

CCTV POLICY

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Date for review:	September 2027
Lead for review:	Deputy Head Pastoral & Boarding
Approved by	Headteacher

Introduction

Guildhouse school has in place a CCTV surveillance system on site: “the CCTV system”. This policy details the purpose, use and management of the CCTV system within Guildhouse School and details the procedures to be followed in order to ensure that Guildhouse School complies with relevant legislation and the current Information Commissioner’s Office Code of Practice.

Guildhouse School, and in extension: CATS Global Schools, has due regard to the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA), the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012, the Human Rights Act 1998 and other relevant data protection and privacy legislation. Although not a relevant authority, Guildhouse School pays due regard to the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice, issued under the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 and in particular the 16 guiding principles¹ it contains.

This policy is based upon guidance issued by the Information Commissioner’s Office, found within the organisations information section of the official ICO site ²

As per article 6 of the UK GDPR act, the lawful basis for capture and recording of information pertaining to individuals within the site falls within the bounds of the interest of safeguarding and monitoring for the safety of students and staff alike

This policy and associated procedures, applies to all of Guildhouse School’s CCTV systems that are capturing images of identifiable individuals for the purpose of viewing and or recording the activities of such individuals. CCTV images are monitored and recorded in strict accordance with this policy.

This policy applies to all employees, officers, consultants, self-employed contractors, casual workers, agency workers, volunteers and interns. It also applies to anyone visiting our premises or using our vehicles.

A breach of this policy may, in appropriate circumstances, be treated as a disciplinary matter. Following investigation, a breach of this policy may be regarded as misconduct leading to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

CCTV System overview

The Guildhouse School CCTV system is owned and managed by CGS and CGS is the ‘data controller’ for the images produced by the CCTV system. CGS is registered with the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO). The CCTV system operates to meet the

requirements of the Data Protection Act and the Information Commissioner's Guidance.

The IT Director is responsible for the overall management and operation of the CCTV system, including activities relating to installations, recording, reviewing, monitoring and ensuring compliance with this policy. Suggestions for changes to this policy should be reported to CGS's Data Protection Officer (DPO@catsglobalschools.com). Signs are placed at in prominent locations in order to inform staff, students, visitors and members of the public that CCTV is in operation. The signage clearly indicates that the system is managed by CGS and a contact email address is provided for the Data Protection Officer.

The IT Director is responsible for ensuring that adequate signage is erected in compliance with the Information Commissioner's Guidance, in collaboration with the Head of Operations.

Cameras are situated to ensure that they cover entrances, exits and vulnerable public-facing areas of Guildhouse School's educational and residential premises.

As far as possible, cameras are not positioned to focus on private residential areas and cameras situated in Guildhouse School accommodation focus on entrances and communal areas. They are not sited in private areas, washrooms or changing rooms.

The CCTV system is operational and is capable of recording for 24 hours a day, every day of the year. There is a PC-based client to enable recordings to be viewed by authorised personnel.

Any proposed new CCTV installation is subject to a data protection impact assessment.

Further information regarding the number and location of CCTV cameras is available from the IT Director via the Data Protection Officer: DPO@catsglobalschools.com.

Purposes of the CCTV system

We currently use the CCTV system as outlined below. We believe such use is necessary for legitimate business purposes including:

- for the safety of staff, students and visitors;

- to assist in the investigation of suspected breaches of policy or regulations by staff, visitors or students;
- to assist in day-to-day management, including ensuring the health and safety of staff and others;
- for the prevention, reduction, detection and investigation of crime and other incidents; and
- to support law enforcement bodies in the prevention, detection and prosecution of crime.

This list is not exhaustive and other purposes may be or become relevant.

The CCTV system will be used to investigate any welfare, safety or security incidents that are reported and which may require review of CCTV footage.

Guildhouse School operates its CCTV system in a manner that is consistent with respect for individuals' privacy.

Monitoring and Recording

Images are recorded on cameras with localised recording capabilities and are viewable in accommodation and welfare service areas by authorised accommodation and welfare staff.

Cameras may be monitored overnight by authorised accommodation and welfare supervisors, when accommodation is in use, to ensure student safety and adherence to college rules. Additional staff may be authorised by the Principal/Rector in liaison with the

IT Director to monitor cameras sited within their own areas of responsibility on a view-only basis.

The cameras installed provide images that are of suitable quality for the specified purposes for which they are installed, and all cameras are checked regularly to ensure that the images remain fit for purpose and that the date and time stamp recorded on the images is accurate.

All images recorded by the CCTV System remain the property and copyright of CATS Global Schools.

The monitoring of staff activities will be carried out in accordance with the ICO's guidance on monitoring workers³.

It is not currently the policy of Guildhouse School to use covert cameras. Should the need arise, any such request for the use of covert cameras will clearly state the purpose and reasons for use and the approval of the Head of HR will be sought before the installation of any covert cameras. The Head of HR should be satisfied that all other reasonable methods of prevention have been exhausted prior to the use of covert recording. Covert recording would only take place if informing the individual(s) concerned would seriously prejudice the reason for making the recording and where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that illegal or unauthorised activity is taking place. All such monitoring will be fully documented and will only take place for a limited and reasonable period.

CCTV systems will not be used to record sound.

Students must not use their own independent private surveillance equipment, CCTV cameras, video monitoring devices, video doorbells or other video/audio capturing devices.

Students must not record (video, audio, photograph) other students, staff or visitors without their express knowledge and permission to do so.

Compliance with Data Protection Legislation

In its administration of its CCTV system, due regard will be given to the data protection principles which provide that personal data shall be:

- a. processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner.
- b. collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes.
- c. adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed.
- d. accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date.
- e. kept in a form which permits identification of the data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed, and:
- f. processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorized or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.

Applications for disclosure of images

Applications by individual data subjects

Requests by individual data subjects for images relating to themselves – a “Subject Access Request” should be submitted in writing to the Data Protection Officer

DPO@catsglobalschools.com or to the HR Department HR@catsglobalschools.com together with proof of identification.

In order to locate the images on the CCTV system, sufficient detail must be provided by the data subject in order to allow the relevant images to be located and the data subject to be identified.

Where Guildhouse School is unable to comply with a Subject Access Request without disclosing the personal data of another individual who is identified or identifiable from that information, it is not obliged to comply with the request unless satisfied that the individual has provided their express consent to the disclosure, or if it is reasonable, having regard to the circumstances, to comply without the consent of the individual.

Access to and disclosure of images to third parties

A request for images made by a third party can be made verbally or in writing to Guildhouse School. Any access requests must be approved by a member of the senior leadership team (SLT) before the decision to disclose the information can be made.

In limited circumstances it may be appropriate to disclose images to a third party, such as when a disclosure is required by law, in relation to the detection or prosecution of a crime or in other circumstances where an exemption applies under relevant legislation.

Such disclosures will be made at the discretion of a member of SLT, with reference to relevant legislation and where necessary, following advice from the Data Protection Officer.

Where a suspicion of misconduct arises and at the formal request of the Head of HR, the IT Director may provide access to CCTV images for use in staff disciplinary cases.

A member of SLT may provide access to recorded CCTV images when required as evidence in relation to student discipline cases, if deemed necessary at the request of a staff member.

A record of any disclosure made under this policy will be logged by the IT Technician, itemising the date, time, camera, requestor, authoriser and reason for the disclosure.

Retention of images

Unless required for evidential purposes, the investigation of an offence or as required by law, CCTV images will be retained for no longer than 14 days from the date of recording.

Where an image is required to be held in excess of 14 days, the IT Director or their nominated deputy, will be responsible for authorising such a request with regard to student-related incidents. The Head of HR or their nominated deputy will be responsible for authorising requests to retain information relating to staff incidents.

Images held in excess of 14 days will be reviewed on a three-monthly basis and any not required for evidential purposes will be deleted. Once an investigation and any further appeals have been fully completed, footage will be deleted from its offline storage area.

Access to retained CCTV images is restricted to the IT Director and other persons as required and as authorised by the IT Director.

Complaints procedure

For complaints concerning Guildhouse's use of its CCTV system or the disclosure of CCTV images, the Data Protection Officer for CATS Global Schools is to be contacted via dpo@catsglobalschools.com

Requests are to be acknowledged within 30 days, and the outcome of investigation communicated to the individual reaching out the Data Protection body.

Monitoring Compliance

All staff involved in the operation of the CCTV system will be made aware of this policy and will only be authorised to use the CCTV system in a way that is consistent with the purposes and procedures contained therein.

All staff with responsibility for accessing, recording, disclosing or otherwise processing CCTV images will be required to undertake data protection training.

Policy review

Guildhouse School and in extension, CGS's use of the CCTV system and the content of this policy, shall be reviewed annually by the IT Director with reference to the relevant legislation or guidance in effect at the time. Further reviews will take place as required by changes in circumstance.

Resources

1 Surveillance Camera Code of Practice Pursuant to Section 31 (3) of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/619b7b50e90e07044a559c9b/Surveillance_Camera_CoP_Accessible_PDF.pdf

2 Information for organisations as per ICO's Guidance

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/>

3 Employment practices and data protection: monitoring workers

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/uk-gdpr-guidance-and-resources/employment/monitoring-workers/>



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