



CCTV Policy

Contents

1. Introduction	2
2. Purpose of policy	2
3. Scope	2
4. General Principles	2
5. Justification for Use of CCTV	3
6. Location of Cameras	4
7. Covert Surveillance	4
8. Notification - Signage	4
9. Storage & Retention	5
10. Access	5
11. Responsibilities	7
12. Security Companies	8
13. Implementation & Review	8
14. Appendix	9
Appendix 1: Definitions	9
Appendix 2: Location of CCTV Cameras	10

Ratified: November 2021
Review date: September 2023

1. Introduction

Closed Circuit Television Systems (CCTVS) are installed in Sandymount Park ETSS. Where systems are already in operation, their operation will be reviewed regularly in consultation with staff, the board of management and the parents' association.

2. Purpose of policy

The purpose of this policy is to regulate the use of Closed-Circuit Television and its associated technology in the monitoring of both the internal and external environs of the premises under the remit of Sandymount Park ETSS.

CCTV systems are 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 Sandymount Park ETSS 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, students, 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; and
- ensuring that the school rules are respected so that the school can be properly managed.

3. Scope

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

4. General Principles

Sandymount Park ETSS has a statutory responsibility for the protection of its property, equipment as well as providing a sense of security to its employees, students, and invitees to its premises. Sandymount Park ETSS owes a duty of care under the provisions of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 and associated legislation and utilises CCTV systems and their 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 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. Any requests for CCTV recordings/images from An Garda Síochána will be fully recorded and legal advice may be sought if any such request is made. (See “Access” below). If a law enforcement authority, such as An Garda Síochána, is seeking a recording for a specific investigation, An Garda Síochána may require a warrant and accordingly any such request made by An Garda Síochána should be requested in writing and the school may seek legal advice.

CCTV monitoring of public areas for security purposes will be conducted in a manner consistent with all existing policies adopted by Sandymount Park ETSS, including the provisions set down in equality and other educational and 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 Sandymount Park ETSS’s 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 one of its schools.

All CCTV systems and associated equipment will be required to be compliant with this policy following its adoption by Sandymount Park ETSS. Recognisable images captured by CCTV systems are “personal data.” They are therefore subject to the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

5. Justification for Use of CCTV

The principles of data protection require that personal data shall be “collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes”. Personal data should not be collected on a ‘just-in-case’ basis, but only where there is a clearly identified purpose. This means that Sandymount Park ETSS 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.

CCTV systems 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, social areas, locker areas, 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.



6. 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. Sandymount Park ETSS has endeavoured to select locations for the installation of CCTV cameras which are least intrusive to protect the privacy of individuals. Cameras are placed so as to record external areas and 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 Sandymount Park ETSS may include the following:

- Protection of school buildings and property: The building's perimeter, entrances and exits, lobbies and corridors, special storage areas, cashier locations, receiving areas for goods/services
- Monitoring of Access Control Systems: Monitor and record restricted access areas at entrances to buildings 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

7. Covert Surveillance

Sandymount Park ETSS 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 will seek legal advice.

8. Notification - Signage

The Principal will provide a copy of this CCTV Policy on request to staff, students, 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 and adequate signage will be placed at each location in which a CCTV camera(s) is sited to indicate that CCTV is in operation. Adequate signage will also be prominently displayed at the entrance to Sandymount Park ETSS's property.

Appropriate locations for signage will include:

- reception area
- at or close to each internal camera



9. Storage & Retention

Data protection law requires that personal data should be retained for no longer than is necessary to achieve the identified purpose for which it is processed. A data controller needs to be able to justify this retention period. Our existing CCTV security system retains data for 40 days. This is therefore the retention period, 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 40 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, Assistant Principals at Level 1 and 2, representatives of the Department of Education and Skills, representatives of the HSE and/or the parent of a recorded student), as per Section 9 of this policy. When CCTV recordings are being viewed, access will be limited to authorised individuals on a need-to know basis.

Recordings/DVDs will be stored in a secure environment with a log of access to recordings 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.

10. Access

Recordings/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, Deputy Principal and Assistant Principals at Level 1 and Level 2. In relevant circumstances, CCTV footage may be accessed:

- By An Garda Síochána where Sandymount Park ETSS (or its agents) 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 Sandymount Park ETSS's 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 Sandymount Park ETSS or
- To individuals (or their legal representatives) subject to a court order.
- To the Sandymount Park ETSS'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 made by An Garda Síochána should be made in writing and the school should immediately seek legal advice.

Access requests: Data protection law provides for a right of access to their personal data by individuals. This applies to any individual whose identifiable image has been recorded by a CCTV system. On 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. When a data controller receives a request from an individual to access CCTV data, we will normally respond within one month.

Access requests can be made to the following: Paula Mulhall, Sandymount Park ETSS, Simmonscourt Road, Dublin 04, D04 AK00.

A person should provide all the necessary information to assist Sandymount Park ETSS 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.



11. Responsibilities

The Principal will:

- Ensure that the use of CCTV systems is implemented in accordance with the policy set down by Sandymount Park ETSS
- Oversee and co-ordinate the use of CCTV monitoring for safety and security purposes within Sandymount Park ETSS
- Ensure that all existing CCTV monitoring systems will be evaluated for compliance with this policy
- Ensure that the CCTV monitoring at Sandymount Park ETSS 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 monitoring recorded tapes are not duplicated for release
- Ensure that the perimeter of view from fixed location cameras conforms to this policy both internally and externally
- 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 do not include mobile video equipment or hidden surveillance cameras used for authorised criminal investigations by An Garda Síochána].
- Consider both students and staff feedback/complaints 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
- Co-operate with the Health & Safety Officer of Sandymount Park ETSS in reporting on the CCTV system in operation in the school
- 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.

12. Security Companies

The school CCTV system is controlled by Sandymount Park ETSS and maintained by a security company contracted by the school. The following applies:

Sandymount Park ETSS has a written contract with the security company in place which details the areas to be monitored, how long data is to be stored, what security standards should be in place and what verification procedures 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 section 4 Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003 which may be received by the school within the statutory time-frame (generally 40 days).

Security companies that place and operate cameras on behalf of clients are considered to be "Data Processors." As data processors, they operate under the instruction of data controllers (their clients). Data Protection laws place a number of obligations on data processors. These include having appropriate security measures in place to prevent unauthorised access to, or unauthorised alteration, disclosure or destruction of, the data, in particular where the processing involves the transmission of data over a network and against all unlawful forms of processing. This obligation can be met by having appropriate access controls to image storage or having robust encryption where remote access to live recording is permitted. Staff of the security company have been made aware of their obligations relating to the security of data. See Content of the Service Agreement for further guidance

13. Implementation & 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.



14. Appendix

Appendix 1: Definitions

Definitions of words/phrases used in relation to the protection of personal data and referred to in the text of the policy.

CCTV – Closed-circuit television is the use of video cameras to transmit a signal to a specific place on a limited set of monitors. The images may then be recorded on video tape or DVD or other digital recording mechanism.

EU General Data Protection Regulation of 2016/679 (GDPR) - This Regulation lays down rules relating to the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and rules relating to the free movement of personal data and protects fundamental rights and freedoms of natural persons and in particular their right to the protection of personal data. All staff must comply with the provisions of the GDPR when collecting and storing personal information. This applies to personal information relating both to employees of the organisation and individuals who interact with the organisation.

Data - information in a form that can be processed. It includes automated or electronic data (any information on computer or information recorded with the intention of putting it on computer) and manual data (information that is recorded as part of a relevant filing system or with the intention that it should form part of a relevant filing system).

Personal data - means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person;

Data Processing - performing any operation or set of operations on data, including:

- Obtaining, recording, or keeping the data,
- Collecting, organising, storing, altering, or adapting the data,
- Retrieving, consulting, or using the data,
- Disclosing the data by transmitting, disseminating, or otherwise making it available,
- Aligning, combining, blocking, erasing, or destroying the data.

Data Subject – an individual who is the subject of personal data.

Data Controller - a person who (either alone or with others) controls the contents and use of personal data.

Data Processor - a person who processes personal information on behalf of a data controller, but does not include an employee of a data controller who processes such data in the course of their employment, for example, this might mean an employee of an organisation to which the data controller out-sources work. The Data Protection Acts place responsibilities on such entities in relation to their processing of the data.



Appendix 2: Location of CCTV Cameras in Sandymount Park ETSS

