



**Hanley and Upton Educational Trust**

# **HUET CCTV and Surveillance Policy**

<b>Stage</b>	<b>Version</b>	II
	Author	HUET DPO
	Frequency	Annual
<b>2</b>	Approved by HUET Board	March 2026
<b>3</b>	Next review date	March 2027

**Statement of Intent**

The Hanley and Upton Educational Trust (HUET) take our responsibility towards the safety of staff, visitors and pupils very seriously. To that end, we use surveillance cameras to monitor any instances of aggression or physical damage to our schools and its members.

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

- We comply with the GDPR, effective 25 May 2018.
- 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:

- Observing what an individual is doing
- Taking action to prevent a crime
- Using images of individuals that could affect their privacy

## **1. Legal framework**

1.1. This policy has due regard to legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000
- The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- The General Data Protection Regulation
- The Freedom of Information Act 2000
- The Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005 (as amended in 2016)
- The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004
- The School Standards and Framework Act 1998
- The Children Act 1989
- The Children Act 2004
- The Equality Act 2010

1.2. This policy has been created with regard to the following statutory and non-statutory guidance:

- Home Office (2013) 'The Surveillance Camera Code of Practice'
- ICO (2017) 'Overview of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)'
- ICO (2017) 'Preparing for the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 12 steps to take now'
- ICO (2017) 'In the picture: A data protection code of practice for surveillance cameras and personal information'

1.3. This policy operates in conjunction with the following trust policies:

- *Freedom of Information Policy*
- *HUET Data Protection Policy*

## 2. Definitions

2.1. For the purpose of this policy a set of definitions will be outlined, in accordance with the surveillance code of conduct:

- **Surveillance** – monitoring the movements and behaviour of individuals; this can include video, audio or live footage. For the purpose of this policy only video and audio footage will be applicable.
- **Overt surveillance** – any use of surveillance for which authority does not fall under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000.
- **Covert surveillance** – any use of surveillance which is intentionally not shared with the subjects it is recording. Subjects will not be informed of such surveillance.

2.2. The HUET does not condone the use of covert surveillance when monitoring the school's staff, pupils and/or volunteers. Covert surveillance will only be operable in extreme circumstances and only where authorised under RIPA (RIPA threshold must be clarified for the school setting)

2.3. Any overt surveillance footage will be clearly signposted around the school concerned.

## 3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1. The role of the data protection officer (DPO) includes:

- Dealing with freedom of information requests and subject access requests (SAR) in line with legislation, including the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- Ensuring that all data controllers at the schools handle and process surveillance and CCTV footage in accordance with data protection legislation.
- Ensuring that surveillance and CCTV footage is obtained in line with legal requirements.
- Ensuring consent is clear, positive and unambiguous. Pre-ticked boxes and answers inferred from silence are non-compliant with the GDPR.
- Ensuring that surveillance and CCTV footage is destroyed in line with legal requirements when it falls outside of its retention period.
- Keeping comprehensive and accurate records of all data processing activities, including surveillance and CCTV footage, detailing the purpose of the activity and making these records public upon request.

- Informing data subjects of how their data captured in surveillance and CCTV footage will be used by the schools, their rights for the data to be destroyed and the measures implemented by the schools to protect individuals' personal information.
  - Preparing reports and management information on the trust's level of risk related to data protection and processing performance.
  - Reporting to the highest management level of the trust, e.g. the HUET Board.
  - Abiding by confidentiality requirements in relation to the duties undertaken while in the role.
  - Monitoring the performance of the trust's data protection impact assessment (DPIA) and providing advice where requested.
  - Presenting reports regarding data processing within the trust to senior leaders and the HUET Board.
- 3.2. The HUET Board, as the corporate body, acts as the data controller and therefore has overall responsibility for ensuring that records are maintained, including security and access arrangements in accordance with regulations.
- 3.3. The DPO deals with the day-to-day matters relating to data protection and thus, for the benefit of this policy will act as the data controller.
- 3.4. The role of the data controller includes:
- Processing surveillance and CCTV footage legally and fairly.
  - Collecting surveillance and CCTV footage for legitimate reasons and ensuring that it is used accordingly.
  - Collecting surveillance and CCTV footage that is relevant, adequate and not excessive in relation to the reason for its collection.
  - Ensuring that any surveillance and CCTV footage identifying an individual is not kept for longer than is necessary.
  - Protecting footage containing personal data against accidental, unlawful destruction, alteration and disclosure – especially when processing over networks.
- 3.5. The role of the headteacher includes:
- Meeting with the DPO to decide where CCTV is needed to justify its means.
  - Conferring with the DPO with regard to the lawful processing of the surveillance and CCTV footage.
  - Reviewing the Surveillance and CCTV Policy to ensure it is compliant with current legislation.
  - Monitoring legislation to ensure the schools are using surveillance fairly and lawfully.
  - Communicating any changes to legislation with all members of staff.

#### **4. Purpose and justification**

- 4.1. The trust will only use surveillance cameras for the safety and security of the schools and its staff, pupils and visitors.
- 4.2. Surveillance will be used as a deterrent for violent behaviour and damage to the schools within the trust.
- 4.3. The school will only conduct surveillance as a deterrent and to promote a safe and supportive environment. CCTV cameras will not be installed in classrooms or any changing facilities. The only exception to this is the Ready to Learn room, which is a restorative space used to support pupils who have struggled to meet behavioural expectations, where CCTV is in operation for safety and safeguarding purposes.
- 4.4. CCTV is used in the Ready to Learn room solely to promote the safety and welfare of pupils and staff. This room is designed as a restorative space for pupils who may be experiencing difficulties in meeting behavioural expectations, and the presence of CCTV helps to ensure that interactions remain positive, appropriate, and safe. Recordings are viewed only when necessary for safeguarding, behaviour review, or incident investigation, and access to these recordings is strictly limited to authorised staff in line with the school's data protection procedures. A Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) will be completed and reviewed annually to ensure this use remains necessary.
- 4.5. If the surveillance and CCTV systems fulfil their purpose and are no longer required, the school concerned will deactivate them.

#### **5. The data protection principles**

- 5.1. Data collected from surveillance and CCTV will be:
  - Processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals.
  - Collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes; further processing for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes shall not be considered to be incompatible with the initial purposes.
  - Adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed.
  - Accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step will be taken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which they are processed, are erased or rectified without delay.

- Kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed; personal data may be stored for longer periods, insofar as the personal data will be processed solely for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes, subject to implementation of the appropriate technical and organisational measures required by the GDPR in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of individuals.
- Processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.

## **6. Objectives**

6.1. The surveillance system will be used to:

- 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.

## **7. Protocols**

- 7.1. The surveillance system will be registered with the ICO in line with data protection legislation.
- 7.2. The surveillance system is a closed digital system which records video and audio, where strictly necessary and activated only under controlled and limited conditions.
- 7.3. Warning signs have been placed throughout the premises where the surveillance system is active, as mandated by the ICO's Code of Practice. Signs will clearly state where audio recording may occur and provide contact details for the data controller.
- 7.4. The surveillance system has been designed for maximum effectiveness and efficiency; however, the schools cannot guarantee that every incident will be detected or covered and 'blind spots' may exist.
- 7.5. The surveillance system will not be trained on individuals unless an immediate response to an incident is required.
- 7.6. The surveillance system will not be trained on private vehicles or property outside the perimeter of the schools within the trust.

## 8. Security

- 8.1. Access to the surveillance system, software and data will be strictly limited to authorised operators and will be password protected.
- 8.2. The trust's authorised CCTV system operators and controllers are:
  - Head Teacher**
  - HUET Deputy Headteachers**
  - HUET Assistant Headteachers**
  - Head of Years**
  - Pastoral Leaders**
  - IT Systems Manager**
  - The HUET DPO**
- 8.3. The main control facility is kept secure and locked when not in use.
- 8.4. If, in exceptional circumstances, covert surveillance is planned, or has taken place, copies of the Home Office's [authorisation forms](#) will be completed and retained.
- 8.5. Surveillance and CCTV systems will be tested for security flaws once every 6 months to ensure that they are being properly maintained at all times.
- 8.6. Surveillance and CCTV systems will not be intrusive.
- 8.7. The DPO and headteacher will decide when to record footage, e.g. a continuous loop outside the school grounds to deter intruders.
- 8.8. Any unnecessary footage captured will be securely deleted from the school system.
- 8.9. Each system will have a separate audio and visual system that can be run independently of one another. Audio CCTV will only be used Where a real-time safeguarding risk is identified, and only for short, time limited periods and authorised by the Headteacher and DPO.
- 8.10. Any cameras that present faults will be repaired as soon as possible to avoid any risk of a data breach.
- 8.11. Visual display screens used to monitor students placed in the Student Support room are located in the Key Stage offices and Deputy Headteachers Office. These are securely placed to ensure they cannot be viewed by unauthorised persons.

## **9. Privacy by design**

- 9.1. The use of surveillance cameras and CCTV will be critically analysed using a DPIA, in consultation with the DPO.
- 9.2. A DPIA will be carried out prior to the installation, expansion or activation of any surveillance and CCTV system.
- 9.3. If the DPIA reveals any potential security risks or other data protection issues, the trust will ensure they have provisions in place to overcome these issues.
- 9.4. Where a school identifies a high risk to an individual's interests, and it cannot be overcome, the school will consult the ICO before they use CCTV, and the school will act on the ICO's advice.
- 9.5. Each school will ensure that the installation of the surveillance and CCTV systems will always justify its means.
- 9.6. If the use of a surveillance and CCTV system is too privacy intrusive, the school concerned will seek alternative provision.

## **10. Code of practice**

- 10.1. Each school understands that recording images of identifiable individuals constitutes as processing personal information, so it is done in line with data protection principles.
- 10.2. Each school notifies all pupils, staff and visitors of the purpose for collecting surveillance data via notice boards, letters and emails.
- 10.3. CCTV cameras are only placed where they do not intrude on anyone's privacy and are necessary to fulfil their purpose.
- 10.4. All surveillance footage will be kept for a maximum of 30 days which the trust has assessed as the minimum period necessary to fulfil the system's security and safeguarding purposes; the headteacher and the DPO are responsible for keeping the records secure and allowing access. Footage will be automatically deleted unless required for an on-going incident.
- 10.5. The schools have 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.
- 10.6. The surveillance and CCTV system is owned by the trust and images from the system are strictly controlled and monitored by authorised personnel only.
- 10.7. The schools 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 policy is available from the trust's website.

10.8. The surveillance and CCTV system will:

- Be designed to consider its effect on individuals and their privacy and personal data.
- Be transparent and include a contact point, the DPO, through which people can access information and submit complaints.
- 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 concerned.
- 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.

10.9. Be accurate and well maintained to ensure information is up to date.

10.10.

## **11. Access**

- 11.1. Under the UK GDPR, individuals have the right to obtain confirmation that their personal information is being processed.
- 11.2. All disks containing images belong to, and remain the property of, the trust.
- 11.3. Individuals have the right to submit an SAR to gain access to their personal data in order to verify the lawfulness of the processing.
- 11.4. The trust will verify the identity of the person making the request before any information is supplied.
- 11.5. A copy of the information will be supplied to the individual free of charge; however, the trust may impose a 'reasonable fee' to comply with requests for further copies of the same information.
- 11.6. Where an SAR has been made electronically, the information will be provided in a commonly used electronic format.

- 11.7. Requests by persons outside the trust for viewing or copying disks, or obtaining digital recordings, will be assessed by the headteacher, who will consult the DPO, on a case-by-case basis with close regard to data protection and freedom of information legislation.
- 11.8. Where a request is manifestly unfounded, excessive, or repetitive, a reasonable fee will be charged.
- 11.9. All fees will be based on the administrative cost of providing the information.
- 11.10. All requests will be responded to without delay and at the latest, within one month of receipt.
- 11.11. In the event of numerous or complex requests, the period of compliance will be extended by a further two months. The individual will be informed of this extension and will receive an explanation of why the extension is necessary, within one month of the receipt of the request.
- 11.12. Where a request is manifestly unfounded or excessive, the trust holds the right to refuse to respond to the request. The individual will be informed of this decision and the reasoning behind it, as well as their right to complain to the ICO and to a judicial remedy, within one month of the refusal.
- 11.13. In the event that a large quantity of information is being processed about an individual, the trust will ask the individual to specify the information the request is in relation to.
- 11.14. It is important that access to, and disclosure of, the images recorded by surveillance and CCTV footage is restricted and carefully controlled, not only to ensure that the rights of individuals are preserved, but also to ensure that the chain of evidence remains intact, should the images be required for evidential purposes.
- 11.15. Releasing the recorded images to third parties will be permitted only in the following limited and prescribed circumstances, and to the extent required or permitted by law:
  - The police – where the images recorded would assist in a specific criminal inquiry
  - Prosecution agencies – such as the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS)
  - Relevant legal representatives – such as lawyers and barristers
  - Persons who have been recorded and whose images have been retained where disclosure is required by virtue of data protection legislation and the Freedom of Information Act 2000
- 11.16. Requests for access or disclosure will be recorded, the headteacher and DPO will make the final decision as to whether recorded images may be released to persons other than the police.

## 12. Monitoring and review

- 12.1. This policy will be monitored and reviewed on an annual basis by the DPO and the headteacher.
- 12.2. The DPO will be responsible for monitoring any changes to legislation that may affect this policy and make the appropriate changes accordingly.
- 12.3. The DPO will communicate changes to this policy to all members of staff.
- 12.4. The scheduled review date for this policy is June 2026

If you have any questions, concerns or would like more information about anything mentioned in this policy, please ask a member of our office team, or email our Data Protection Officer, Mrs Natalie Stimpson at [DPO@HUET.co.uk](mailto:DPO@HUET.co.uk)

## Complaints

We take any complaints about our collection and use of personal information very seriously.

If you think that our collection or use of personal information is unfair, misleading or inappropriate, or have any other concern about our data processing, please raise this with us in the first instance.

To make a complaint, please contact our Data Protection Officer.

Alternatively, you can make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office:

Report a concern online at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/> Call 0303 123 1113

Or write to: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

## Policy Change Log

Policy Name	Version	Date of Change	Summary of Changes	Reason for Change	Approved By
HUET CCTV and Surveillance policy	V II	30.06.2025	Updated wording in Section 4.3 and the addition of 4.4	To reflect the introduction of CCTV in the Ready to Learn room	
HUET CCTV and Surveillance policy	V II	30.06.2025	Updated wording in Section 8.2	To reflect a change in structure and to include HOY	