

Pencadlys Heddlu

Heol y Bont-faen
Penybont
CF31 3SU

Mewn argyfwng ffoniwch **999**
fel arall, ffoniwch **101**
Gwefan: www.heddlu-de-cymru.police.uk

Police Headquarters

Cowbridge Road
Bridgend
CF31 3SU

In an emergency always dial **999**
for non-emergencies dial **101**
Website: www.south-wales.police.uk

Neath Police Station
Gnoll Park Road
Neath
SA11 3BW

Tel 07815 953 028

Michael.Harvey2@south-wales.pnn.police.uk

4th July 2023

Merthyr Planning

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Planning Application Number P/23/0131.

Having reviewed the drawings in respect of the above development, I would make the following observations.

(i). Perimeter security.

As per drawings (already agreed with developer).

If padlocks and chains are used to secure the gates they must meet appropriate security standards, e.g., Sold Secure.

Entrance into the tunnel (out of school hours) should be prevented by solid lockable gates.

Reason – To prevent crime and anti-social behaviour.

(ii). CCTV.

The external elevations of the school buildings, main entrances, public circulation areas, vehicle parking areas, bike and bin stores, and the pupil play areas must be protected by CCTV.

Mae Heddlu De Cymru yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

South Wales Police welcomes receiving correspondence in Welsh and English.

Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.



The images produced must be admissible in a court of law and the General Data Protection Regulatory Act (GDPR) must be complied with.

All CCTV cameras must be protected against vandalism and be positioned in elevated positions. During school hours the cameras should be monitored from the reception area.

The CCTV recording equipment should be kept in a locked, secure internal room protected by the alarm system.

Reason – To deter and detect crime.

(iii). Lighting.

Lighting must protect the whole outside of the school buildings, bike stores, bin stores and vehicle parking areas. All fittings shall be vandal resistant and positioned in elevated positions.

The lighting must be controlled by photo electric cells or time switches and must complement and enhance the CCTV coverage on site.

The lighting protecting the car parking area must meet the British Standard 5489.

Reason – To increase public safety and to complement and enhance CCTV.

(iv). Landscaping.

Planting must be of a type that grows to a maximum height of 1 metre. Trees must be sited in locations that do not interfere with CCTV and lighting or provide an assist to climbing over the perimeter security. They must be bare stemmed to 2 metres from the ground and sited away from buildings.

Reason – To increase surveillance.

(v). Signage.

Signs from the site entrance through to the school entrance must be clearly displayed and be multi-lingual.

Signs indicating that CCTV is in operation must be in prominent positions on site.

Reason – To deter crime and to comply with GDPR.

Mae Heddlu De Cymru yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

South Wales Police welcomes receiving correspondence in Welsh and English.

Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.



(vi). Vehicular parking area and access.

The vehicle parking area must be lit, the lighting meeting the British Standard 5489. It must be protected by CCTV, which should be monitored from reception during school opening hours.

The boundary of the parking area must be clearly defined. Bays must be clearly marked.

Vehicular access must be restricted to those areas necessary i.e., parking and service areas and access must be restricted to the entrance/exit point. Access into the staff car park must be controlled by a barrier system with access control fitted.

Reason – To restrict access and to prevent autocrime.

(vii). Bike stores.

Bike stores must be secure (please visit the SBD website www.securedbydesign.com for further information). They must be overlooked by rooms in the school and protected by lighting and CCTV.

Reason – To prevent bike theft.

(viii). Refuse and recycling centre.

Waste disposal areas must be secure areas and sited away from the main buildings, as they can be a target for arson or provide access to roofs and windows. The refuse and recycling centre should be protected by doors/gates that meet SBD specification.

Reason – To prevent arson and access to floors above ground floor level.

(ix). External furniture.

External furniture must be located away from the buildings and perimeter security. They must be robustly constructed and either fixed in place or of a weight that is difficult to move.

Reason To prevent being climbing aids.

(x). Access to drainage and service areas.

Access to telephone junction points must if possible be prevented and manhole covers should be secured to prevent interference/removal.

Reason – To prevent metal theft.



(xi). Building shell security.

The design of the building must consider the need to prevent features that aid scaling or climbing, and hidden areas must be designed out.

The building must be constructed of materials that are resistant to attack. The first two metres of the external walls must be brickwork or materials of a similar strength.

Outside covered areas can be problematic and therefore must be protected by CCTV and lighting.

Reason -To prevent burglary and anti-social behaviour.

(xii). Access control.

Access into the main school must be controlled by access control. In addition, entry into all rooms where valuable equipment is sited e.g., offices, computer rooms etc. must be controlled and these rooms must be kept locked when not in use.

I would like to see an ability to lock down the site securely should there be an increase in threat and that appropriate doors and locking mechanisms are in place to achieve a reasonable delay both externally and internally creating layers of delay.

The doors leading into the event spaces need to be able to be secured and give some resilience and delay from a determined intrusion. This will allow time for escape and a delay to allow a response. There needs to be a means to communicate a threat throughout the buildings to facilitate a lock down of the building, i.e., alarm or tannoy system. In addition, external Fire doors should not have an automatic release mechanism off the fire alarm but should be manually opened and released from the inside. This will protect the occupants from impingement from the outside should the building occupants be required to implement a 'Lock Down'.

Reason – To prevent opportunist crime and to protect staff and children.

(xiii). School entrances and visitor control.

The number of public entrances into the school must be reduced to the minimum practicable.

It should be possible to reduce the number to one during school hours, which must be clearly signed and well illuminated.

All visitors must sign in and out and wear visitor badges.

Reason – To restrict visitors to areas and to identify them.

Mae Heddlu De Cymru yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

South Wales Police welcomes receiving correspondence in Welsh and English.

Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.



(xiv). Drainpipes.

Downpipes must be either flush fitting (i.e. square profile) or concealed within the cavities of the building.

Access to the roof of the school must be made difficult.

Reason – To prevent access to upper floors and the roof area.

(xv). Doors.

All external doors must, where possible, meet the SBD standard PAS 24 2022 or equivalent, and be third party tested and certificated.

Fire doors must be alarmed so a signal on opening can be transmitted to the reception area. These doors must be signed to warn of alarm alert and have no visible external ironmongery fitted.

Doors that are described as fire doors, or where fire performance is declared or implied, are required to have third-party certification for both security and fire performance.

All glazing to external door panels and adjacent to these door panels must be laminated.

Reason – To prevent burglary and to protect pupils and staff.

(xvi). Windows.

All external vulnerable windows must, where possible, meet SBD standards i.e. PAS 24 2022 or equivalent and be third party tested and certificated. Any glazing in vulnerable windows must be laminated glass.

Reason – To prevent burglary.

(xvii). Reception Areas

Reception areas should be designed to allow escape for staff. Counters should be deep enough to reduce the threat from persons lunging at staff to attack them. Alternatively, a laminated screen can be placed on the countertop to protect staff from attack. Ideally there should also be a secured escape room behind the reception desk for staff to take shelter to create a delay from any potential attack.

Reason – To protect staff.



(xviii). Intruder alarm system.

The school must be alarmed with the alarm system linked to a central monitoring station. Any alarm wires must be protected.

All floors and rooms where valuable property e.g., ipads, are located must be protected by the alarm system.

The alarm must be capable of being zoned off, so unoccupied areas of the school are alarmed when other parts of the school, e.g., community areas, are in use and are therefore not alarmed.

Consideration should be given to having a personal attack alarm installed linked to the intruder alarm system and central monitoring station. The panic buttons should be in areas where staff are more vulnerable e.g., head teacher's office, reception area.

Reason – To deter and detect intruders.

Further detailed information can be obtained from the Secured by Design website www.securedbydesign.com .

If you require discussing any of the points raised in this report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely

Mike Harvey
Designing out Crime Officer

Mae Heddlu De Cymru yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

South Wales Police welcome's receiving correspondence in Welsh and English. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Mae Heddlu De Cymru yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

South Wales Police welcomes receiving correspondence in Welsh and English.
Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

