



**KNIGHT**  
FENCING LTD

## A GUIDE TO SCHOOL FENCING AND GATES

SECURITY AND SAFETY SYSTEMS FOR SCHOOLS



# SCHOOL FENCING AND GATES

School fencing and gates have a major role to play in providing security and safety at schools.

With proper planning, fencing and gates can address a range of key issues that schools have to consider.

- School fencing and gates should protect children, teachers and schools
- Fencing and access systems should be intelligently designed to maximise their effectiveness
- School fencing and gates should help manage noise pollution in and outside grounds
- Aesthetics are important. A school that looks like a prison won't inspire anyone
- Fencing and access systems must meet regulations, including the BS EN 1176 standard, and pass a RoSPA inspection

## A school fencing and gates specialist

Knight Fencing has extensive experience in planning, designing and installing school fencing and gates.

We pride ourselves on our expertise and we are committed to excellent service, high-quality craftsmanship and best value.

## A wide range of school fencing and gates

We offer a wide range of high-quality school fencing and gates. We can advise you on the best solutions for a school.

## A fully accredited supplier

Knight Fencing holds CHAS, EFIA and SMAS accreditation, and our employees have all the necessary health and safety and DRB certification.



# CHOOSING THE RIGHT FENCING AND GATES FOR A SCHOOL

When selecting fencing and access systems for a school, there are key criteria to consider.

## Playing fields

Issues vary depending on location (urban or rural), but the risk to pupil safety posed by litter, dog fouling and intrusion should be addressed. Aesthetics and visibility are also important.

## Sports courts

Issues to consider include the type of sports to be played on the courts, the age groups using the courts and whether there will be any community use. Wheelchair and emergency access also need to be considered. Finger trapping should be protected against and there should be no collision risks, with gates opening away from the courts and securable whether open or closed.

## Car parks

Depending on the location of the car park, requirements could include access-control barriers or gates, anti-vandal fencing with good visibility to complement the use of CCTV, and remote controlled or card-access vehicular access.

## Children's play areas

Fencing and gates should be a minimum of one metre high and should safeguard against children becoming entrapped. They should keep children contained within the playground area and should keep dogs outside.

## Playground segregation

In some cases, there is a need to divide a playground into safe areas for different age groups. There are effective yet unobtrusive fencing systems that can be used for this.

## School buildings

The choice of fencing and gates to protect a school and its contents depends on the local environment and its crime rate. High visibility is a must to help observation of intruders. Thought should also be given to aesthetics.

## Entry control

Again, the type of entry control to be used depends on the local environment. Swing gates might suffice, but an authorised personnel-only access-control system might be necessary. Thought should also be given to the number of vehicular gates needed.



# GUIDANCE ON MANUAL SCHOOL GATES INSTALLATION

## When planning the installation of manual gates for a school, there are important criteria to consider

- The installation of manual school gates should be carried out in accordance with Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents guidelines.
- When a gate is opened, it must not encroach onto a public highway or onto grounds outside the school boundary.
- If a gate is to be located close to a boundary, the gate and posts must be situated a sufficient distance from the boundary so that there is no encroachment, as specified above.
- A gate must have no finger traps, hand traps or shear points. To safeguard against these risks, there must be a 12mm gap between the gate and the posts on both sides. This minimum gap should be maintained throughout the full movement of the gate (i.e. during its arc).
- If an existing gate does not meet these stipulations, a stop plate may be required.
- To reduce the risk of foot injuries, there should be a minimum clearance of 60mm below a gate.
- To reduce the risk of entrapment, there should be a maximum clearance of 110mm below a gate.
- In cases where a gate provides direct access onto a road, or an area where vehicle movement occurs, a physical barrier outside the gate should be installed to stop pupils and other pedestrians from walking directly into either area.
- If a gate has a latch, pupils and other pedestrians should be able to operate it from both sides. If the gate has a bar handle, it should not project from the gate by more than 25mm and should be mushroomed at either end to safeguard against eye injuries.



# RECOMMENDED SCHOOL FENCING AND GATES

Our experts can advise you on the best fencing and gates for a school. We can help plan fencing and access systems so that pupils, teachers and facilities are afforded the maximum level of safety and security.

Our range of school fencing and gates includes:

- **Bow top fencing.** This play-safe fencing is available in a range of styles and is easy to install, strong and resistant to vandalism.
- **Contour Railings.** This anti-trap bow-top fencing is decorative and lightweight and can be easily adapted to fit awkward areas.
- **Roll top fencing.** This dog-proof fencing is attractive, easy to install, highly durable and requires a low level of maintenance.
- **Chain link fencing.** This traditional style of fencing is strong and provides a good level of security. It has a high level of visibility and is particularly suited to uneven ground.
- **V Mesh fencing.** Simple and economical to install, this long-life, high-rigidity fencing is suitable for most types of boundary, safety and general security fencing.
- **Roll welded mesh fencing.** This traditional fencing is very versatile, easy to install and provides a high level of rigidity.
- **Multi-use games area fencing.** This fencing boasts excellent rebound qualities and is designed to dampen sound. It can be tailored to individual needs with specifications including rebound panels, integral goal mouths and basketball hoops.
- **868 mesh fencing.** This long-life, anti-vandal fencing is recommended for sites where a high degree of resistance to impact is required.
- **358 mesh fencing.** This high-transparency mesh flat-panel fencing provides a very high level of security and is designed to be almost impossible to climb and cut with any hand tools.
- **Automatic gates.** These gates can be either swing or sliding and provide a high level of durability and security. Easy to install, the frame and bars are formed of one piece for extra strength.
- **Manual swing gates.** These inward-opening tamper proof gates are fitted with anti-lift brackets and lockable ground bolts, and come with the option of a slide bar or mortice lock. They offer a high level of security.

# CASE STUDIES

We have extensive experience in planning and installing school fencing and access systems. Our projects are many and varied, and include:



Play safe railings Contour railings at North Mundham school



Roll top mesh fencing at Fordwater school, Chichester



Play Safe tube railings at Durrington Middle School in Worthing



358 mesh at Mayfield school in Portsmouth



Multi sport games area (MUGA) fencing, Oasis academy, Southampton



V mesh fencing, Chichester High School, Chichester, West Sussex



To find out more about school fencing and access systems  
from Knight Fencing, contact us on:

01243 641272 | 01579 529298 | [info@knight-fencing.co.uk](mailto:info@knight-fencing.co.uk)