

School's video upgrade improves student learning experience



Industry

Education

Customer

Fazakerley High School

Region

UK

IDIS Partners

Apex Network Solutions

Background

Secondary school senior managers seek improved site-wide monitoring



Fazakerley High School, a co-educational secondary school in Liverpool, moved into new buildings in 2003 and embarked on a successful transformation programme to raise standards. The school, which is in a challenging catchment area, established a new reputation as a nurturing, well run learning environment. But fifteen years later senior staff found themselves struggling with an outdated video surveillance system that was no longer fit for purpose.

Challenges

Finding a high quality, affordable solution that's easy to use



The introduction of video surveillance at the time of the move to new buildings was a key step in setting high standards of personal behaviour and protecting students and staff. However, the old analogue video system had become almost impossible to use, with blurred and grainy images, no easy search facility and failing cameras. A recent attempt to upgrade the system also proved disappointing, explains Matt Fleming of Apex Network Solutions: the replacement technology turned out to be difficult to maintain and use, and the user interface was too complex. Apex was asked to re-design the system from scratch, and challenged to recommend a solution that was affordable and easy for staff to use as well as delivering high quality images.

Solution

A video system convenient enough for teaching staff to use in real-time



Apex recommended IDIS technology to deliver significantly upgraded video coverage of corridors and key internal areas. Forty three full HD vandal-resistant DC-D3233RX-N internal domes were installed to record activity across the site. Easy to install they capture high quality images in all lighting conditions. Four 12MP IR Fisheye domes (model DC-Y3C14WRX) were installed in the dining hall to provide a complete view of the area. With various viewing composition options, and six de-warping view modes, these fisheye units ensure image quality that allow individuals to be easily identified.

Video is recorded on two IDIS DR-6332PS-S NVRs and all the cameras can now be viewed in real time by staff using PC monitors and/or tablets, with the system simple to use thanks to the free IDIS Center VMS video management system.

Results and Benefits

Improved video lets pupils feel safe and improves behaviour



The IDIS video solution is a significant step up from both the original analogue system, and the more recent upgrade, says the schools network manager Derek Harmston. Image quality is outstanding and by allowing staff to view real-time video on convenient devices, such as tablets, incidents involving groups of pupils are now quickly dealt with before they escalate.

Recordings are now easily searchable with time/date stamped footage and the high definition images provide evidence that can be shown to pupils, parents and, if necessary, the police.

“ The difference is amazing. I’ve tried different systems and it’s obvious that the team that designed the IDIS software really know what they are doing. It’s easy to navigate and fabulous to use. ”

In just a few weeks our IDIS system has already paid for itself in terms of resolving disputes and improving behaviour across the school. The technology ensures that our pupils feel safe and it puts our staff in control. ”

Derek Harmston
Network Manager, Fazakerley High School



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