom of Information policy,

Data Subject Requests process

CCTV privacy notice

General privacy notice

Evaluation and Review

Date of Ratification	March 2026
Date for Next Review	March 2027
Comments: New Policy to review	