



# MacIntyre Academies

## MAT CCTV Policy

Version	Purpose / Change	Person Responsible	Date
3	- updates to sections 9.2 and 9.3 in respect of the sharing and viewing of CCTV images and recordings.	Group Director	September 2025

**Person Responsible:** Group Director  
**Date of first draft:** November 2022  
**Date of staff consultation:**  
**Date adopted by LAB:** November 2022  
**Date of implementation:** February 2023  
**Date reviewed:** September 2025  
**Date of next review:** September 2027

## 1. Aims

This policy aims to set out MacIntyre Academies Trust approach to the operation, management and usage of surveillance and closed-circuit television (CCTV) at all Academies within the Trust. All Academies adopt this central policy and publish also an Academy CCTV Statement (annexed) which contains the relevant local details specific to their provision.

*Note: a separate policy covers the use of non-CCTV surveillance and remote monitoring equipment.*

### 1.1 Statement of intent

The purpose of the CCTV system is to:

- Ensure members of the Trust community at every Academy feel safe
- Protect members of the Trust community at every Academy from harm to themselves or to their property
- Deter criminality
- Protect assets and buildings
- Assist police to deter and detect crime
- Determine the cause of accidents
- Assist in the effective resolution of any disputes which may arise in the course of disciplinary and grievance proceedings
- Assist LAB Members in considering a Principal's decision to exclude a pupil, where required. (although exclusion is always the very last resort)
- To assist in the defence of any litigation proceedings

The CCTV system will not be used to:

- Encroach on an individual's right to privacy
- Monitor people in spaces where they have a heightened expectation of privacy (including toilets and changing rooms)
- Follow particular individuals, unless there is an ongoing emergency incident occurring
- Pursue any other purposes than the ones stated above
- The list of uses of CCTV is not exhaustive and other purposes may be or become relevant.

At each Academy the CCTV system is registered with the Information Commissioner under the terms of the Data Protection Act 2018. The system complies with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR.

Whenever CCTV is to be installed or significantly extended at an Academy due consultation with parents/carers, staff and pupils will be undertaken and considered in any decision making.

Footage or any information gleaned through the CCTV system will never be used for commercial purposes.

In the unlikely event that the police request that CCTV footage be released to the media, the request will only be complied with when written authority has been provided by the police, and only to assist in the investigation of a specific crime.

The footage generated by the system should be of good enough quality to be of use to the police or the court in identifying suspects.

## 2. Relevant legislation and guidance

This policy is based on:

### 2.1 Legislation

- [UK General Data Protection Regulation](#)

- › [Data Protection Act 2018](#)
- › [Human Rights Act 1998](#)
- › [European Convention on Human Rights](#)
- › [The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000](#)
- › [The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012](#)
- › [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](#)

## 2.2 Guidance

- › [Surveillance Camera Code of Practice \(2021\)](#)

## 3. Definitions

**Surveillance:** the act of watching a person or a place

**CCTV:** closed circuit television; video cameras used for surveillance

**Covert surveillance:** operation of cameras in a place where people have not been made aware they are under surveillance

## 4. Covert surveillance

Covert surveillance will only be used in extreme circumstances, such as where there is suspicion of a criminal offence. If the situation arises where covert surveillance is needed, the proper authorisation forms from the Home Office will be completed and retained.

## 5. Location of the cameras

The Academy CCTV statement (Annexed to this policy) defines the location of cameras at each Academy. Cameras are located in places that require monitoring in order to achieve the aims of the CCTV system (stated in section 1.1).

- Wherever cameras are installed appropriate signage is in place to warn members of the school community that they are under surveillance. The signage:
  - Identifies the Academy as the operator of the CCTV system
  - Identifies the Academy as the data controller
  - Provides contact details for the Academy
- Cameras are not and will not be aimed off Academy grounds into public spaces or people's private property
- Cameras are positioned in order to maximise coverage, but there is no guarantee that all incidents will be captured on camera

## 6. Roles and responsibilities

### 6.1 MacIntyre Academies Trust Board

The MacIntyre Academies Trust Board has the ultimate responsibility for ensuring the CCTV system is operated within the parameters of this policy and that the relevant legislation (defined in section 2.1)

is complied with.

## **6.2 The Academy Local Advisory Boards (LAB)**

The LAB are responsible for:

- scrutiny of the Academy CCTV statement
- regular monitoring (annual) of the use of CCTV.

## **6.3 The Group Director**

The Group Director is responsible for:

- The strategic development of the use of CCTV across all Trust settings
- Sign off on any expansion or upgrading to the CCTV system, after having taken advice from the Data Protection Officer (DPO) and taken into account the result of a data protection impact assessment

## **6.4 The Executive Leader for Education and Care**

The Executive Leader for Education and Care is responsible for:

- Holding Academy Principals to account for the use of this policy
- Authorise any release of CCTV footage to third parties on the recommendation of the Academy Principal and in consultation with the Trust DPO

## **6.5 The Head of Operations**

The Head of Operations acts as the Data Protection Officer (DPO), they are supported by the brought in DPO services from DPOiS.

- They must be consulted in regard to the sharing of any CCTV with third parties
- Act as a point of contact for communications from the Information Commissioner's Office

## **6.6 The Academy Principal**

- Takes responsibility for all day-to-day leadership and management of the CCTV system
- Liaise with the data protection officer (DPO) to ensure that the use of the CCTV system is in accordance with the stated aims and that its use is needed and justified
- Ensure that the guidance set out in this policy is followed by all staff
- Review the Academy CCTV statement and contribute to the review of this policy to check that the Academy is compliant with legislation
- Ensure all persons with authorisation to access the CCTV system and footage have received proper training from the DPO in the use of the system and in data protection
- Recommend to the Group Director any expansion or upgrading to the CCTV system, after having taken advice from the DPO and taken into account the result of a data protection impact assessment
- Decide, in consultation with the DPO, whether to comply with disclosure of footage requests from third parties

## **6.5 The Academy Data Protection Lead (DPL)**

The Academy DPL is usually the School Business Manager, they will:

- Train persons with authorisation to access the CCTV system and footage in the use of the system and in data protection
- Train all staff to recognise a subject access request
- Deal with subject access requests in line with the Freedom of Information Act (2000)
- Monitor compliance with UK data protection law
- Advise on and assist the Academy with carrying out data protection impact assessments
- Conduct data protection impact assessments
- Ensure data is handled in accordance with data protection legislation
- Ensure footage is obtained in a legal, fair and transparent manner

- Ensure footage is destroyed when it falls out of the retention period
- Keep accurate records of all data processing activities and make the records public on request
- Inform subjects of how footage of them will be used by the Academy, what their rights are, and how the Academy will endeavour to protect their personal information
- Ensure that the CCTV systems are working properly and that the footage they produce is of high quality so that individuals pictured in the footage can be identified
- Ensure that the CCTV system is not infringing on any individual's reasonable right to privacy in public spaces
- Carry out termly checks to determine whether footage is being stored accurately, and being deleted after the retention period
- Receive and consider requests for third-party access to CCTV footage

## 6.4 The system manager

The system manager will:

- Take care of the day-to-day maintenance and operation of the CCTV system
- Oversee the security of the CCTV system and footage
- Check the system for faults and security flaws termly
- Ensure the data and time stamps are accurate termly

## 7. Operation of the CCTV system

Academy CCTV systems will be operational 24 hours a day, 365 days a year unless otherwise stated in their Academy CCTV Statement.

All CCTV systems within the Trust are registered with the Information Commissioner's Office.

CCTV systems will not record audio.

Recordings will have date and time stamps. This will be checked by the system manager termly and when the clocks change.

## 8. Storage of CCTV footage

Footage will be automatically retained for a maximum of 30 days. At the end of the retention period, the files will be overwritten automatically.

On occasion footage may be retained for longer than 30 days, for example where a law enforcement body is investigating a crime, to give them the opportunity to view the images as part of an active investigation.

Recordings will be downloaded and encrypted, so that the data will be secure and its integrity maintained, so that it can be used as evidence if required.

The Trust DPO will carry out annual checks at each Academy to determine whether footage is being stored accurately, and being deleted after the retention period.

## 9. Access to CCTV footage

Access will only be given to authorised persons, for the purpose of pursuing the aims stated in section 1.1, or if there is a lawful reason to access the footage.

Any individuals that access the footage must record their name, the date and time, and the reason for access in the access log.

Any visual display monitors will be positioned so only authorised personnel will be able to see the footage.

### 9.1 Staff access

The Academy CCTV Statement details the staff who have authorisation to access the CCTV footage, being:

- The Academy Principal
- The Deputy Principal
- The Academy Data Protection Lead, usually the Academy Business Manager
- The system manager
- Anyone with express permission of the Principal

In addition, the Group Director, Head of Operations and Governance and Compliance Manager may be given access to CCTV footage for the purposes of audits or investigations.

CCTV footage will only be accessed from authorised personnel's work devices, or from the visual display monitors.

All members of staff who have access will undergo training to ensure proper handling of the system and footage.

Any member of staff who misuses the surveillance system may be committing a criminal offence, and will face disciplinary action.

## **9.2 Subject Access Request (SAR)**

According to UK GDPR and DPA 2018, individuals have the right to request a copy of any CCTV footage of themselves.

Upon receiving the request, the academy will immediately issue a receipt and will then respond within 30 days.

All staff have received training to recognise SARs. When a SAR is received staff should inform the DPO in writing. When making a request, individuals should provide the Academy with reasonable information such as the date, time and location the footage was taken to aid Academy staff in locating the footage.

On occasion the Academy will reserve the right to refuse a SAR, if, for example, the release of the footage to the subject would prejudice an ongoing investigation.

If CCTV footage is requested that contains images of persons other than the requestor, the Academy will not be able to provide a copy as it does not have the ability to redact the footage. Alternatively, in some cases the Academy may be able to arrange review of the footage on site.

MacIntyre Academies Trust reserves the right to charge a reasonable fee to cover the administrative costs of complying with an SAR that is repetitive, unfounded or excessive.

Footage that is disclosed in a SAR will be disclosed securely to ensure only the intended recipient has access to it. Disclosure may be by way of a viewing of the footage at the Academy, or if required, by secure encrypted file transfer which is password protected.

Records will be kept that show the date of the disclosure, details of who was provided with the information (the name of the person and the organisation they represent), and why they required it.

Individuals wishing to make a SAR can find more information about their rights, the process of making a request, and what to do if they are dissatisfied with the response to the request on the [ICO website](#).

## **9.3 Third-party access**

CCTV footage will only be shared with a third party to further the aims of the CCTV system set out in section 1.1 (e.g. assisting the police in investigating a crime).

Footage will only ever be shared with authorised personnel such as law enforcement agencies or other service providers who reasonably need access to the footage (e.g. investigators).

All requests for access should be set out in writing and sent to the Academy Principal and the DPO.

The Academy will comply with any court orders that grant access to the CCTV footage. The Academy will provide the courts with the footage they need without giving them unrestricted access. The DPO will consider very carefully how much footage to disclose and seek legal advice if necessary.

The DPO will ensure that any disclosures that are made are done in compliance with UK GDPR.

All disclosures will be recorded by the DPO.

CCTV images and recordings are personal data under data protection law. We will only share this data where it is lawful and necessary to do so. This may include providing CCTV footage to competent authorities such as the police, local authorities, or other law enforcement agencies where it is required for the prevention or detection of crime, the apprehension or prosecution of offenders, or where otherwise required by law.

Any sharing will be strictly controlled, and only the minimum personal data necessary will be disclosed. We will keep a record of when and why CCTV data has been shared, and with whom. Where appropriate we will inform individuals that CCTV has been shared.

## **10. Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)**

The Academy follows the principle of privacy by design. Privacy is taken into account during every stage of the deployment of the CCTV system, including the replacement, development and upgrading. The system is used only for the purpose of fulfilling its aims (stated in section 1.1).

When the CCTV system is replaced, developed or upgraded a DPIA will be carried out to be sure the aim of the system is still justifiable, necessary and proportionate.

The DPO will provide guidance on how to carry out the DPIA. The DPIA will be carried out by the Academy DPO, usually the School Business Manager.

Those whose privacy is most likely to be affected, including the school community and neighbouring residents, will be consulted during the DPIA, and any appropriate safeguards will be put in place.

A new DPIA will be done every 2 years or earlier whenever cameras are moved, or new cameras are installed.

If any security risks are identified in the course of the DPIA, the Academy will address them as soon as possible.

## **11. Security**

- The system manager will be responsible for overseeing the security of the CCTV system and footage
- The system will be checked for faults once a term
- Any faults in the system will be reported as soon as they are detected and repaired as soon as possible, according to the proper procedure
- Footage will be stored securely and encrypted wherever possible
- The CCTV footage will be password protected and any camera operation equipment will be securely locked away when not in use
- Proper cyber security measures will be put in place to protect the footage from cyber attacks
- Any software updates (particularly security updates) published by the equipment's manufacturer that need to be applied, will be applied as soon as possible

## **12. Complaints**

Complaints should be directed to the Principal and should be made according to the Academy Complaints Policy and Procedure.

## **13. Monitoring**

The policy will be reviewed annually by the Head of Operations or earlier if required. At each review the policy will be approved by the MacIntyre Academies Trust Board.

At each review the Academy CCTV statements will be reviewed by the Principal and consideration will be given to whether the continued use of a surveillance cameras remains necessary, proportionate and effective in meeting its stated purposes.

## **14. Related policies**

- MAT Data Protection Policy
- MAT Acceptable Use of ICT Policy

- MAT Surveillance and Remote Monitoring Policy
- Privacy notices for parents, pupils, staff, governors and suppliers
- Academy Safeguarding Policy

**Changes at previous reviews:**

Version	Purpose / Change	Person Responsible	Date
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Addition of Executive Leader for Education &amp; Care role</li> <li>- Addition of reference to DPOiS as the Trust's contracted DPO</li> <li>- Update of SBM role from Academy DPO to Academy Data Protection Lead (DPL) to align with MAT Data Protection Policy</li> <li>- Removed that SBM is the point of contact with the ICO.</li> <li>- Removed reference to Executive Principal / Head of School roles</li> </ul>	Group Director	April 2025

## **Appendices**



# MacIntyre Academies

## Discovery Academy

### Discovery Academy CCTV Statement

Discovery Academy fully adhere to the MAT CCTV Policy. This statement details local specifics which are required to be published alongside the policy.

#### Location of the Cameras

- CCTV Cameras are located in most areas of the school including all classrooms, other teaching spaces, corridors, the SLT office and Pastoral offices, the hall, and external areas.
- There are no cameras in staff and pupil welfare facilities including the medical/shower room, the staff room, pupil and staff toilets and the main reception office.

#### Staff Access to CCTV

SLT and/or safeguarding leaders may monitor activity on the live camera feed at times to check on matters, particularly matters of safety that may occur during the school day, such as (but not limited to):

- see if support is needed for a pupil or staff member
- quickly locate a child who has left a classroom
- To enable a pupils to calm or de-escalate alone but with a safe level of supervision

Where an authorised member of staff (SLT or DSL or one who has asked permission from the Head of School or Principal) asks to review past footage, such as to understand an incident that has happened earlier in the day or to locate an item a child has lost, then the staff member will write this in the CCTV log book stating the reason the access was required, in consideration of the legal parameters.

The following members of staff may access the CCTV system:

Principal
Head of School
Facilities Manager
Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal
School Business Manager
Facilities Manager
Behaviour Lead
Behaviour Support

- In addition to the above list anyone with written permission from the Principal can access the CCTV footage
- The School Business Manager is responsible for recording details of when the CCTV has been accessed and by whom.
- Requests for permission to view CCTV footage should be directed to the Principal.

Appendix B

	<b>Checked</b> (date if appropriate)	<b>By</b>	<b>Date of next review</b>
There is a named individual who is responsible for the system.	✓	School Business Manager/Facilities Manager	
A system had been chosen which produces clear images which the law enforcement bodies (usually the police) can use to investigate crime and these can easily be taken from the system when required.	✓	Principal	
Staff and members of the academy community will be consulted about any proposal to install/amend CCTV equipment or its use as appropriate.	✓	Principal/ School Business Manager	
Cameras have been sited so that they provide clear images.	✓	School Business Manager	
Cameras have been positioned to avoid capturing the images of persons not visiting the premises.	✓	School Business Manager	
There are visible signs showing that CCTV is in operation. Where it is not obvious who is responsible for the system contact details are displayed on the sign(s).	✓	Facilities Manager	
Images from this CCTV system are securely stored, where only a limited number of authorised persons may have access to them.	✓	School Business Manager / Facilities Manager	
The recorded images will only be retained long enough for any incident to come to light (e.g. for a theft to be noticed) and the incident to be investigated.	✓	School Business Manager / Facilities Manager	
Except for authorised personnel such as the Police and service providers to the academy where these would reasonably need access to the data (e.g. investigators), images will not be provided to third parties.	✓	School Business Manager	
The organisation knows how to respond to individuals making requests for copies of their own images. If unsure the data controller knows to seek advice from the Information Commissioner as soon as such a request is made.	✓	Principal/ School Business Manager	
Regular checks are carried out to ensure that the system is working properly and produces high quality images	✓	Business Manager	

## Appendix C – CCTV Signage

It is a requirement of GDPR 2018 to notify people entering a CCTV protected area that the area is monitored by CCTV and that pictures are recorded. The academy is to ensure that this requirement is fulfilled.

**The CCTV sign should include the following:**

- That the area is covered by CCTV surveillance and pictures are recorded
- The purpose of using CCTV
- The name of the academy
- The contact telephone number or address for any enquiries



Example sign.