



1 December 2025

**Stoke Lodge Playing Fields, West Dene, Bristol, BS9 2BH**

**Reference number: S62A/2025/0133**

I support Cotham School's application for CCTV at its playing field at Stoke lodge for the following reasons:

**Safeguarding duties:**

- The school has a legal duty of care to protect students and staff
- CCTV provides accountability when staff supervise students off-site
- Helps prevent bullying, fights, or inappropriate behavior during school use
- Protects against allegations involving students or staff

**Out-of-hours security:**

- School facilities are frequent targets for vandalism, graffiti, and break-ins
- Equipment (goalposts, storage sheds) can be stolen or damaged
- Prevents unauthorized access by young people after hours (drinking, drug use, etc.)
- Reduces repair costs and disruption to PE lessons

**Public use conflicts:**

- If the field is used outside school hours, CCTV helps manage disputes
- Documents damage so the school can identify who's responsible
- Deters anti-social behaviour that could make the site unsafe for students or staff

**Risk management:**

- If the field is remote from the main school site, staff can't provide direct oversight
- Allows checking conditions before transporting students there
- Evidence for injury claims or accidents during school activities
- Retention and access policies

Schools must risk-assess all sites students use. For a school specifically, CCTV at an off-site field is often considered best practice rather than just optional, given the heightened safeguarding responsibilities.

Yours

Louise Davies

**Headteacher**

**Bedminster Down School**