

From: [Oliver Knight](#)
To: [Section 62A Applications Non Major](#)
Subject: Reference number: S62A/2025/0133. Application for CCTV at Stoke Lodge Playing Fields
Date: 17 November 2025 16:09:15

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To Whom it May Concern,

I contact you in support of the planning application currently under consideration by your department.

As you are no doubt aware, as a school, we have a safeguarding responsibility to our students and staff. the granting of this application and the use of CCTV at the Stoke Lodge site will enable us to more effectively discharge our safeguarding duty by providing accountability when staff supervise students off site as well as aid us in preventing bullying or other issues between students which may otherwise go unnoticed by staff. As a school our safeguarding duty is our most fundamental responsibility that we undertake with the utmost diligence, care and attention. The granting of this application will not only allow us to maintain and advance the outstanding practice that we currently undertake but also show clearly and robustly that the safeguarding of young people is a matter taken as seriously by your office as it is by us.

The more traditional use of CCTV in deterring and recording incidents outside of the hours of use is also an important factor to consider. As you may be aware, the facilities at Stoke Lodge have been the target of deliberate vandalism and graffiti. In addition, the threat of damage to or theft of equipment stored on the premises is one that can be mitigated, in part, by the use of CCTV and by extension the granting of this application. A logical consequence of this is that as a school, we will need to spend less of our funding on repairing or replacing damaged and missing equipment which will allow us to devote those funds to furthering the experiences of our fantastic students.

As we know, there are some areas that the public access around our city that have been used by a number of people to engage in anti social or illegal behaviour such as excessive drinking of alcohol and substance misuse. The detrimental affect that this behaviour may have on the site and the surrounding residential properties as well as on the people who undertake such behaviour can again, in part, be mitigated by the use of CCTV in it's capacity as a deterrent as well as providing help should investigation or further action become necessary.

The use of CCTV across the city and more and more in private residences has had a palpable impact on dispute resolution and the ability of businesses and private citizens to spend less time engaged with scenarios and situations that can be easily remedied by looking at a CCTV recording. In the granting of this application, we hope to join those businesses and individuals in being able to focus our time and resources on preparing our students to become part of our communities.

As we approach the winter months and beyond, CCTV will allow relevant staff to more easily assess conditions on the site and allow them to make contingency decisions that minimise impact on students learning and progress.

Finally, in speaking with friends, families and colleagues as well as the general public, it has become clear that a belief exists that young people are not taking the opportunities of playing sport or using excellent facilities such as Stoke Lodge for a myriad of reasons. Granting this application and allowing the use of CCTV at the site sends a powerful

message that young people deserve a safe and accessible place to take part in sport and take advantage of the skills and life lessons that sport has to offer.

This is in addition to the transferable skills and lessons that they will undoubtedly learn such as teamwork, perseverance and resilience which can only benefit our students and by extension over time, our community. As a member of staff at Cotham school, I see daily the benefits of the attributes mentioned above and believe whole heartedly that they form the backbone of a well rounded and impactful education which you are in a position to help us deliver.

Yours Sincerely
Oliver JE Knight



Oliver Knight

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Achievement - Diversity - Respect

We believe everyone in our school community adds something special to who we are. We show dignity towards others by being kind and respectful in our communications with each other.

PARKING - May we remind visitors that there is no on-site parking at the school. Parking is available off-site in accordance with the Cotham Residents Parking Scheme.

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/parking/cotham>

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