

Coverage and Safety at Rastrick High School Transformed with Hytera Radios and SMC Gateway Integration



Introduction

Operational efficiency and safety at Rastrick High School in the UK were hampered by the poor radio coverage and by disruptions caused by false fire alarms. To address these challenges, Digital Comms recommended an innovative Hytera DMR solution to solve the coverage issues, enhancing the school's day-to-day operations and emergency responsiveness.

The Background

Rastrick High School is a large mixed gender secondary school in Brighouse, West Yorkshire in the United Kingdom, with over 1,700 pupils aged 11 to 16. The school operates across a sizable campus and prioritises both academic excellence and student safety. The school relied on a back-to-back radio system for its communications. However, daily operations and emergency responsiveness were increasingly being affected by the limitations of the radio system, which was no longer fit for purpose.

Project Name

Rastrick High School DMR Project

Client Name

Rastrick High School

Project Start/End Dates

2024-2025

Industry

Education

Products/Solutions

DMR Repeater
HP505 DMR Handheld Radios
HP565 DMR Handheld Radios

The Challenge

The school's existing back-to-back radio system was no longer sufficient, with staff frequently encountering communication blackspots – particularly in more remote or shielded parts of the campus. These issues disrupted day-to-day coordination and posed a risk to timely emergency response.

The Solution

Rastrick High School reached out to Hytera partner Digitall Comms, a Bradford-based telecoms equipment supplier, for professional advice on an appropriate solution. Digitall Comms recommended a two-phase upgrade using a Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) system to resolve the coverage issues and introduce future-ready capabilities.



Based on the recommendation from Digitall Comms, a DMR repeater was installed to eliminate blackspots and ensure full site coverage. This made an immediate difference to the quality and reach of communications across the school area.

In addition, the school maintenance teams were equipped with 6 units of Hytera HP565 screened radios. The HP565 receives instant text alerts pinpointing the exact location of a fire alarm activation, enabling staff to respond efficiently without needing to return to the fire panel for information.

Impressed by the performance and features of the HP565, the school decided to upgrade its entire radio fleet to 72 Hytera HP505 non-screened radios for broader departmental use, ensuring consistent, high-quality communication throughout the campus.

Products

- DMR Repeater
- HP505 DMR Handheld Radios
- HP565 DMR Handheld Radios



The Benefits

Full Site Coverage

With the DMR repeater in place, the entire school now benefits from seamless and reliable coverage across the campus without any blind spots.

Enhanced Efficiency and Safety

With the adoption of a DMR solution and advanced digital handheld radios, maintenance staff now benefit from clearer, more dependable communication, enhancing coordination during both routine activities and critical incidents.

Tough and Versatile Radios

Hytera's new-generation HP5 radios are rugged and durable, certified to IP67 and MIL-STD-810G standards to withstand dust, heat, shock, and water submersion. They deliver crystal-clear audio in any environment, thanks to AI-based noise cancellation technology, which suppresses annoying feedback howling and unwanted ambient noises.

Customer Testimonial

"The new radios have proven to be a vast improvement – better reliability, coverage, and functionality. The support from Digitall Comms was excellent throughout."

—Rastrick High School representative



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