

Wolverhampton Police

Security Advice for School Premises

Site or boundary fencing: Ensure the fencing provision is intact, with no holes or footholds evident. Ensure gates are fitted with suitable locks and that bolts, hinges and handles do not act as easy foothold/scaling points.

Overgrown planting: Ensure planting around the building does not provide areas of seclusion, where intruders may gain easy cover. Such planting may also detract from easy surveillance of the site from security patrols, police, neighbours or passers-by. Trees and bushes overhanging boundary/security fencing can also act as an easy access route for the intruder. In cases where CCTV is provided, such planting may obstruct site lines.

External lighting: Ensure external lighting is operating correctly and that any damaged fittings/bulbs are repaired or replaced.

Loose debris: Remove from the site any loose debris which may be used for vandalism attacks or to assist in gaining entry.

Refuse storage: Bins and skips should be located at least 8 metres from buildings and be secured in position. Ideally bins and skips should have lockable lids. In the case of contractors skips, instructions must be given that their skips must not be placed adjacent to buildings.

Windows, doors and skylights: These must be adequately locked and secured at all times and it is recommended that grilles be fitted to skylights.

Intruder alarm: Ensure this is operating correctly and showing no faults. If the system is linked to a central monitoring station, check that this link has not been broken and that the monitoring station is able to detect an activation.

Building damage: Carry out an assessment of any damage to the building and ensure any remedial works actioned. Particular attention should be given to:

- Broken windows
- Roof damage – missing tiles/slates/broken roof lights
- Damaged wall cladding – vertical tiling, timber boarding etc.
- Skirts to base of ‘temporary’ or demountable classrooms

IT security: Put in place adequate security arrangements for IT equipment. Such measures include ensuring equipment is located within areas having suitable alarm protection, secured to desks etc. by appropriate lock-down devices, that items are security marked and that warning labels referring to security marking are placed in prominent locations/windows. Consider removing projectors and placing them high security and alarmed stores. Such equipment should not be visible from outside and empty packaging must not be stored outside.