



NOTIFIER Intelligent Fire Detection is the Smart Solution for South Craven School

Case Study
South Craven School

 **NOTIFIER**[®]
by Honeywell

Honeywell's Notifier ID3000 fire system provides protection for Craven District's largest school.

South Craven School in North Yorkshire, rated 'outstanding' by OFSTED, attained academy status in 2011 and is one of the largest schools in North Yorkshire. With a student population of over 1,800 and a multi-building campus comprising of administrative offices, classrooms, sports halls and IT facilities, the school's site presents a broad range of facilities management and fire system challenges in an environment where safety is of paramount importance.

THE CHALLENGE

Since opening in 1957, the South Craven School campus had undergone a number of changes, to both the buildings on-site and the way they are used by staff and students. Further, by 2017, the on-site fire safety system had suffered a succession of performance issues, including numerous device failures. It was clear to its facilities staff that an infrastructural upgrade was required to ensure compliance with fire standards and the safety of people on-site.

To address this issue, the school turned to RV Fire Systems, a specialist contractor with over 30 years' experience in the design, supply, installation, commissioning, and maintenance of fire detection and suppression systems. Following a comprehensive audit, RV Fire Systems identified several areas requiring immediate attention, including both fire detection and alarm systems.

Specifically, the school needed a modern, networked and addressable fire alarm system to facilitate reliable consistent performance across the entire site. Newer buildings on campus required additional fire alarm panels to ensure full coverage. Key priorities included the use of flexible, future-proofed technology that would allow easy system upgrade or expansion in-line with the school's evolving needs. In addition, full system coverage was required throughout the replacement process to minimise disruption.

"The success of the fire alarm project at South Craven School was a real group effort," said Ben Strachan, RV Fire Systems. "The staff at South Craven School, ensured they fully understood the technicalities with the old system, its limitations and committed themselves to the solution we were proposing".

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THE SOLUTION

An assessment of the school's needs led to RV Fire Systems recommending the Honeywell Notifier ID3000 detection system with high-speed ID² Net network technology.

Key drivers for this decision were the advanced design, in-built intelligence and the flexibility it delivers. While providing a technically sophisticated range of facilities and functions, the Honeywell solution is also easy to install, program and operate, featuring a large easy to read LCD, clear messaging and compliance with the EN54 standard for primary user interfaces. Designed to be modular, the Notifier ID3000 system guarantees both scalability and broad application integration.

Commencing in early 2018, the first stage of deployment involved installation of a Notifier ID3000 4-loop panel alongside the old master panel in the main school building. To ensure full fire cover was maintained throughout the upgrade, the old and new panels were temporarily connected for the duration of the project. Over the next few months, all loops were systematically upgraded and connected to the new control panel. Legacy loop devices were then replaced with new Notifier Opal addressable devices. These included manual call points, intelligent optical and heat sensors, sounder bases, sounder beacon bases, interface and loop-powered smoke beams.

Later that year, a similar process then followed in four further buildings, with Notifier ID3000 2 loop control panels installed and old loop devices replaced, before the entire site was linked using the ID²Net cabling infrastructure. Once complete, a fully-functional, 6-panel ID3000 fire alarm system with fault tolerant ID²Net networking was presented to South Craven officials.

"Our engineers demonstrated exceptional technical skills when faced with multiple issues in troubleshooting the old system while also upgrading to the new system, which was not without its surprises," said Strachan. "Their teamwork and tireless efforts on site ensured the systems were installed to the customer's specification and in line with BS5839-1 standards".

THE RESULTS

Today, South Craven School has a system that combines exceptional fire detection technology, cutting-edge warning and evacuation devices and super-fast networking capability, all in one intuitive and easy to use system. The new solution also combats false alarms, ensuring there is minimal disruption to students' education.

Communicating with the panel and each other via the ultra-efficient Opal digital protocol, the new Notifier panels and devices use less power, while simultaneously ensuring messages travel through the system quickly and reliably. One of the fastest, most consistent and robust networking systems available, it can transmit an alarm across the entire network in less than half a second.

"We look forward to continuing our working relationship with South Craven School and maintaining their systems to the same high standard as delivered on this project," said Strachan.

Given the success of the project, South Craven School has now commissioned RV Fire Systems to install additional automatic detection hardware across several buildings. This new deployment will include Honeywell's Notifier Agile radio fire detection solution. The first phase of the Agile radio fire system upgrade is expected to commence early 2020 and will offer multiple benefits over hard-wired automatic detection when extending on existing fire alarm systems.



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