

Case Study:

## School Theft

### Zero Burglaries at £25 Million 'Super' School



**Two years after the opening of a new 'super' secondary school on Wirral that marked all of its high-value ICT equipment with SelectaDNA there have been zero thefts or break-ins reported.**

The new-build £25 million Woodchurch High School in Carr Bridge Road, Wirral, is a large co-educational comprehensive secondary school with 1,300 pupils, 100 teaching staff and 120 support staff. School facilities are also available to members of the public for evening classes.

Before the school opened its gates for the first time in September 2010, the on-site facilities management team marked all of the school's state-of-the-art ICT equipment including PCs, laptops, scanners, TVs, computers and whiteboards using SelectaDNA, the latest in forensic property marking solutions.

**Ian Lowrie from Wirral Council's Community Safety Team said:**

*"We were looking for a product that would not only stop theft happening – but prevent burglars even attempting theft in the first place."*

More than 60 schools on Wirral are currently using SelectaDNA to protect valuable equipment such as computers, laptops and overhead projectors.

The solution doesn't damage the marked property in any way. The unique DNA code in the solution links each item to the individual school. This means that if an item is stolen and later found by police it can be traced directly back to the school.

**Pete May, a member of the facilities management team at Woodchurch High School said:**

*"We are very pleased to be able to say that there have been no incidents of theft or burglaries on site since the school opened."*

Mr May added: "All our ICT equipment is marked with SelectaDNA and we continue to use the warning stickers that are supplied with each kit on every piece of equipment we mark. We believe this is acting as a very effective deterrent against burglary."

Meanwhile, in 2015, in Barnsley, South Yorkshire, valuable equipment including whiteboards and laptops in all 22 council maintained schools in the borough is being protected from theft thanks to SelectaDNA.

**Councillor Alan Gardiner said:** "We take the protection of our assets very seriously and our new partnership with Selectamark demonstrates this."



**For more information visit [www.selectadna.co.uk/news](http://www.selectadna.co.uk/news)**