



**Statement in Response to the Query on
the CCTV cameras in the Classroom**

Last week, the social media reported that our Primary School has installed CCTV cameras in the classroom without the notice of the parents. It raised the concern whether the School may have failed to fully comply with the relevant guidance issued by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data.

We hereby would like to address this concern after making investigation from staff and technicians to dispel any fear or misgivings.

The CCTV cameras were installed in each classroom by the building company as inbuilt facilities of the school for later use. When the School took over the new school building in 2009, the cameras were already there.

In the very beginning, the school leader then thought that the cams might be useful for teaching and learning purpose, e.g. recording lessons for students who could not attend school. There has never been any intention to use them for surveillance. However, the consideration of using the cams was eventually dropped and not a single image was taken.

However, to make the cams functional, a network system and streaming server are needed but right from the beginning the system was not installed and since then nothing has been installed to connect the cams to the server. In another word, the cams have never been and cannot be used.

The Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data, Hong Kong states that “If a CCTV system does not have recording function (still pictures or video), its use will normally not involve collection of personal data as defined under the Ordinance, and is therefore not regulated under the Ordinance” (Guidance on CCTV Surveillance and Use of Drones). The School considers that since the CCTV cams are not in operation at all, there is no need to put up notices on site.



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Actually we have not received any queries about the CCTV cameras so far. However, as time has changed with more concerns for personal privacy, the School is willing to remove all the cams from the classrooms. We hope this clarification would bring peace of mind and heart to all stakeholders.

School Managing Committee

Good Hope Primary School cum Kindergarten

4 July 2021