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# CCTV Policy

The following CCTV Policy has been prepared in line with the General Data Protection Regulation of 2016 (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. The policy applies to all school staff, the Board of Management, parent(s) / guardian(s), students, (including prospective students) their parent(s) / guardian(s), applicants for positions within the school and service providers with access to school data.



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APPROVED BY  
Board of Management

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# CCTV Policy

## Document Title

CCTV Policy

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## 1. Scope



This CCTV Policy has been prepared for the use of CCTV at Ardfinnan National School. The purpose of the Policy is to ensure that data subject's rights and freedoms are not overridden by the use of CCTV at the school.

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to regulate the management, operation and the use of the CCTV system in Ardfinnan National School in a way that enhances security and seeks to maintain a safe and secure environment for all staff, students and visitors. However, the CCTV system may raise concerns about the effect on individuals and their privacy. This policy is intended to address such concerns. Images recorded by surveillance systems are personal data, which must be processed in accordance with data protection laws. We are committed to complying with our legal obligations and ensuring that the legal rights of staff, students and visitors, relating to their personal data, are recognised and respected.

The Board of Management will review this policy periodically to ensure that it meets legal requirements, relevant guidance published by the Data Protection Commissioner ("DPC") and industry standards.

## 2. GDPR Awareness



The Data Protection Policy & the Data Privacy Impact Assessment should be referred to when consulting this document. Ardfinnan National School will ensure that management and staff are aware of GDPR and are trained appropriately to their duties in respect of processing of personal data as per this policy.

## 3. Balance of Rights



In using personal data for the operation of the school, we will ensure that we will only use a subject's data if the subject's rights do not outweigh our lawful basis in using that data. The balance will be assessed by first checking that we have a lawful basis for using the data, and then evaluating whether disproportionate financial, reputational or social harm could be caused to the individual through our use of their data. We will achieve this on an ongoing basis via the CCTV Policy and Record of Processing methods already explained in this policy.

## 4. Lawful Processing Criteria



Ardfinnan National School processes personal data in the pursuance of several lawful processing criteria. In all cases we examine the balance of rights with respect to the use of personal data. It is our objective to align our activities with the rights of the data subject, such that our use of their data is beneficial to the data subject and that any inconvenience or risk to the data subject is minimal in comparison with the benefits there from. We have established our lawful processing criteria in the Data Processing Map & Retention Schedule outlined in our Data Protection Policy.

## 5. Responsible Person Contact Details



Below are the contact details of the person most qualified to respond to questions regarding the CCTV Policy:

- Title: Principal.
- Address: Ardfinnan, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, E91X6F9.
- Telephone: 052 746 6397.
- Email: [office@ardfinnanns.ie](mailto:office@ardfinnanns.ie)



## 6. GDPR Principles



### **Principle 1: Lawfulness, fairness and transparency**

Ardfinnan National School believes in operating our school fairly and ethically and this will extend to all personal data held for those purposes. Subjects will be informed when data is being collected, and at the same time informed what we will use that data for. We will ensure that appropriate technical and organisational measures are in place to secure that data.

Collection and processing of data will be transparent. Advisory notices and privacy notices relating to data rights will be published as appropriate in plain English and will be structured where relevant to improve accessibility of this information to data subjects. Persons will be clearly advised of their rights also.

### **Principle 2: Purpose Limitation**

Personal data collected by Ardfinnan National School will be processed only for the purpose for which it was collected. In the event that this purpose should change, data subjects will be informed within the 30-day regulatory period and consent sought for the change.

### **Principle 3: Data Minimisation**

Ardfinnan National School will collect only the minimum quantity of personal data to carry out a particular task. Where appropriate, potential data subjects will be requested not to provide unwanted or inappropriately sensitive personal information.

### **Principle 4: Data Accuracy**

Ardfinnan National School will make every effort to ensure that subjects' information is accurate and up to date. Ardfinnan National School will endeavour to ensure via appropriate levels of staff training that it is transcribed accurately. If it is not possible for subjects to correct their data personally, data can be corrected by contacting Reception.

### **Principle 5: Storage Limitation**

Ardfinnan National School will store and retain personal data only while there is a valid and lawful basis to do so. Personal information will be deleted when it is no longer required for the purposes for which it was collected.

Where systems do not allow deletion of all records relating to an individual, records will be anonymised by replacing personal information fields with substituted generic text.

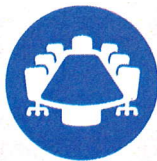
### **Principle 6: Integrity & Confidentiality**

Personal Data shall be processed securely i.e. in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the Personal Data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing, accidental loss, destruction or damage. Ardfinnan National School will use appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the integrity and confidentiality of personal data is maintained at all times.

### **Principle 7: Accountability**

Ardfinnan National School is responsible for and is able to demonstrate compliance with GDPR. This means Ardfinnan National School will demonstrate that these Data Protection Principles (as outlined here) are met for all Personal Data for which it is responsible.

## 7. Responsibilities – Board of Management



- Approve the CCTV Policy.
- Provide adequate resources to ensure that an appropriate CCTV system can be procured, operated and maintained.

## 8. Responsibilities – Senior Management



- Ensure that the use of CCTV systems is implemented in accordance with the policy set down by Ardfinnan National School.
- Oversee and coordinate the use of CCTV monitoring for safety and security purposes within the school.
- Ensure that all existing CCTV monitoring systems will be evaluated for compliance with this policy.
- Ensure that the CCTV monitoring at the school is consistent with the highest standards and protections.
- Review camera locations and be responsible for the release of any information or material stored in video recordings in compliance with this policy.
- Maintain a record of the release of recordings or any material recorded or stored in the system.
- Ensure that monitoring recordings are not duplicated for release.
- 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 and the associated monitoring equipment, and the capabilities of such equipment located in the School to the Board of Management for formal approval.
- Approve the location of temporary cameras to be used during special events that have particular security requirements and ensure their withdrawal following such events. Note: (Temporary Cameras does not include mobile video equipment or hidden surveillance cameras used for criminal investigations.).
- Give consideration to both students and staff petitions regarding possible invasion of privacy or confidentiality due to the location of a particular CCTV camera or associated equipment.
- Ensure that all areas being monitored are not in breach of an enhanced expectation of the privacy of individuals within the school and be mindful that no such infringement is likely to take place.
- Ensure that adequate signage is posted at appropriate and prominent locations.
- Ensure that on receipt of a valid subject access request, that recordings / images are provided that redact the faces of other others (not involved directly in the incident) to protect their identity.



## 9. Data Protection Impact Assessments



Article 35.1 of the General Data Protection Regulations makes reference to the mandatory requirement for a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA):

“Where a type of processing in particular using new technologies, and taking into account the nature, scope, context and purposes of the processing, is likely to result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of natural persons, the controller shall, prior to the processing, carry out an assessment of the impact of the envisaged processing operations on the protection of personal data.”

CCTV systems are considered ‘high risk’ particularly in Article 35.1(c): “a systematic monitoring of a publicly accessible area on a large scale”

The appropriate time to carry out a CCTV Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) is prior to the procurement of, or installation of the CCTV system or camera(s). Prior to the introduction of the GDPR, DPIA’s were discretionary, however from 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018, it is mandatory to carry out a DPIA on all installations.

Readers should refer to the school’s DPIA where we have demonstrated:

- strong justification for the installation of the CCTV system/camera(s).
- consideration has been given to the privacy rights of the data subject with regard to the proposed location of the camera(s).
- consideration has been given to other appropriate security measures e.g. alarm systems, coded entry or swipe cards.
- the data subjects occupying the building have been notified of the proposed system/camera and given an opportunity to voice any concerns.
- careful consideration has been given to the security and management of the system within the School and externally if a contracted company is used.



## 10. Justification for the use of CCTV



- The school is obliged under the GDPR, to ensure that data collected by CCTV systems is adequate, relevant, not excessive and only used for the purposes for which the data was collected.
- As per the General Data Protection Regulations, the school is able to justify the installation of CCTV systems and cameras on our premises.
- CCTV is used proportionately in accordance with the GDPR for the purpose of crime-prevention, the prevention of anti-social behaviour, the prevention of bullying, for the safety of our staff and students and for the protection of personal and school property.
- The justifiable reason for installation does indeed outweigh any consideration given to other less intrusive methods of managing any ongoing issue.

## 11. CCTV Cameras



- The CCTV system comprises of external and internal (common areas) cameras located in strategic areas around the school.
- The school has endeavoured to select locations which are the least intrusive to the data subjects occupying the building. The installation of CCTV cameras in areas where individuals would have a reasonable expectation of privacy have also been considered e.g. CCTV camera have not been installed in changing facilities, toilets etc.
- CCTV systems will not normally be used to monitor day-to-day staff/student classroom / boarding house activity.
- External cameras have been positioned in such a way as to prevent or minimise the recording of passers-by or the privacy rights of neighbouring private properties. The CCTV cameras will only capture images within the perimeter of the school premises.

## 12. Covert Surveillance



- The school will not engage in covert surveillance of data subjects.
- Data subjects will be informed at all times through policies, privacy notices and signage on the sound legal basis for the CCTV monitoring.
- Where An Garda Síochána requests to carry out covert surveillance on the school premises, such covert surveillance may require the consent of a Judge.
- Accordingly, any such request should be made in writing and the school will seek legal advice where necessary.

### 13. Notification & Signage



- The Principal will provide a copy of CCTV Policy on request to staff, students, parents and visitors to the school premises.
- The CCTV Policy describes the purpose of the CCTV monitoring, the rights of the Data Subject with regard to the monitoring, and contact details for those wishing to access more information.
- Signage shall be placed internally in each area near to where CCTV cameras are sited to inform data subjects that CCTV is in operation in that area.
- More extensive external signage shall also be prominently displayed on entrance to the school property.
- Appropriate locations for signage will include:
  - Entrances to premises e.g. external doors, walls and school gates or any highly visible appropriate area.
  - Reception area.
  - Close to each internal camera.

### 14. Management, Control & Access



- Access is restricted to the following persons:
  - Principal;
  - Deputy Principal;
  - Caretaker;
  - Approved Contractors;
- The CCTV system is located in the Principal's Office - a secure office where monitoring screens and recorded footage is securely held.
- The office is locked when not occupied by authorised personnel.
- Unauthorised access to the monitoring screens or footage is not permitted.
- In relevant circumstances, CCTV footage may be shared with certain other bodies/agencies where the school is required to do so.
- Under the GDPR, the school - as part of a valid Subject Access Request, is obliged to provide data subjects with a copy of their personal data on request.
- If the requested data are CCTV recordings, the school reserves the right to release this either (a) in soft copy footage, or (b) in still images (photos) at a rate of one photograph per second of video.
- If the CCTV footage includes images of other people, their images will be pixilated or otherwise blanked out.
- Subject Access Requests for CCTV footage should be notified immediately to the Principal who will examine the content of the request, and advise on any further steps e.g. the requirement for pixilation of the footage.



## 15. Access Requests by Third Parties



- No images from the CCTV System will be disclosed to any third party, except as set out in this policy, without express permission being given by the Principal.
- Recorded material containing personal data will generally only be released to third parties in the following circumstances:
  - A formal request from a member of An Garda Síochána, for disclosure of CCTV images or footage where this is required in the detection or prosecution of crime; and
  - A requirement under an applicable enactment, rule of law or court order to disclose the images;
  - A reasonable request by an insurance company or in relation to a legal claim;
  - To comply with any legal obligation or requirement; or
- Before sharing any CCTV footage with third parties, we will consider whether redaction or pixilation is necessary (to protect the personal data of unrelated third parties), and will only share such footage relevant to the images specifically requested, where this is appropriate in the circumstances.
- In the above circumstances, the original copy shall be retained by the school and a copy provided to the third party, unless the original is needed for court proceedings or under applicable law. The following should be documented if any CCTV images are disclosed:
  - date and time of disclosure;
  - name of person(s) requesting the disclosure and viewing the images;
  - the reason for disclosure or viewing; and
  - the outcome, if any, of the viewing.
  - The date and time the images were returned to the system or secure place, if they have been retained for evidential purposes.

## 16. Retention of Recordings



- The retention period for CCTV footage is 28 days.
- Footage will not be retained by the school for longer than 28 days, unless it is required as part of an ongoing investigation or Subject access request.
- The signals received from the cameras on the campus system and the internal building system are recorded, 24 hours a day, motion activated. This recorded footage is stored digitally on a school site based server. Data from the CCTV System is retained for up to 28 days but will be permanently deleted once there is no reason to retain the recording information
- Where relevant images are produced and are required in relation to an incident, the recording shall be downloaded and saved and retained securely by those with access rights
- At the end of their useful life, all images stored in whatever format will be erased permanently and securely. Any physical matter such as tapes or discs will be disposed of as confidential waste. Any still photographs and hard copy prints will be disposed of as confidential waste.

## 17. Security Companies



- Security companies that install and service cameras on behalf of the school are considered to be "Data Processors". As data processors, they operate under the instruction of data controllers (the school).
- The school is required to have a Data Processing Agreement in place with any CCTV security company contracted to manage the CCTV systems in place in the school.
- This agreement details the areas to be monitored, how long data is to be stored, what the security company may do with the data, what security standards should be in place and what verification procedures may apply.
- The written contract also states that the security company will give the school all reasonable assistance to deal with any subject access request made under the GDPR which may be received by the school within the statutory time-frame (generally one month).
- Under GDPR, Contracted CCTV companies, as data processors, are required to have appropriate security measures in place to prevent the unauthorised access, alteration, disclosure, or destruction of the data, and secure technical measures in place to protect against any unlawful forms of processing. Employees of the CCTV security company must be made aware of their data protection obligations when processing the data.

## 18. Review



- The policy will be reviewed and evaluated from time to time.
- 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, Audit units (internal and external to the school), national management bodies, legislation and feedback from parents/guardians, students, staff and others.
- The date from which the policy will apply is the date of adoption by the Board of Management.
- Implementation of the policy will be monitored by the Principal of the school.

Signed: Tony Kerry  
Chairperson Board of Management

Signed: Brid Dunne  
Principal

Date: 15/12/21

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