Silverdale School, Halo Smart Sensor

Customer	Silverdale School
Location	Sheffield, South Yorkshire
Requirement	The school had a growing concern over the use of vapes by students and the impact that this was having on their health and their attitude to learning.
Solution	Ecl-ips supplied 10 Halo Smart Sensors, manufactured in the USA by IPVideo Corporation.
Services	We pre-staged and supplied the 10 Halo Smart Sensors, which the school installed.
Customer's View	*"Even if you are not able to purchase devices for all student toilets at once, consider installing them in key areas at first."* *Blake Foster, Business Support Services Manager*

Silverdale School looks to manage health and learning issues

Silverdale School is a comprehensive secondary school providing education to 11–16-year-olds and sixth formers in Sheffield.

The school also runs the South Yorkshire Teaching Hub, training new teachers for both primary and secondary schools, and supporting teachers throughout their careers; and the National Modern Languages SCITT - the only national teacher training course dedicated to modern languages.

Like many secondary schools Silverdale had a growing concern about the level of vaping among its students and the impact it was having on their health, as well as their attitude to learning. The school's Assistant Head was tasked with investigating vape detectors. They did a lot of online research before making contact with a shortlist of providers, including Ecl-ips. The decision to install vape detectors was made when a new behaviour policy was introduced so pupils understood that vaping, and the associated disruption of lessons, were no longer going to be tolerated.

A simple and quick installation

Blake said the school decided to purchase HALO Smart Sensors, rather than other vape detectors because the devices are easy to install and update so the system was future-proofed. The HALO Smart Sensor can be installed discreetly in private areas such as changing rooms and toilets. The school has enclosed toilet cubicles with an extraction fan and floor to ceiling doors. Due to the 'Vape Detection' range of the HALO Smart Sensor being 6ft radius of the device we would not normally advise the device to be placed outside of that perimeter and certainly not outside of cubicles that have floor to ceiling toilet doors. However, Silverdale, were happy to try the sensors being installed outside of the cubicles to help with the budget, and are very pleased that it has led to vape being detected successfully.
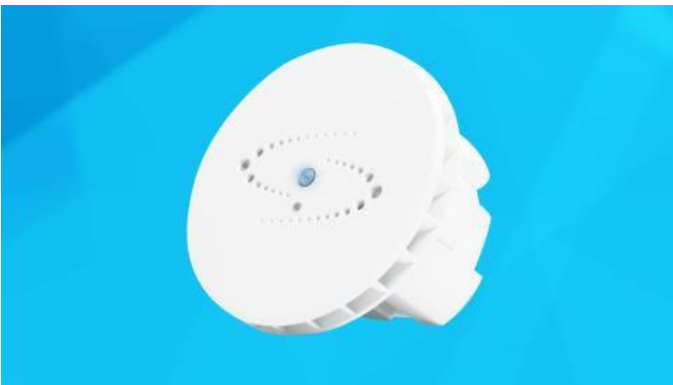
The HALO Smart Sensor is a power over ethernet (POE) device which means it receives its data and power over a single Cat5e ethernet cable so connecting it up and getting started is simple. Ecl-ips has well-established expertise in data cabling so we can do this as well as the installation.

However, if customers can do the cabling we can just come and install the HALO Smart Sensor, or Ecl-ips will also supply only as we have done for Silverdale school.

Ecl-ips will always take care of setting up the HALO Smart Sensor for you, including ensuring the latest firmware is always up to date and that all your requirements for detection are set up correctly. Then we can train and support customers remotely if required.

Commenting on the installation Blake said: "*We were provided with a pre-installation proforma to ensure that the system was calibrated correctly. Then it was just a matter of ensuring that we had network points in place ready for installation. The biggest piece of work after this was naming each device so that we knew the precise location of activation.*"

The smart features of the HALO Smart Sensor

The HALO Smart Sensor is always providing vape detection with no delay in event notifications and alerts which can be received by email. Additionally, the HALO Smart Sensor can also detect tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), which is found in cannabis. Blake commented that the device had detected THC at school and this had ultimately led to the exclusion of one of their pupils.

The HALO Smart Sensor has a tamper detection which will alert you to problems such as students trying to interfere with the device and has an IK10 vandal-resistance rating. Additionally, its aggression detection feature means the HALO detects abnormal noise levels. Schools then receive notifications when anti-social behaviour or bullying could be a problem. Proving the aggression detection is effective, the devices at the school picked up high noise levels after school had ended for the day. Fortunately, this turned out to be the cleaning staff chattering loudly rather than any trouble between students!

Separately, with five key words pre-programmed, the device can notify staff of calls for help.

Ecl-ips has long-standing expertise in education

Ecl-ips has been providing security solutions, in particular CCTV, to schools for over a decade and the HALO smart sensor is a useful addition to its product range for support monitoring in schools. Blake said vaping had been reduced. Like many schools they were using the device alongside CCTV cameras located outside the toilets allowing them to identify perpetrators and have a time and date stamped recording of footage correlating with the vape sensor alert.

Blake said he would recommend the HALO to all secondary schools. Although some schools may be deterred by the price initially Blake said that, "*Even if you are not able to purchase devices for all student toilets at once, consider installing them in key areas at first and then building up to a full rollout overtime.*"

Result	The HALO Smart Sensors are reducing the level of vaping at the school. The school believes this is protecting the health and safety of students.
Benefits	Blake said the best thing about the system is that it is: "*Simple to install and update* "