

## CCTV POLICY

### DATE PALM STATEMENT of INTENT

At Date Palm our vision is for the School to ensure our pupils grow like a Date Palm tree – with **strong foundations, lofty branches and produce fresh fruit:**

- ✓ To build **Strong Foundations for Character Development** that:  
Instil values; inspire each pupil; display best manners.
- ✓ To have **Lofty Branches of Educational Excellence** that will:  
Provide a broad and varied range of experiences and learning opportunities; help each pupil progress and develop in all aspects; support their skills and talents.
- ✓ To produce **Fresh Fruit that provides services to their Communities** in order to:  
Become responsible and confident citizens; make a positive difference; commit to charitable endeavours; become effective contributors towards Britain’s future.

Reviewed by	Position	Signature
Afsana Khanam	Deputy Head / DSL	
Saira Karim	Assistant Head	
Sabina Yesmin	Safeguarding Governor	
Kamrul Islam	Data Protection Officer	

<b>Reviewed:</b> June 2023
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<b>Next review date:</b> June 2026
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# CCTV Policy

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## Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to regulate the management, operation and use of the closed-circuit television (CCTV) system at Date Palm Primary School, hereafter referred to as 'the School'.

The system comprises of a total of 29 fixed cameras which are located at the main entrance, outdoor space and common areas of both school buildings. All cameras are monitored from a Central Control point and are only available to selected senior staff members.

This policy follows Data Protection Act guidelines.

The CCTV system is owned by and was installed by the school.

## Objectives of the CCTV scheme

- To protect pupils and staff in the school
- To protect the school buildings and their assets
- To deter potential criminal offenders
- To increase personal safety and reduce the fear of crime
- To assist in identifying, apprehending and prosecuting offenders
- To protect members of the public and private property
- To assist in managing the school

## Statement of intent

The CCTV Scheme is registered with the Information Commissioner under the terms of the Data Protection Act 2018 and will seek to comply with the requirements both of the Data Protection Act and the Commissioner's Code of Practice along with GDPR. Date Palm will treat the system and all information, documents and recordings obtained and used as data which are protected by the Act.

Cameras will be used to monitor activities within the school, the grounds and other public areas to identify criminal activity actually occurring, anticipated, or perceived, and for the purpose of securing the safety and well-being of pupils and staff, together with its visitors.

Static cameras are not to focus on private homes, gardens and other areas of private property. Materials or knowledge secured as a result of CCTV will not be used for any commercial purposes..



Building foundations for life

Copies of incidents will only be released to the media for use in the investigation of a specific crime and with the written authority of the police. Copies of incidents will never be released to the media for purposes of entertainment.

The planning and design have endeavoured to ensure that the CCTV system will give maximum effectiveness and efficiency, but it is not possible to guarantee that the system will cover or detect every single incident taking place in the areas of coverage.

Information signs, as required by the Code of Practice of the Information Commissioner have been placed at various points around the school.

## Operation and maintenance of the system

The CCTV system will be administered and managed by the Head teacher.

The day-to-day management will be the responsibility of the Deputy Head of School.

The Control Point will only be staffed by a member of the management team.

The CCTV system will be operated 24 hours each day, every day of the year.

Cameras are focused on the main entrance areas and other common areas within the school building. Cameras are NOT located in any discrete areas such as toilets and changing rooms.

## Control Point

The Head teacher or appointed associate of the school will check and confirm the efficiency of the system daily and, in particular, check that the equipment is properly recording and that cameras are functional.

Access to the CCTV controls will be strictly limited to nominated staff and password-protected.

## Monitoring procedures

Camera surveillance can be maintained at all times.

There is one monitor point in the admin office and one outside the Management office.

When reviewing any incidents, no one other than authorised personnel should be present when reviewing any CCTV footage.

## **Recording procedures**

No one other than authorised personnel should be present when a recording is made, or when an incident is viewed.

Recordings may be viewed by the Police for the prevention and detection of crime and by authorised officers of Tower Hamlets Council for supervisory purposes.

A record will be maintained of the release of recordings to the Police or other authorised applicants.

Requests by the Police can only be actioned under section 29 of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Should a recording be required as evidence, a copy may be released to the Police under the procedures described in paragraph

Recordings will only be released to the Police on the clear understanding that it remains the property of the school, and both the recording and information contained on it are to be treated in accordance with this policy. The school also retains the right to refuse permission for the Police to pass to any other person the tape or any part of the information contained therein. On occasions when a court requires the release of an original recording, this will be provided by the school.

Recordings are only held for a period of 5 weeks and automatically deleted at this time by the system program.

Applications received from outside bodies (e.g. solicitors) to view or release recordings will be referred to the Head of the school. In these circumstances recordings will normally be released where satisfactory documentary evidence is produced showing that they are required for legal proceedings, a subject access request, or in response to a Court Order. A fee can be charged in such circumstances.

## **Training**

Training will be given to those individuals that have been chosen by the Head of the school to monitor and or replay incidents.

## **Breaches of the code (including breaches of security)**

Any breach of the CCTV policy by school staff will be initially investigated by the Head of the school, in order for her to take any appropriate disciplinary action.

Any serious breach of the CCTV policy will be immediately investigated and an independent investigation carried out to make recommendations on how to remedy the breach.

## **Complaints**

Any complaints about the school's CCTV system should be addressed to the Head of the school.

Complaints will be investigated in accordance with Section 10 of this policy.

## **Access by the Data Subject**

The Data Protection Act provides Data Subjects (individuals to whom "personal data" relate) with a right to data held about themselves, including those obtained by CCTV.

Requests for Data Subject Access should be made in writing to the Head of the school.

## **Public information**

Copies of this policy will be available to the public from the school website and the school office.