

CLOSE CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV) POLICY



PURPOSE

This Policy regulates the management, operation and use of the Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) system at Richmond West Primary School.

Schools have an obligation to ensure the school environment is safe and secure, and fulfil duty of care to students, staff and visitors. The CCTV system exists to assist our school to fulfil these obligations and to prevent and manage other inappropriate behaviour on school grounds.

CCTV strengthens our school's security by providing an appropriate level of surveillance of the school grounds and assists our school to take all reasonable steps to prevent reasonably foreseeable harm on/ of school premises (duty of care). CCTV provides enhanced capability to protect our school's assets against vandalism and theft. The presence of CCTV cameras deters misconduct and inappropriate behaviour.

This policy describes how our CCTV system does this, consistent with Victorian privacy law.

SCOPE

This policy applies to the installation of CCTV cameras on school grounds and the use and disclosure of any footage produced by those cameras.

This policy is consistent with:

- DET privacy policy
- the Department of Education's 'Security Risk Management' policy
- Victorian privacy law.

DEFINITIONS

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Use of CCTV footage

Consistent with our school's obligations set out above, Richmond West Primary School may use CCTV cameras to:

- prevent and verify incidents involving
 - criminal behaviour – of anyone on school grounds (including damage to school buildings and property)
 - other inappropriate behaviour.

When our school uses CCTV footage to verify an incident in any of the ways set out above, that footage then constitutes a 'record' under the Retention and Disposal Authority (RDA) published by the Public Records Office Victoria. This means that our school must retain the footage of that incident for a minimum number of years.

CCTV cameras are NOT:

- hidden or covert
- located in private areas of the building such as toilets, changing rooms or in classrooms or staff rooms
- used to monitor the quality of teaching.

CLOSE CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV) POLICY



In our school, CCTV cameras are located on buildings to monitor:

- school entrances and exits
- playgrounds and open areas.

Access to CCTV footage

CCTV footage is only accessed for the purposes set out above at 'How will we use CCTV footage' and only by the following people:

1. the Principal or Acting Principal, (any other authorised people e.g. members of the school's IT department, security personnel will always be accompanied by the Principal)
2. central and regional Department of Education staff, when required to assist the school for an above purpose
3. any other people permitted by law.

Showing footage

Any requests for a copy of CCTV footage must be made to the Department's Freedom of Information Unit, as set out below.

Managing and securing the CCTV system

The principal or their nominee is responsible for managing and securing the CCTV system including:

1. operation of the CCTV system and ensuring it complies with this policy
2. considering the appropriate location and use of cameras and method for storing CCTV footage
3. maintaining and upgrading cameras when required.

Ownership of CCTV footage

The Department of Education owns our school's CCTV systems and CCTV footage.

Disclosure of CCTV footage

Our school may only disclose CCTV footage externally (external to the Department of Education, including our school) as described in this policy or otherwise when permitted by law.

Storage of Footage

CCTV footage is kept for no more than 31 days. If our school has not used CCTV footage in any of the ways set out above, and there has been no request to view or access footage during this period, the footage is deleted.

Access to information held about you

To access information our school holds about you (on behalf of the Department), including any CCTV footage, please contact:

Freedom of Information Unit
Department of Education and Training
GPO Box 4367
MELBOURNE VIC 3001
Email: foi@edumail.vic.gov.au

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read and understood (but not limited to) in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Student Behaviour & Wellbeing policy

Date of Preparation: March 2026

Date Endorsed by School Council: March 2026

Date of Next Review: March 2028

CLOSE CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV) POLICY



- Child Safety reporting and responding Policy
- Internet Use (ICT Acceptable Use) policy

Further information about parental responsibility can be found in the Department's School Policy and Advisory Guide (SPAG) at the following

link: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/Pages/parentalresponsibility.aspx>

The [PROTECT](#) Portal - provides further information on how schools can meet their obligations under the Child Safe Standards

[ISP Quality Standards and School Resources](#) - see: International Student Program Quality Standards for Schools, Quality Standard 5 - Younger Students

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle or if guidelines change