

**Use of CCTV Policy**

Homerton Early Years Centre operates a CCTV scheme within the Nursery environment and the aim is to provide a safer and more secure environment for the benefit of children, parents and staff.

Images are monitored, recorded and used in strict accordance with this policy.

The Head of Centre, Alex Pearson, is responsible for the operation of the system and for ensuring compliance with this policy and is the named Data Controlling Officer.

**Data Protection Act 1998:**

CCTV digital images, if they show a recognisable person, are Personal Data and are covered by the Data Protection Act.

**The CCTV system**

CCTV is provided in the following locations:

* Garden Car Park
* Entrance to the building

Although every effort has been made to ensure maximum effectiveness of the CCTV system we cannot guarantee that CCTV will detect every incident taking place within the area of coverage.

**Our aim**

CCTV has been installed to ensure the safety of the centre, equipment and children in our care, and helping to ensure the safety of all staff, parents/carers and visitors.

We will monitor the system to:

* Provide security and safety for children, parents and staff
* Provide security of our premises and equipment
* Provide opportunities for staff training

It is recognised that images are sensitive material and subject to the Data Protection Act 1998; the Head of Centre is responsible for ensuring day to day compliance with the Act. All tapes will be handled in strict accordance with this policy.

**Recording**

Digital recordings are made using digital video recorders operating in real time mode. Images will be initially viewed by the named data controlling officer and tapes will normally be retained for 30 days from the date of recording unless needed for further investigation.

**Access to Images**

Access to images will be restricted to the data controlling officer.

Disclosure of recorded material to third parties is limited to the following authorities:

* Law enforcement agencies where images recorded would assist in a criminal enquiry and/or the prevention of terrorism and disorder
* Prosecution agencies
* People whose images have been recorded and retained unless disclosure to the individual would prejudice criminal enquiries or criminal proceedings
* Emergency services in connection with the investigation of an accident
* The CCTV system is a localised system with no internet access. No images will ever be broadcasted or streamed over the internet to their party or parents.

Anyone who believes that they have been filmed by CCTV can ask to see a copy of the data, subject to guidelines covered by the Data Protection Act. They do not have the right of instant access, and can write to the Head of Centre for access. The Head of Centre will then arrange for viewing of the images and subsequent discussion of content.

The Data Protection Act gives the Head of Centre the right to refuse a written request where such access could prejudice a criminal investigation or impede the apprehension or prosecution of offenders. If they decide to refuse the request, all reasons will be fully documented and subject will be informed.