



School protects £1 million of IT equipment with Oncam

CLIENT

A boys' secondary school with a mixed sixth form, with around 1,200 students aged 11-18.

CHALLENGE

To provide the best in IT teaching and learning, the school invested £1 million in new equipment for its IT suite. Protecting this investment from the risk of theft and damage was a high priority.

SOLUTION

Systems integrator Clarion Security Systems installed a ceiling-mounted Oncam 360° 5MP camera in each IT classroom, and integrated them with the school's existing Avigilon recording platform.

RESULTS

The Oncam technology is successfully helping the school protect its IT investment by providing full situational awareness, deterring any risk of break-ins, theft or damage.

When a British secondary school spent £1 million on state-of-the-art IT for its students, naturally it wanted to minimise the risk of theft or damage to the equipment. The solution to protecting its investment was simple: a ceiling-mounted Oncam 360 camera in each IT classroom.

Building on a video protection strategy

The school's IT manager is responsible for everything from classroom computers to the technology protecting the campus. On joining the school, he worked with Clarion Security Systems to design and install a comprehensive video monitoring system to help protect the assets of the school and keep staff and students safe. Dozens of wall-mounted narrow-field HD cameras cover the external and communal areas, and are integrated with an Avigilon recording platform for video stream management.

The next item on the agenda was to enhance the teaching and learning of IT skills by investing in new computing equipment, to the tune of £1 million. Naturally the school wanted to protect that investment by deterring break-ins, theft and damage. Its concern wasn't just about the potential financial loss, but the cost of lost learning if equipment was compromised.

Satisfied with the capabilities of the existing external video monitoring

system, the school turned to Clarion for advice on extending video protection to the IT suite.

Bringing 360-degree coverage to life

Chris Billinge, Clarion's Managing Director, demonstrated a narrow-field camera in the school's IT suite – but at only 130 degrees, the field of view wasn't enough. The nature of an IT classroom brings unique challenges, including large monitors that shield users from this type of camera. Even two or three narrow-field cameras in a classroom would still leave blind spots.

“Oncam's 360-degree technology is helping the school to successfully meet its objectives by deterring any risk to its IT equipment.”

Chris Billinge
Managing Director,
Clarion Security Systems

School protects £1 million of IT equipment with Oncam

“When you find a powerful technology that’s easy to use and well supported, you stick with it. That’s why Oncam is our preferred 360-degree camera.”

Chris Billinge
Managing Director,
Clarion Security Systems

The picture changed completely when Chris demonstrated an Oncam 360-degree HD camera.

To make the demo realistic, he raised the camera to the ceiling and showed live footage from it on a smart device running the Oncam mobile app with its unique dewarping capability.

“It took the IT manager’s breath away,” says Chris. “He could immediately see how the school would benefit by using this type of camera technology, and knew it was exactly what they needed.”

He adds: “This type of reaction is typical. Before seeing the technology in action, people just can’t imagine the quality of all-round visibility it provides.”

Delivering complete situational awareness

A typical IT classroom in the school measures around 8m by 8m and can cater to around 30 students. A single Oncam 360 five-megapixel camera mounted in the middle of each classroom’s ceiling is more than capable of tracking everything and everyone in the room. There are no blind spots, so even the biggest monitor can’t hide anyone from sight.

“The image quality is so sharp,” says Chris, “that even where individuals are dressed alike, they can be identified by their faces. When you

find a powerful technology that’s easy to use and well supported, you stick with it. That’s why Oncam is our preferred 360-degree camera.”

Clarion integrated the Oncam 360s with the school’s existing Avigilon recording platform. A global partnership between Oncam and Avigilon ensures that their technologies work together seamlessly.

“The Avigilon recording platform is really good at delivering the fully immersive perspective the Oncam cameras provide. Thanks to the integration work that’s gone on behind the scenes, I know it will work first time, every time.”

Deterrence is the best protection

Once the solution had been approved by the school’s governors and teachers, the students and their parents were informed that it was being implemented. The school’s CCTV policy was modified to include the new cameras, and the school’s entry with the Information Commissioner’s Office was updated to explain how the video would be used, stored and managed.

“I’m pleased to say that Oncam’s 360-degree technology is helping the school to successfully meet its objectives of reducing risk to its IT equipment,” confirms Chris.



www.clarionuk.com

www.avigilon.com