



King's College London

Protecting students and staff in an open city campus – case study



King's College London, based in the centre of London, is a world-leading university and a founding college of the renowned University of London. One of the oldest universities in England, it was established by King George IV and the Duke of Wellington in 1829, receiving its Royal Charter in the same year.

The challenge

KCL was using a variety of access control products to manage security across multiple campuses. Its key requirement was a standardised access control system that could operate college-wide and be scaled to include new builds.

Also being based in the heart of London, the threat of terrorism is a concern for KCL, especially in more recent times where attacks have taken place extremely close to college buildings.

With thousands of students and employees to protect, the need to adopt the latest security features is essential in order for the college to keep all areas secure, in particular student accommodation, high security labs and research facilities.

The Gallagher solution

With Gallagher technology already successfully deployed in isolation at the university's Guy's and Strand campuses, it made sense to select Gallagher as the access control platform of choice for the entire college.

Gallagher's access control products were easily integrated with King's College's existing systems, including staff and student databases, and sources for cardholder information. This included the college's enterprise Identity Management system, called FIM, which provides daily updates on joiners, movers and leavers to allow accurate decision-making by the security team. Additionally, Gallagher products were integrated to work alongside SITS, the college's student management system, providing rapid updates of new students so that individual ID cards can be issued once the registration process is complete.



"Gallagher has enabled us to report information from across King's in a single source and use that information to highlight maintenance, operator, staff and student user issues"

Nick O'Donnell

Value Creating Real Estate & Facilities Executive

KCL has also invested in new mobile technology, with Gallagher readers that can be accessed via a mobile phone using the Gallagher Mobile Connect app. This will allow students and staff to conveniently access designated areas, control lighting, visitor access, and more. While it is still early days for the college using this technology, the system is adaptable and provides the ability to add features that meet future requirements.

The business value

The overall benefits of the Gallagher security solution deployed at King's have proved significant. Nick O'Donnell, Director of Estates and Facilities at King's College London, says the Gallagher solution "improves service to King's College's facility users, especially its students, and reduces the college's reputational risk by removing technical barriers to comprehensive security management."

Streamlining the differing security systems used by individual campuses by introducing a college-wide standardised system has highlighted many additional advantages, including a considerable reduction in costs for training, special projects and operator skills.

Gallagher integrations allow extra security features to connect to Gallagher Command Centre, creating a

central administration system that keeps things simple to manage. Integrating with Aperio, for example, ensures doors are locked when people leave the room – providing peace of mind that rooms won't be accidentally left open over night or during the weekend.

Gallagher's proven technology has boosted King's College's confidence in its electronic system. When there are alerts, the university's security services can consult a single system and react quickly. Card holders are also now registered on one system, allowing tighter management of passes. Overall, the college reports fewer system failures, with better decision-making between its numerous estates and libraries, while multi-site students, staff and visitors have experienced easier card management.

Fast facts

Industry: Education

Business type: University

Site size: 411,004m²

Number of cardholders: 109,000

Number of doors: 2,438

Gallagher technology used: Command Centre, T Series Readers, Aperio, Salto, Mobile Connect

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