



**Building a Trusted
Environment
in Education**

I trust.





Pioneering Safety

Our Goal

We have one common goal at Allegion, to keep people safe and secure in the areas where they live, work and visit.

It's imperative that buildings in the education sector ensure the protection of those they house. The environment needs to feel safe while encouraging inspiration, learning and inclusivity. We meticulously operate within this sector alongside people like you to maintain and enhance safety and security standards within these facilities.

In May 2018, we conducted research involving key decision makers in the education sector. We questioned areas

including fire safety, security measures and safety protocols across their facilities.

Our findings have highlighted some of the key safety and security issues and concerns in UK education environments.

We recognise the challenges that decision makers face for the upkeep of these environments. We also understand the level of standards that education facilities in the UK have to deliver and maintain which is why we're here to assist with our expertise.

Our Guidance

This guide is dedicated to highlighting the key issues in education facilities, whilst providing insight into the way we, as an industry, can work together to improve the safety and security standards in our buildings.

From this guide you will be able to gain an understanding of the issues and challenges facing our education facilities, and the solutions for these problems.

We're here to help you work towards finding appropriate solutions for the problems we are facing, ultimately improving the standards of safety and security in this sector.

If you need further information on anything covered in this guide you can contact our expert advisors on the helpline or head to our website.



Fire Safety

Fire safety is integral to buildings such as schools, colleges and universities which house students, staff and visitors. One of the key issues the education sector is facing appears to be a lack of trust in the fire safety measures that are currently installed within facilities.

Nearly half of all education decision makers state they do not strongly trust their fire safety measures.

According to our 2018 report, in education facilities over one in five believe their fire safety measures to be compromised.

Of those, almost half say a lack of product knowledge towards fire safety products to be the reason behind this. In addition, over half of key decision makers feel that their fire safety measures are compromised due to undertraining.

The magnitude of these issues becomes clearer when you consider that almost one in five have experienced a fire safety incident at their facility in the last three years.

49.1%

say lack of knowledge on fire safety solutions to be a reason behind their compromised fire safety measures

Fire Doors

The impact of a fire in an education facility is devastating for staff, students and parents alike. Dealing with the immediate aftermath and longer term issues of lost work, closures and relocation is not only inconvenient, but costly.

Fire doors play a major role in the fire safety and protection of educational buildings. Yet, a damaged, faulty or misused fire door is one of the most common breaches of fire safety regulations.

Standard procedure should see that all specified fire doors are properly installed and maintained to help to contain a fire and buy precious time during an emergency evacuation. Checking a fire door is operating correctly is quick and easy, yet often standards slip. In the event of a fire, fire doors can only do their job if they are can close, however, our research suggests this isn't always possible.



Fire Door Safety Checklist

To make sure fire doors are operating correctly you should follow these tips:

- ✓ Check the door is a certified fire door by looking for an identification label on the top edge of the door or a colour-coded plug inserted into the jamb
- ✓ Ensure fire doors are professionally fitted and implemented, with the appropriate hardware installed
- ✓ Carry out regular checks on the gaps around the top and sides of the door to ensure that they are no more than 3mm
- ✓ Make sure the seals are intact and hinges are firmly fixed
- ✓ Check the door closes firmly onto the latch without sticking
- ✓ Ensure appropriate door signage such as 'fire door keep shut' is displayed
- ✓ Routinely check your fire doors are ready for use and operating as they should be

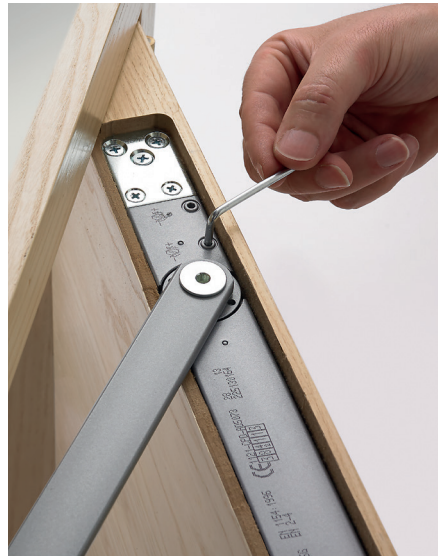
If you do suspect that one or more of your fire doors aren't meeting the required standards, please seek professional advice from one of our trained experts who are always on hand to guide you.

Fire Doors

Fire doors are designed to prevent the spread of smoke and fire through a building to allow occupants to evacuate safely and protect the building from damage. When fire doors are left open they are deemed obsolete and the safety of occupants cannot be guaranteed as the fire fails to be compartmentalised and the spreading is more severe. By fitting self-closing mechanisms to fire doors, once opened, the doors will close in the normal manner to help contain the fire.

By assessing and recording the risks of fire and taking steps to reduce or remove them, including any potential issues with fire doors, you can create a smart, safe and secure learning environment.

The most common fire door is the FD30 which can resist a fire for a minimum of 30 minutes



Over

70%

of education respondents say they have seen fire doors propped open



Knowing your buildings

Choosing the wrong product due to a lack of product knowledge is preventable.

A crucial element in the design of educational facilities is the consideration of fire safety and how best to protect pupils, teachers and the wider community. Having a good understanding of the building and knowing what needs to be done to ensure fire is managed effectively and safely will help you to make clear decisions on which fire safety solutions to implement.

Escape routes are vital to every building, especially schools. There will normally be one or two alternative short escape routes, leading to the final exit door or a door protected stairway. Fire doors should be fitted to stop the spread of fire, the routes regularly assessed to ensure that they are free from obstruction, and the fire doors and hardware checked to make sure they are operating correctly.

For high-use areas such as corridors which require doors to be held open or have lighter operational forces, electromagnetic or cam-action door closers are the perfect solution. These can include the Briton electromagnetic hold open/free swing 996 or 3934 closer or Briton 2700 series cam action closers.



80%+

of education facility decision makers acknowledge they have issues identifying the correct required products for their building

Electromagnetic door closers, in particular, can be linked to the building's fire alarm or smoke detection system. If there is a fire and the fire alarm activates, the system automatically releases the doors and lets them shut.

Final exit doors are often fitted with panic exit devices to provide safe and effective escape through the doorway with minimum effort, and without prior knowledge of operation.

Panic hardware, such as Briton low projection 570 series touch bars, installed on all emergency exits will allow everyone to evacuate the building as quickly and safely as possible.



Security

Security levels should be high on the agenda for education facilities including schools, colleges, universities and nurseries.

Security is ranked just behind fire safety as the most important aspect to their building by decision makers. Just under half of the facility managers and those involved in decision making say they are confident that all security measures in place at their building are robust and effective.

In comparison, 33.7% of our respondents believe their security measures may be compromised in some way

It's imperative that education facilities have appropriate security measures in place to create a safe environment for staff and pupils, and protect property. Security breaches and associated vandalism, arson and theft in such buildings severely disrupt the normal and daily routine, and often result in the loss of valuable and irreplaceable personal resources, teaching materials and students work.

Almost a quarter (24.3%) say they have experienced a security breach in the last three years



45.5%
are confident that all security measures are robust and effective

Out of hours

Security is made even tougher for education facilities that open their premises outside of normal hours. A regular occurrence for buildings in this sector.

With colleges and universities, for example, buildings can often remain open after hours to accommodate events such as late lectures. This is also the case for accessible facilities such as libraries and gyms. An increasing number of school facilities are also being used for after school activities and community use.

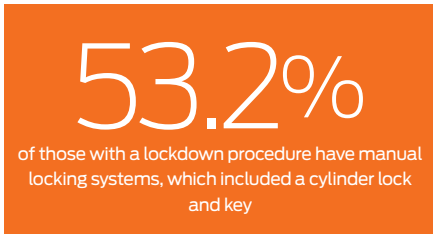


Lockdown Procedures

Everyone involved in the running of education establishments has a duty to ensure the safety of the occupants in their care and should consider what is needed in the event of a major incident.

Implementing a lockdown procedure is critical to ensuring the protection of staff and students, as well as valuable equipment and sensitive areas holding confidential data.

Having an emergency lockdown procedure in place restricts access and egress to a site or building safeguarding the facility from potential attacks. This means that not only will the facility and its' equipment be more protected, but all those within the facility will be safer, too. Whether a mechanical or electronic locking system is in place (or a combination of the two), an effective lockdown strategy relies on adequate training and knowledge of the lockdown procedure in place.



Effective Security Measures

When it comes to choosing the right hardware, a one-size-fits-all approach does not work. Each educational building is individual and, as such, security solutions should be tailored to and dependent on the building and its unique requirements.

There are a number of things to consider when it comes to selecting the right hardware solutions. For example, the severity of potential risks, the age of the building, budget and the long-term security strategy can all be influencing factors.

Traditional manual systems tend to be the ones everyone will know and use. These are probably one of the most economical lockdown solutions and rely on an individual having the physical key in hand to lockdown a room or space. CISA cylinders with a classroom function for example, enable the door to be locked from the outside to prevent unauthorised enter whilst still allowing the door to be opened from the inside, making them the ideal solution for a classroom.

Remote lockdown options are perfect for buildings that want to upgrade lockdown systems but are reluctant to step into the costs that come with networked systems. Using this method, corridors, stairwells

and entry points into classrooms and restricted areas such as laboratories are locked down by remote fob within proximity of the door.

Centralised solutions can be one of the most secure lockdown types. Activated via a computer or smartphone, with the simple push of a button, all openings can be locked throughout the building – making this the fastest lockdown solution.

Some access control systems, like the CISA eSIGNO electronic lock also allow tracking of who accesses and exits a premises. It can easily issue and retract credentials, allowing someone access as easily as it can be taken away. It's a great way of managing credentials and the safe access and exit of students, staff and visitors on a daily basis.

Whichever option you choose, planning in advance of what needs to be done to lockdown a site can ultimately save lives.

58.2%
*of education buildings that
are open after hours require
additional security measures*

Our Trained Experts

At Allegion, we have a group of trained experts who are skilled in guiding you to selecting the most appropriate products for the education sector based on performance, certification, aesthetics and budget.



Whether you're looking to;

- **Improve your fire safety standards**
- **Bolster the security of your facility**
- **Aid ease of movement within your building**
- **Develop lockdown procedures**
- **Gain more information on building safety and security**

You can trust our experts to help find the solution you need.

We are a leading provider of both solutions and expert advice services that help to ensure environments are safe and secure without inhibiting access or working capability.

At Allegion, we care about keeping people safe and secure, where they work, rest and visit.

We are dedicated to helping a wide range of people across the country select the right solution for today, whilst future-proofing arrangements for what might happen tomorrow.

Contact Us

Don't be afraid to get in touch with one of our experts today!



"The issues with differing levels of product knowledge and general awareness of the risks involved in making the right fire safety and security decisions is a dangerous combination"

James Keith
End User Solution Strategy Manager

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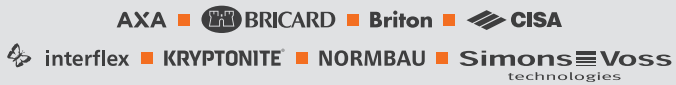
Download a full copy of our report at

www.allegion.co.uk/en/downloads/research_centre.html

About Allegion

Allegion (NYSE: ALLE) is a global pioneer in safety and security, with leading brands like CISA®, Interflex®, LCN®, Schlage® and Von Duprin®. Focusing on security around the door and adjacent areas, Allegion produces a range of solutions for homes, businesses, schools and other institutions. Allegion is a \$2.4 billion company, with products sold in almost 130 countries.

For more, visit allegion.com



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