

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 24 November 2025 18:05  
**To:** Section 62A Applications Non Major <section62anonmajor@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Support for Cotham School's CCTV Application at Stoke Lodge

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my full support for Cotham School's application to install CCTV at the Stoke Lodge playing fields. As a teacher at Cotham, I understand the safeguarding and operational challenges our PE staff face when teaching off-site, and I believe CCTV is an essential measure for the following reasons:

### **Safeguarding Duties**

- The school has a legal duty of care to protect students and staff.
- When PE lessons take place off-site, CCTV offers vital accountability and reassurance.
- It helps to prevent bullying, fights, or inappropriate behaviour during school use.
- It provides evidence in the event of allegations involving students or staff.
- Unlike staff teaching within the main school building, PE teachers must manage a more complex environment without immediate on-site support. CCTV helps bridge that gap.

### **Out-of-Hours Security**

- School facilities are often targets for vandalism, graffiti, and break-ins.
- Equipment such as goalposts and storage facilities can be damaged or stolen.
- We have already seen unacceptable and needless damage to the gates at the field—damage clearly caused by individuals who intend to avoid being identified.
- CCTV acts as a deterrent and helps ensure such criminal behaviour can be properly investigated.

### **Public Use Conflicts**

- If the field is used by the public outside school hours, CCTV provides a record to help resolve disputes.
- It documents damage so the school can identify who is responsible.
- It reduces anti-social behaviour that could compromise the safety of staff and students.

### **Risk Management**

- As Stoke Lodge is separate from the main school site, staff cannot always provide direct oversight.
- CCTV allows conditions to be checked before transporting students.
- It provides evidence in cases of accidents or injury during school activities.
- Appropriate retention and access policies can ensure responsible and secure use of any footage.

In my view, anyone who damages public or educational property—property that exists to protect and serve students and staff—should face full criminal investigation. Campaigning against CCTV while ignoring ongoing criminal damage does not serve the safety of our school community.

CCTV supports positive behaviour management and gives staff greater confidence that any incidents involving children or groups of children can be properly investigated. It also protects teachers from unfounded claims and ensures transparency in situations that may arise during lessons.

For these reasons, I believe CCTV installation is a necessary and proportionate step to safeguard students, staff, and the wider school community.

Kind Regards

Josephine Brock



### **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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