



Patrician Presentation Secondary School

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"Our mission is to encourage all pupils to reach their potential in a caring and Christian environment"

School Policy on CCTV System and Data Management

A Closed Circuit Television System (CCTV) is installed in Patrician Presentation Secondary School under the remit of the Board of Management.

PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to regulate the use of CCTV and its associated technology in the monitoring of both the internal and external environs of the premises under the remit of the Board of Management.

A CCTV system is installed both internally and externally on the premises for the purpose of enhancing security of the building and its associated equipment as well as creating a mindfulness among the occupants, at any one time, that a surveillance security system is in operation within and/or in the external environs of the premises during both the daylight and night hours each day. CCTV surveillance at the school is intended for the purposes of:

- protecting the school 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 Gardaí in a bid to deter and detect crime;
- assisting in identifying, apprehending and prosecuting offenders;
- ensuring that the school rules are respected so that the school can be properly managed.

SCOPE

This policy relates directly to the location and use of CCTV and the monitoring, recording and subsequent use of such recorded material.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The Board of Management, as the corporate body, has a statutory responsibility for the protection of school property and equipment as well as providing a sense of security to its employees, students and invitees to its premises. Patrician Presentation Secondary School owes a duty of care under the provisions of Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 and associated legislation and utilises the CCTV system and its associated monitoring and recording equipment as an added mode of security and surveillance for the purpose of enhancing the quality of life of the school community by integrating the best practices governing the public and private surveillance of its premises.

The primary aim of the CCTV system in Patrician Presentation Secondary School is to deter crime and vandalism and to assist in the protection and safety of the said property and its associated equipment and materials.

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.

Information obtained through the CCTV system may only be released when authorised by the Principal, following consultation with the Chairperson of the Board of Management.

CCTV monitoring of public areas for security purposes will be conducted in a manner consistent with all existing policies adopted by the Board of Management, including the provisions set down in Equality and other Education-related legislation.

This policy prohibits monitoring based on the characteristics and classifications contained in equality and other related legislation e.g. race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability etc.

Video monitoring of public areas for security purposes within the school premises is limited to uses that do not violate the individual's reasonable expectation to privacy.

Information obtained in violation of this policy may not be used in a disciplinary proceeding against an employee of the school or a student attending the school.

All CCTV systems and associated equipment will be required to be compliant with this policy following its adoption. Recognisable images captured by CCTV systems are 'personal data'. They are therefore subject to the provisions of the Data Protection Acts 1988, 2003 and 2018.

JUSTIFICATION FOR USE OF CCTV

Section 2(1)(c)(iii) of the Data Protection Act requires that data is 'adequate, relevant and not excessive' for the purpose for which it is collected. This means that the Board of Management of Patrician Presentation Secondary School needs to be able to justify the obtaining and use of personal data by means of a CCTV system. The use of CCTV to control the perimeter of the school buildings for security purposes has been deemed to be justified by the Board of Management. The system is intended to capture images of intruders or of individuals damaging property or removing goods without authorisation.

The CCTV system will not be used to monitor normal teacher/student classroom activity in school.

In other areas of the school where CCTV has been installed, e.g. hallways, the Principal 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 have arisen prior to the installation of the system.

LOCATION OF CAMERAS

The location of cameras is a key consideration. Use of CCTV to monitor areas where individuals would have a reasonable expectation of privacy would be difficult to justify. The Board of Management has endeavoured to select locations for the installation of CCTV cameras which are least intrusive to protect the privacy of individuals. 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.

CCTV Video Monitoring and Recording of Public Areas in Patrician Presentation Secondary School may include the following:

- Protection of school buildings and property: The building's perimeter, entrances and exits, lobby and corridor, receiving area for goods/services.
- Monitoring of Access Control Systems: Monitor and record restricted access areas at entrances to building 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 An Garda Síochána): Robbery, burglary and theft surveillance.

COVERT SURVEILLANCE

The Board of Management of Patrician Presentation Secondary School will not engage in covert surveillance.

Where An Garda Síochána requests to carry out covert surveillance on school premises, such covert surveillance may require the consent of a judge. Accordingly, any such request made by An Garda Síochána will be requested in writing and the school may seek legal advice.

NOTIFICATION – SIGNAGE

The Principal will provide a copy of this CCTV policy on request to staff, parents and visitors to the school. This policy describes the purpose and location of CCTV monitoring, a contact number for those wishing to discuss CCTV monitoring and guidelines for its use. The location of CCTV cameras will also be indicated to the Board of Management. Adequate signage will be placed at each location in which a CCTV camera is sited to indicate that CCTV is in operation. Adequate signage will also be prominently displayed at the entrance to Patrician Presentation Secondary School property.

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

STORAGE & RETENTION

Section 2(1)(c)(iv) of the Data Protection Act states that data ‘shall not be kept for longer than is necessary’ for the purposes for which it was obtained. A data controller needs to be able to justify this retention period. For a normal CCTV security system, it would be difficult to justify retention beyond a month (28 days), except where the images identify an issue – such as a break-in or theft and those particular images/recordings are retained specifically in the context of an investigation/prosecution of that issue.

Accordingly, 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.

The images/recordings will be stored in a secure environment with a log of access kept. Access will be restricted to authorised personnel. Supervising the access and maintenance of the CCTV system is the responsibility of the Principal. The Principal may delegate the administration of the CCTV system to another staff member. In certain circumstances, the recordings may also be viewed by other individuals in order to achieve the objectives set out above (such individuals may include the Gardaí, the Deputy Principal, other members of the teaching staff, representatives of the Department of Education and Skills, representatives of the HSE and/or the parent of a recorded student). When CCTV recordings are being viewed, access will be limited to authorised individuals on a need-to-know basis.

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.

ACCESS

Tapes/DVDs storing the 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 tapes/images will be maintained.

Access to the CCTV system and stored images will be restricted to authorised personnel only i.e. the Principal of the school.

In relevant circumstances, CCTV footage may be accessed:

- By An Garda Síochána where The Board of Management are required by law to make a report regarding the commission of a suspected crime; or
- Following a request by An Garda Síochána when a crime or suspected crime has taken place and/or when it is suspected that illegal/anti-social behaviour is taking place on school property, or
- To the HSE and/or any other statutory body charged with child safeguarding; or
- To assist the Principal 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 an access request where the time, date and location of the recordings is furnished to The Board of Management or
- To individuals (or their legal representatives) subject to a court order.
- To the school's insurance company where the insurance company requires same in order to pursue a claim for damage done to the insured property.

Requests by An Garda Síochána: Information obtained through video monitoring will only be released when authorised by the Principal following consultation with the Chairperson of the Board of Management. If An Garda Síochána request CCTV images for a specific investigation, An Garda Síochána may require a warrant and accordingly any such request by An Garda Síochána should be made in writing and the school may need to seek legal advice.

Access requests: On written request, any person whose image has been recorded has a right to be given a copy of the information recorded which relates to them, provided always that such an image/recording exists i.e. has not been deleted and provided also that an exemption/prohibition does not apply to the release. Where the image/recording identifies another individual, those images may only be released where they can be redacted/anonymised so that the other person is not identified or identifiable. To exercise their right of access, a data subject must make an application in writing to the school Principal. The cost of redacting the recording/part of recording rest with the individual making the data access request and the individual has 40 days in which to complete this part of the process.

Access requests can be made to the following: **The Chairperson, Board of Management, Patrician Presentation Secondary School, Rocklow Road, Fethard, Co. Tipperary.** A person should provide all the necessary information to assist the school in locating the CCTV recorded data, such as the date, time and location of the recording. If the image is of such poor quality as not to clearly identify an individual,

that image may not be considered to be personal data and may not be handed over by the school.

In giving a person a copy of their data, the school may 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.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Principal will:

- Ensure that the use of the CCTV system is implemented in accordance with the policy set down by The Board of Management.
- Oversee and co-ordinate the use of CCTV monitoring for safety and security purposes within Patrician Presentation Secondary School.
- Ensure that all existing CCTV monitoring systems will be evaluated for compliance with this policy
- Ensure that the CCTV monitoring at Patrician Presentation Secondary School 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 the perimeter of view from fixed location cameras conforms to this policy both internally and externally
- Provide a list of the CCTV cameras, their locations and the associated monitoring equipment and the capabilities of such equipment to the Board of Management for formal approval
- If required, approve the location of temporary cameras to be used during special events that have particular security requirements and ensure their withdrawal following such events
- Ensure that all areas being monitored are not in breach of a reasonable expectation of the privacy of individuals within the school and be mindful that no such infringement is likely to take place
- Advise the Board of Management to ensure that adequate signage, at appropriate and prominent locations, is displayed
- 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 tapes 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 28 days and are then erased unless required as part of a criminal investigation or court proceedings (criminal or civil) or other bona fide use as approved by the Chairperson of the Board of Management
- 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
- Ensure that where An Garda Síochána request to set up mobile video equipment for criminal investigations, legal advice has been obtained and such activities have the approval of the Chairperson of the Board of Management

Links to other policies

All school policies are consistent with one another, within the framework of the overall School Plan. Relevant school policies already in place, being developed or reviewed, are examined with reference to the CCTV policy and any implications which it has for them are addressed.

The following policies are among those considered:

- Data Protection policy
- Child Protection policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Code of Behaviour
- ICT Acceptable Usage policy

The CCTV policy has been developed mindful of the school's obligation under Data Protection Legislation.

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The school Principal is assigned the role of co-ordinating the implementation of this CCTV policy and for ensuring that all members of the school community are familiar with the policy.

Ratification & Communication

A CCTV Policy was developed by the principal in consultation with the members of Internal School Management. The draft policy was circulated to all staff and B.O.M. members for review and comment. The Principal finalised the draft policy having regard to the feedback received. The B.O.M. reviewed the draft policy and the CCTV policy was ratified by the B.O.M.

The policy was uploaded to the schools wedsit.

IMPLEMENTATION & REVIEW

The policy will be reviewed and evaluated from every 3 years. On-going review and evaluation will take cognisance of changing information or guidelines (e.g. from the Data Protection Commissioner, An Garda Síochána, Department of Education and Skills or the NEWB), legislation and feedback from parents/guardians, staff and others. The

policy will be revised as necessary in the light of such review and evaluation and within the framework of school planning.

Practical indicators that will be used to gauge the impact and effectiveness of the policy will include the extent to which:

- Staff and parents/guardians are aware of the policy
- Requests for access to personal data are dealt with effectively
- Personal data records are held securely
- Personal data records are retained only for as long as necessary

Signed:

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Chairperson, Board of Management.

Dated: