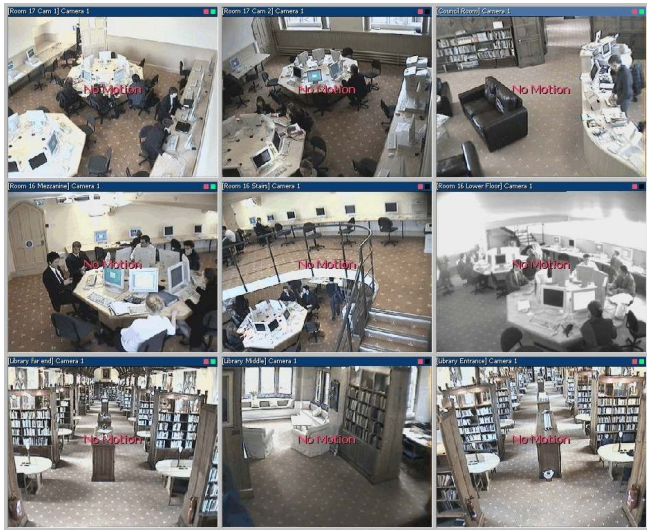


CLIFTON COLLEGE



Achieving the right educational atmosphere is the goal for every school. To monitor its newly-refurbished Percival Library and Information & Communications Technology (ICT) Centre, Clifton College has now implemented a digital surveillance system from Computer Network Limited. It has protected its assets, ensured an optimum learning environment and prepared for future surveillance expansion.

Clifton College in Bristol is an independent co-educational boarding and day school. Founded in 1862, there are three separate schools - Pre-Preparatory, Preparatory and Upper - covering an age range of 3-18. As one of the UK's top independent schools, there are currently 1250 pupils and 300 staff overall.

Located just outside the city centre, Clifton College is criss-crossed by public streets within a half-mile area. There are 40 separate buildings including boarding houses for the Upper and Preparatory Schools. Every building is networked and linked back to a

communications centre using Fast Ethernet technology. Computing resources include 25 servers and 500 personal computers plus 250 pupil-owned systems.

For Office Services Director Colin Lewis, this impressive network sat uneasily besides a problematic analogue CCTV

system in various locations. One of the most important buildings monitored by cameras is the Victorian-built Percival Library, widely recognised as the College's centrepiece. Used extensively, the 16,000-book library also had two adjacent ICT rooms.

When £1 million was made available for the Library's refurbishment, it also meant installing a replacement CCTV system to protect the upgraded facilities. A particular objective was to enable staff to monitor all areas from the Librarian's desk. Lewis says the Percival Library had to be maintained as a place for proper study.

"There was inadequate supervision in the Percival Library because of several areas located away from the view from the Librarian's desk. The goal was to maintain an appropriately studious environment," said Lewis.

Although a new analogue CCTV system was considered, the Library Committee became aware of digital

surveillance technology. This brought to light the inadequacies of the older system including poor images, deteriorating tapes and tedious searches. Several companies were approached for advice.

"Computer Network Limited understood our issues and requirements very quickly. Their sales and technical people are very good."

There were several objectives for a new digital surveillance system. Spare network capacity was available to capture and store high quality images from a standards-based solution. It also had to be managed centrally while giving anyone the means to view images via a web browser. And expansion into a campus-wide system in future years was likely too.

One of the biggest concerns lay with the listed building itself. The refurbishment project called for a new stone and glass entrance arch to create a link into a two-room ICT Centre featuring a new mezzanine floor. The Percival Library was to be sensitively complemented by the latest lighting, heating, furniture and technological equipment.

To ensure the most sympathetic installation possible, Computer Network Limited conducted a site survey and gave advice about camera positions, server configurations and cabling.



Experienced consultants then modified the College's network design for optimum surveillance with minimum adverse effects on the building.

Once the Library Committee agreed the proposals, the College provided its own network-linked server. Computer Network Limited then installed Milestone Surveillance Xprotect software, nine cameras and video servers in October 2002. The company also provided training and currently supports the system through an annual maintenance agreement.

"Computer Network Limited designed a digital surveillance solution to give Clifton College the maximum value for money. Installing a surveillance solution in a listed building is difficult, yet all the work was done very sympathetically by Computer Network Limited," said Lewis.

The Milestone Surveillance Xprotect software runs on a dual processor server under Microsoft Windows 2000. Full colour JPEG images at 4 frames per second are stored automatically into a seven-day archive from nine positions including several specialist infrared cameras.

Automatic motion detection supports round-the-clock monitoring of entry and exits, study areas and the ICT Centre. Library staff use a web browser at a desk for image monitoring, while access is available on demand from anywhere else.

The newly-refurbished Percival Library is a triumph in blending Victorian architecture with modern technology and comfort. Thanks to the digital surveillance system, appropriate pupil behaviour and



security of the Library in general are now assured. Should there be any incidents, staff have rapid access to high quality stored images. For example, some damage to computer equipment was quickly proven to be non-accidental.

"Our digital surveillance system is a proactive management tool to avoid issues. We can now manage pupils effectively in a large area, investigate any problems and make the appropriate decision. The Percival Library is a first class learning environment," said Lewis.

The new investment is a small step towards a campus-wide system. Clifton College believes that its flexible and scalable digital surveillance system will support cost-effective future expansion. Current ideas range from single remote cameras to monitoring all the boarding houses full-time. With the help of 21st Century technology, Clifton College is determined to protect its heritage.

QUICK FACTS

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Colin Lewis, Office Services Director,
Clifton College

Business Profile

Clifton College is an independent co-educational boarding and day school with 1250 pupils and 300 staff.

Solution

Milestone Surveillance Xprotect software
Vista Protos3 Day/Night Cameras (VPC-MX)
Convision CC1-IR Infrared CCTV Cameras
Extreme EX48 Night Vision Camera
Convision V100 Single Port Video Servers

Benefits

Asset Protection
Optimum Learning Environment
Scalable Solution

Contact Details

Computer Network Limited
Unit 16, Lansbury Estate
Lower Guildford Road
Woking, Surrey, GU21 2EP

Tel: 01483 480088
Fax: 01483 489977
E-mail: sales@cnluk.com
Web: www.cnluk.com