

## Crime prevention and safety cameras

We operate closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras on campus and in the surrounding streets to help improve safety, deter criminals from targeting the University, discourage criminal behaviour, and identify and prosecute offenders. They are just one tool we use – there are emergency phone booths on campus, Campus Watch and a free University Safety Patrol car to name just a few more.

### Why are there cameras?

Because of the unique residential nature of Otago we have a responsibility to make sure our students are well cared for. We've been seeing incidents of non-students entering the student flatting areas looking to cause trouble and criminals targeting students so we've been looking at ways to deter this activity and catch offenders.

In 2017 when the University was considering cameras in public streets, students were asked for their views. 65% of respondents said that they don't oppose the use of cameras if they were for safety and crime prevention reasons. Based on students' feedback we reviewed and reduced the proposed number of cameras in the public streets and made it clearer in the policy that they're only being used for safety and crime prevention.

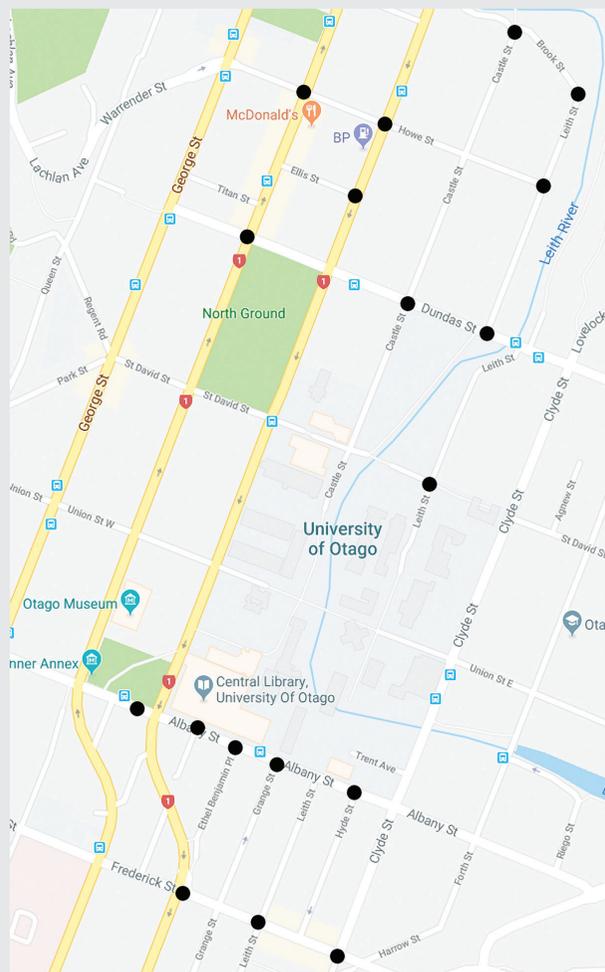
You can find out more about CCTV and read the policy at: [otago.ac.nz/proctor](http://otago.ac.nz/proctor)

### Who operates them?

They are operated by the Proctor's Office. Camera feeds are sent from the cameras to the Campus Watch control room and the footage is held securely in the Proctor's Office for 30 days then overwritten. Only approved management staff can view recorded footage in line with the University's CCTV policy.

### Where are they on the streets around campus?

Cameras are operating throughout the University campus. Signage tells you when you are entering an area where cameras are operating. The black dots on the street map show where cameras are operating in public streets around campus (map to right).



### How can the cameras help me if I'm the victim of a crime?

You should always report any crime to the Police immediately and let the Proctor's Office know too. If there are cameras in the area the Proctor can review camera footage to help identify and prosecute the offenders, and also support you and arrange help from the University's student support services. The OUSA Support Centre can also provide you with support. If you want footage to be reviewed contact the Proctor's Office: St David Lecture Theatre complex or 0800 479 5000.

### Are the cameras legal?

Yes. There's a CCTV policy and procedures in place to make sure that the cameras are being operated in accordance with the Privacy Act 1993:

- There's a clear purpose – to make the student areas safer by reducing and deterring criminal behaviour and helping to identify and prosecute offenders.
- Camera footage cannot be used for addressing non-criminal student behaviour under the Code of Student Conduct.
- There's signage saying cameras are operating in the area.
- There's software within the cameras that blacks out private areas, like windows and doors so that residents' privacy is protected.
- The University's Registrar is the University's Privacy Officer and is responsible for making sure your privacy is not being breached and the Privacy Act 1993 is being followed.

### How do you know cameras work?

We currently operate cameras on our campuses and one in Hyde Street and have used footage to apprehend and prosecute offenders, and retrieve stolen property. An independent evaluation of the new cameras in the streets around campus will be undertaken to assess their effectiveness later in 2018.

### What if I want to make a complaint about the cameras?

Individuals have rights under the Privacy Act 1993 [privacy.org.nz/your-rights/the-privacy-principles](http://privacy.org.nz/your-rights/the-privacy-principles) If you believe your rights under the Act have been breached you can make a complaint to the University's Privacy Officer (University Registrar) by emailing [privacy.officer@otago.ac.nz](mailto:privacy.officer@otago.ac.nz). Every complaint is thoroughly investigated and you're advised in writing of the outcome.

The OUSA Support Centre can provide you with advice, advocacy and support if you have concerns or want to make a complaint.

## Safety tips

### Going out

- Stick with your friends – there's safety in numbers. Go out with people you know and trust.
- Stick to well-lit areas.
- Look after your friends – if they're drunk don't leave them, help them get home.
- Eat, and drink plenty of water – it helps your body manage the alcohol in your system.
- Have a plan to get home safely – you can also always call Campus Watch on 0800 479 5000 if you get stuck.
- In an emergency immediately phone 111.

### Protecting your stuff

- Lock your flat, doors and windows when you're going out.
- Know your neighbours. Creating a community keeps everyone safer.
- Lock your car, and don't leave stuff in it.
- Lock your bicycle with a strong chain and lock every time you use it.
- Mark your belongings with invisible markers, so that it's easier to track down if it is stolen – Campus Watch have markers you can use.
- When you go away make sure your flat looks "lived in", and register with the Proctor's Office for Campus Watch to check your flat.

### Having a party

- Check out [goodone.org.nz](http://goodone.org.nz) to register your party and get tips on having a great party including:
  - Letting your neighbours know.
  - Avoiding unwanted guests.
  - Looking after your mates.
  - Getting help if things get hairy.
- Be aware of the noise and behaviour levels
- Ask Campus Watch for help on 0800 479 5000.
- In an emergency immediately call 111.
- Rope your friends in to help with the clean-up, and make use of skip days and recycling days.

## Campus Watch

Campus Watch staff are there to help. They:

- Are human information booths on lots of student issues.
- Can walk you to your car or flat.
- Provide a free Safety Patrol car 11pm-3am Wednesdays-Saturdays.
- Want you to have fun without getting into trouble that could harm your study or career later on.
- Can check on your flat when you're out of town.
- Proactively discourage local criminals from hanging out in student areas.

## Proctor's Office

The Proctor's Office runs Campus Watch, operates cameras and makes sure that people and property are safe.

The Proctor also partners with OUSA, other groups, and local businesses on things like skip days, glass bans, and DCC recycling.



Police | Fire | Ambulance: **Ph 111**  
Register your party: **goodone.org.nz**  
Campus Watch and CCTV information:  
**Ph 0800 479 5000 | otago.ac.nz/proctor**  
**ousa.org.nz/support**

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# CCTV on and around campus

## FAQs and safety tips

