

Creating a Safer Campus for Everyone

POLAR

SUPPLYING UNIFIED COMMUNICATION FOR EDUCATION



Should the unthinkable happen, if there was an imminent threat to your students and staff, do you have an estate-wide communication system to help keep everyone safe?



Whilst the UK does not suffer from the tragedies that blight campuses across the USA, there has nonetheless been a marked increase in serious incidents where such technology would have enabled a rapid and robust response to have taken place on campuses in the UK. **AtlasIED** is the world leader in mass communication systems for a variety of applications, including security systems for education.

By adapting your current alarm/communication system, AtlasIED's speakers with integrated LED signs, controlled by intelligent software that will take your existing everyday communications to a new level of sophistication, will deliver the tangible benefit of being ready to keep staff and students safe if the need sadly arises.

Please don't let this document be the valued information that you should have read once it's too late.



Background

Whilst schools all have alarm systems which are used in case of emergencies, or to signify the end of lessons or registration many of these systems are confined to a limited number of sounds and lack the sophistication to communicate a more targeted message, for example, the start of a lockdown situation.

Twenty-first century schools require technology that can be relied on at the point when you need it to make that difference. Technology that you don't have to run to the school office to put into action, but instead can be initiated automatically or speedily from an authorised user's Smartphone.

At a time of increasing competition within the independent schools' sector, being able to offer parents of your students the reassurance that you have a state-of-the-art system in place to reduce the likelihood of harm in the event of a critical situation, clearly demonstrates the commitment you are making to their child's safety.

A school, college or university is so much more than just its academic lessons. It's a community, a culture, a family where life-long friendships are made, where influences – good or bad - will last for the rest of their lives, and where, like many other places, the very best responses to critical situations must be robust if called upon.

Legally, schools must comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act [1974], along with the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999). Furthermore, Headteachers have a contractual duty to promote the safety of their students and colleagues.



By Royal Proclamation

As announced in the King's Speech on 17th July 2024, the UK government's priorities for legislation during the forthcoming parliamentary session will include Protect Duty 1, otherwise known as **Martyn's Law**, which is now likely to come into law during the coming 12 months.

As part of security operating procedures under Martyn's Law, requirements, which will extend to schools as well as entertainment venues, include the need to have "a clear alert and communication strategy during emergencies."

All schools should have a plan or procedure in place as part of their preparation for such eventualities, but in an active situation, how confident are they that their planning will deliver a robust response without the communication excellence that AtlasIED provides? If the alarm for a lockdown incident is mistaken as a fire alarm, then evacuating buildings will deliver the exact opposite to the response intended. Nor, when lives are at risk, should any school rely on WhatsApp group messages, emails, or other unsuitable communications as the response.

Estate-Wide Solutions from AtlasIED



Estate-wide means estate-wide, not just within the buildings. Sports fields and other external areas can be covered by external alarms with a range of notification alerts.



Within the buildings, a network of IPX speakers that connect to the network incorporate LCD screens that can scroll pre-programmed messages or display a colour to signify an alert condition. The system can also connect to internet enabled interactive displays and projectors that are already installed, forcing messages onto the screens to make everyone in the classroom aware of what is unfolding, with clear instructions to stay put, move to a safe space within the building, or to evacuate. If the displays are in standby mode, the AtlasIED system will turn them on automatically.



These speakers have built in microphones so that students and staff can provide real time information from their location, allowing instructions to be updated during an incident as circumstances change. If students and staff are unable to speak, it will still enable those in control to listen in to parts of the campus that they can't see.

Clear unambiguous instructions will minimise the potential harm to everyone on campus; students, colleagues and visitors.

Hopefully you'll never have to put your system into active use, but a big part of your return on investment will be the peace of mind the parents of your students will have, knowing that if the worst happens, you've left no stone unturned to prepare for the best possible outcome. Now won't that help attract future student intakes to your school?



ALERT - Slip Risk Detected

Mitigate slip and fall risks before an incident.



ALERT - Trespass Detected

Detect trespassers or loitering in specified locations, dates and times.



CCTV

Many schools already have CCTV in place. The problem is that very often it's only accessed after something has gone wrong, and when evidence is being searched for.

What if AI software could constantly monitor your CCTV cameras and in real time detect situations that are of concern before the situation escalates?

IntelliSee™ from AtlasIED, is AI software that continually monitors live camera feeds to transform your passive unwatched cameras into a real-time force of protection against day-to-day risks. Without human intervention, it can automatically detect intruders, loitering, unauthorised vehicles, and even violent acts against people. When incidents are detected, alerts are automatically sent to the necessary recipients.



Beyond Technology

On its own, simply installing technology will not deliver the intended outcome. Human participation and interventions are required, including:

- 1.** Manual critical incident plans will need to be configured for a digital deployment, so that at the point of the system being triggered manually or automatically, the instructions for everyone to follow are correct.
- 2.** Access to initiate the system will need to be set up for the necessary people. This can include via MS Teams, Mobile App, Office Phones and Panic Buttons.
- 3.** A culture of security-awareness to identify potential risks and follow instructions needs to be developed. This will include training and practice drills.



Beyond a Critical Incident

Until it's time to react to a critical incident, the system can be used for campus-wide communications, to make announcements, play music or any audio content, such as Prayers.

Pre-recorded messages on any aspect of school life, reminders or wellbeing can be set to run at specific times, with the system capable of relaying different messages to different zones simultaneously if required.

In addition to audio messages, text messages can also be sent to smartphones, interactive displays and computers.

And remember, external areas can also be covered, providing a system that takes sports days, summer fetes, and alumni days, in its stride.

Zonal messaging creates clarity and removes confusion.

405

INCIDENTS OF
KNIFE CRIME AT
EDUCATIONAL
ESTABLISHMENTS

265

RESULTED IN
INJURY OR DEATH
OF THE VICTIM

222

INCIDENTS WERE
BETWEEN STUDENTS
AT THE SAME
SCHOOL

To Conclude

This system from AtlasIED won't just come to your aid for critical incidents, it's your mass communication system to elevate on-campus communication to the next level.

It's a reality that the world we are living in is becoming increasingly polarised and dangerous, and all the people who have experienced tragic events, in Manchester, in Stockport, in Epsom, in London, never thought it would happen to them.

According to harrowing statistics from the Metropolitan Police in response to a Freedom of Information request, from 01.01.2018 to 30.09.2023, there were 405 incidents of knife crime at education establishments in their area. 100 of these were robbery related without any injury, and a staggering 265 resulted in injury or death of the victim. 222 incidents were between students at the same school.

This all indicates a pressing requirement to become better prepared for acts of violence, terrorism and other major incidents that can occur on your premises or nearby.

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