



SOUTHALLS

SOLIHULL SCHOOL ACHIEVES COMPLIANCE WITHOUT COMPROMISE

Academic excellence is only one element of the Solihull School experience. The school aims of ambition, opportunity and community set a framework for ensuring that pupils receive a wide and stimulating education. The leading independent co-educational school needed a health and safety solution that kept pupils and staff protected while fuelling curiosity, creativity and character-building opportunities - and a partner with proven experience across the education sector.

HANDS-ON EXPERTISE FOR A HANDS-ON LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

In 2015, Solihull School looked to Southalls to tackle a comprehensive review of their existing health and safety arrangements within higher risk areas. As part of the school's far-reaching curricular and co-curricular programme, pupils aged 7 to 18 enjoy excellent amenities both within the classroom and outside including a theatre, swimming pool, shooting range, climbing wall and extensive sporting pitches. Solihull required expert assurance that these first-class facilities were rigorously assessed and compliant with changing HSE and Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) guidelines.

Southalls responded with tailored risk audits examining science and sports areas and cross-campus traffic flow, a school-wide fire risk assessment and safety checks for design and technology machinery and grounds equipment.

Initial reviews were followed up with bespoke reports, practical improvement plans and quarterly site audits,

scheduled directly with teaching staff to accommodate classroom and club commitments. Solihull's estates team also received essential guidance on specialist tools, including lifting and fire safety equipment, pressure systems and mansafe protection for working at height.

PLACING SAFETY AT THE CENTRE OF SCHOOL LIFE

Today, Southalls' service combines ongoing operational support - ranging from fire drills in the school's 800-seat Bushell Hall theatre and routine machinery checks to refurbishment work involving asbestos removal - with forward-looking strategic planning.

With health and safety under constant scrutiny from the ISI, and understandably a top priority for parents, compliance is a critical agenda item at Solihull's governor and senior management meetings. To ensure action plans keep pace with current legislation, Southalls provides expert counsel to the school's Health and Safety Committee, supporting regular reviews of risk assessments, policies and procedures.



SOLIHULL

DEFINING SAFETY EXCELLENCE.



SAFETY CLOUD - MANAGING COMPLIANCE THROUGH TIME- SAVING TECHNOLOGY



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By implementing Safety Cloud, Southalls' online H&S management software, Solihull School established a flexible IT framework to confidently assess and elevate standards on a rolling basis. Site equipment checks are carried out and captured via the mobile Safety Cloud app, while planned maintenance schedules are kept seamlessly on track with automatic email reminders for servicing and inspections.

Similarly, staff safety training, covering common concerns including slips, trips, fire hazards and manual handling, has been simplified thanks to Safety Cloud's easy-access, web-based courses - available any time, on any device, via personalised dashboards. The software's online self-assessment tool also helps Solihull's teaching and administration team complete their own display screen equipment assessments, eliminating the need for costly external providers.

"We consider the health, safety and welfare of pupils, staff and visitors key to the success of our school. Our decision to engage the services of Southalls in 2015 brought peace of mind that we are fulfilling our legal obligations and the safety standards required for the safe operation of a busy campus as well as ensuring legislative compliance. Since then, we have built a strong working relationship with our consultant, who guides us with workable, straightforward safety solutions that result in improved compliance and best practice standards across all disciplines.

In addition, I am pleased that the ISI compliance inspection in 2017 went without a hitch!"

Richard Bate, Bursar, Solihull School

"The school's arrangements for promoting the welfare, health and safety of pupils are excellent."

Independent Schools Inspectorate



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consultation, call
or email us today**

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