

ONVU



HALCYON

ONVU Learning is a lesson capture platform that enables teachers and their coaches and peers to reflect accurately on their practice, making best use of the training that they receive from coaches and peers.

It uses unique technology to provide teaching staff with clear images and audio of their entire classrooms so that they can apply their insights to their chosen CPD activities.

ONVU Learning replaces the need for observers in the classroom, and allows teachers to securely share clips. This means that teachers and their collaborators will see for themselves what is really going on, without the risk of an 'observer effect' changing how a lesson goes. Clips from longer recordings can be created, shared through our secure cloud and reviewed collaboratively to help teaching staff get the most out of their development opportunities.



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# ONVU Parent FAQ

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Below are the answers to questions we have received about the new OnVu cameras that have been installed in some classrooms. We absolutely understand the initial concern some of you have expressed, and we have sincerely appreciated your feedback.

When reviewing your queries, leaders and staff have looked at all policies and procedures to ensure that we have a robust approach. As the first school in Norfolk we are breaking new ground, however the DfE has recently released a consultation - Managing the Digital Divide. It is clear that the use of recorded feedback can be a transformative tool to improve outcomes in all classrooms.

Some of the questions below have been answered by staff at Wicklewood, others (particularly around the company's standings) have been answered by staff from OnVu itself - this is made clear in the answers.

## **Will the recordings be downloadable?**

No. While this is possible within the OnVu system to output video as MP4, this option is deactivated for teachers. The only way to share and view the content is through OnVu itself, and only then with another member of Wicklewood staff.

## **Will the camera be recording all day?**

This very much depends on the teacher. We have suggested it might make sense to start with a morning or two a week and then build up from there. The aim is to accurately record teacher practice, and the less irregular the use, the easier it is to settle into usual behaviour. Teachers will never be asked to turn the camera on at certain times - it is for their professional development.

## **How long has this type of training been under review?**

We have been looking at OnVu specifically for over a year, however this project is already running in other schools. Facilitating better teacher reflection has always been integral to our research-led approach to teaching practice. We have been working with other schools to understand the impact and challenges for over a year.



# ONVU Parent FAQ



## **What other options were considered?**

The most common alternative direction we considered is a device called an Iris. This is wheeled from room to room to record a lesson in a similar way. What teachers have found, though, is that this leads to a performative and inaccurate representation of actual practice. This is of course also a limitation of in-person observations by leaders. By setting the OnVu cameras to record regularly at certain points in the week, all staff and children can fall back into more natural and realistic mode, rendering the observations more impactful.

## **Why is ONVU necessary in school?**

At Halcyon, we are continually developing our practice to reflect the very latest in educational research - currently, we are working with the support of researcher/author Shirley Clarke to facilitate this (although she is not affiliated with this decision). We need a means of reflecting on the impact of new pedagogical approaches in real-time and from an impartial and broader-scoped third perspective. We also need a method of capturing good practice to provide new staff with in-depth examples of what to aim for.

Fundamentally, it is a tool to improve classroom culture and outcomes for all children. As part of our teaching and learning CPD, teachers feedback anecdotes to evidence the impact of the project - this takes the form of visual posters and written records of pupil voice clearly in the moment feedback from ONVU will be more powerful. Teachers can review pupil responses and adapt planning quickly. Enabling self reflection without the need for repeated time consuming and stressful lesson observations which will not always reflect day to day classroom practice. Therefore reducing teacher pressure and quicker improvement which will be measured through the impact of lessons over the term and in half termly assessment weeks and pupil feedback.

## **Why is parent permission not required?**

Through our existing permissions, parents have always had control over the extent to which external bodies can see images/video of the students, which is why parents can opt out of images going on the walls of the school or publicly online (the school website etc). The only people ever able to see these images are staff. Even OnVu themselves cannot access the content. Because the recordings are deleted every 30 days, and any shared snippets can only be seen by staff, we regard this as an internal use of an image - similarly to how we take photos or videos to evidence work on our class iPads. This then falls within our public task and statutory duty to best support the learning of children.

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**How much time will the teachers have to self-evaluate each week - will this affect the time the teachers are in the classroom?**

For the most part, teachers will use their existing planning, preparation and assessment time to assess their practice. In many cases it will save staff time, as they will be able to evidence good practice simply and quickly.

**How can you be sure the recordings are not downloaded to something offline - USB stick/a different cloud etc?**

The content is saved on the camera itself and staff use an online portal to access it. The functionality to download to local machines is disabled for all staff. Teachers can snip and save specific content, but it is held and accessed within the secure online portal that only they, and designated members of staff can access. If there was any instance where footage was to leave the OnVu portal, additional permissions would be sought.

**Will there be a clear age-appropriate explanation to the children?**

We will explain the cameras and the purpose of them to the children through use of age appropriate discussions and social stories. Students will be encouraged to look at the feedback as partners in their learning in just the same way as we do when marking books.

**Is this a long term investment? Onvu Learning Limited has given notice for voluntary strike-off (14.01.25) - who is the license agreement with?**

OnVu say: *ONVU Learning is a trading name and brand of ONVU Technologies AG, registered ONVU LTD in the UK [ONVU LIMITED overview - Find and update company information - GOV.UK](#)*

**<https://www.onvulearning.com/software-license-agreement/>**

**Is the company a UK/EU based company - will the data follow the GDPR regulations for the UK?**

OnVu say: *Yes, ONVU Learning follows GDPR regulations for the UK. All data will site within the EU and United Kingdom*

*As mentioned earlier, ONVU Learning is a trading name and brand of ONVU Technologies AG, registered ONVU LTD in the UK. [LIMITED overview - Find and update company information - GOV.UK](#)*

*More information can be found here - <https://www.onvulearning.com/frequently-asked-questions/> under "[How does ONVU Learning ensure Data Protection](#)"*

## **Can you ensure the cloud is hosted in the UK/EU?**

Yes, ONVU Learning is hosted on UK servers using Amazon Web Services (AWS) More information can be found here - <https://www.onvulearning.com/security-statement/>  
Security and FAQs | ONVU Learning

## **When the whole class needs to get changed (I.e before school photos on a PE day) will the cameras be switched off/children taken somewhere private?**

Teachers have complete control over the times that the cameras record. Because we now encourage children to come to school in their PE kits, there should be few instances as outlined above, but of course any changing will either be done in the changing rooms / toilets or the camera will be turned off to facilitate this.

## **How have other schools improved with this system in place?**

OnVu have successfully worked with a range of different types of schools. We have spoken to staff from other schools, all of whom rated the system highly as a means of teacher development. The schools pointed to staff quickly being able to recognise and address quirks in their own lesson delivery, as well as the ability to share/view recorded best practice. Newly trained teachers have particularly benefited from clear examples of school expectations, hence our focus on placing cameras in rooms with Early Careers Teachers. This is now an established way of working for Early Career Teachers; who use digital progress as part of limited teacher training - Step Lab provides newly qualified teachers with video content to model best practice. Our Shirley Clarke project also uses video content from other schools to model best practice. By using ONVU, teachers have the opportunity to create their own best practice clips. Our Executive Headteacher is working with leaders from other federations/multi-academy trusts to further develop the progress.



# ONVU Parent FAQ



## **Are they being installed in all the classrooms as the letter said some - if only some classrooms, which ones were chosen and why have them specifically?**

We have installed 10 cameras across the federation, and distributed them to teachers who showed an interest in using the system to support their practice, with a particular focus on Early Career Teachers.

## **What are the opinions of the teaching staff, did they get an input and do they feel this will be of a greater benefit to what has been provided previously?**

At the outset of the project and prior to training, a minority of staff had misgivings about how the devices would be used. Once they had:

- Attended training and FAQ sessions with ONVU
- Opportunities to reflect and review
- Shown that the camera controls lay entirely with them, and that the purpose of OnVU is to support their class team in meaningfully reflecting and improving on their practice, most of these concerns disappeared - some going on to request that they be part of the initial installation phase (as mentioned above).

## **My child has been hurt in school. Can I see the footage to see what happened?**

Footage will not be shared with parents. If an incident has occurred within class, incidents it will be reported and resolved in line with our usual school policy and procedures e.g Relationships policy, Keeping Children Safe in Education, Acceptable Use policy, Staff Code of Conduct.

## **Who can see the footage that is recorded in my child's classroom?**

The only people ever able to see these images are school staff. Even OnVu themselves cannot access the content. Because the recordings are deleted every 30 days, and any shared snippets can only be seen by class/ internal staff. Permissions for any sharing will be sought in line with school policy. We regard this as an internal use of an image - similarly to how we take photos or videos to evidence work on our class iPads. This then falls within our public task and statutory duty to best support the learning of children.

## **Who has access to the videos that are recorded?**

Only the account to which the camera is linked and the admin panel have default access to the content. This can be shared with other members of staff, but only by following the agreed school protocols.

## **Can the footage be checked by SLT?**

Only when permissions have been given following the schools agreed processes.

## **Can the admin account see the footage?**

Yes, all recorded content can be accessed by the admin account (Ben Fox), but our Code of Conduct requires verbal consent before footage is viewed. Admins would only need to view recordings to diagnose technical difficulties.

## **What happens if I notice a safeguarding incident in the footage?**

Record incidents on CPOMs as normal, referencing that it was observed when reviewing classroom footage. Footage cannot be shared. CPOMS sentence stem “Upon reviewing ONVU footage recorded on \_\_\_\_\_, I noticed this incident take place \_\_\_\_\_”

## **If I have a camera in my room, does it have to be used?**

There is no direct obligation to use the camera for a set amount of time. Keep in mind that recorded videos can be used instead of in-class observations. The camera works best when used consistently, however leaders understand that during transition for a new user they will need to build tech confidence.

## **What if there is someone in my room who doesn't want to be filmed?**

Whilst we understand that people may not be comfortable with filming, the only person that will have access to the footage is the class teacher. The footage will not be shared without explicit consent being gathered for this, even amongst other Wicklewood staff. In practice, it is no different to adults observing other adults within the classroom. The only situation where this may be different is when you have an external professional within your classroom and they may not want to be filmed and then the class teacher should deactivate the camera. The ONVU system can be directed to focus on certain areas such as the class teacher or specific group.

## **What should I do with regards to external professionals coming into my classroom?**

Ensure that the individual is aware of the camera and ask whether they are comfortable being in the footage. If not, deactivate the camera while they are working in the room.

## **A parent has asked to see the footage, can I share it?**

No footage can be shared with parents under any circumstances. In the parent FAQs this has clearly been explained to them. This is the exact phrasing in the parent FAQs:

Footage will not be shared with parents. If an incident has occurred within class, incidents it will be reported and resolved in line with our usual school policy and procedures e.g Relationships policy, Keeping Children Safe in Education, Acceptable Use policy, Staff Code of Conduct.

ONVU is a tool aligned to our federation vision, mission and aims. It is Halcyon's ambition to ensure a world of opportunities is to be available to our students. Teachers will need to have detailed feedback to reshape learning.

This code of conduct applies at all times while using ONVU Learning and is an extension to Halcyon's Acceptable Use and Safeguarding policies and should be read in conjunction with all Halcyon policies.

Please read carefully.

- You agree NOT to share your passwords or login credentials with any third party. All sharing of material is to be authorised by SLT. This may be time limited or for specific contexts.
- You ensure that your computer is secure and no-one else has access or can gain access to your local/network login.
- You respect the confidential nature of any ONVU Learning content that has been shared with you and use that content for the purposes agreed between you and the owner.
- You must NOT attempt or perform any task that would either put ONVU Learning at risk or the data you are accessing/using/reviewing at risk.
- You agree to submit any security concerns to your local network administrator.
- You agree to follow the Halcyon's safeguarding policy should you observe anything concerning while using ONVU Learning. ONVU Learning has its own Safeguarding Policy that users must read before first using ONVU Learning.
- You agree to only access video footage that has been shared with you or where you are the subject (e.g the teacher) for professional development purposes.
- You agree to stop accessing data that you believe you should not have access to and report it to your line manager.
- You agree not to copy, send or transfer data outside the school's/organisation's ONVU Learning storage area.
- You agree not to share with anyone besides other ONVU Learning authorised users any clip or recording. Authorised users are likely to be:
  - o Teaching staff in the school as defined by the customer;
  - o Professional development coaches/mentors authorised by the school;
  - o Not intended to be parents, pupils or other third parties not connected with teaching staff's professional development.
- All data remains the property of the school/organisation and must not be shared with any third-party or individual that has not been formally authorised.

# Halcyon Code of Conduct

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Please note: ONVU Learning is primarily a tool to close the disadvantage gap by improving staff development. It is not a surveillance system.

Failure to follow the code will result in loss of access and disciplinary action will be taken if appropriate. External agencies will be involved, as certain activities may constitute a criminal offence and would certainly constitute a safeguarding referral to the LADO.

If you are willing to accept these terms and conditions and have read and signed the Halcyon Federation's Acceptable Use and Safeguarding policies then please sign below.

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_