



School Lockdown Sightline Review Guide

A practical checklist for reviewing internal glazing,
door vision panels and screening options



Book a school sightline survey

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For school business managers, estates teams,
academy trusts and facilities managers.



Shading solutions for
safer, smarter learning
environments



What to Review Before April 2027

The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, commonly known as Martyn's Law, received Royal Assent in April 2025.

The Act gives qualifying premises time to review how they prepare for and respond to potential terrorist incidents.

Many education buildings use internal glazing to improve supervision, daylight and openness.

During a lockdown procedure, this glazing may create a direct sightline into rooms where pupils, staff or visitors are sheltering.

This review helps you identify where sightlines exist, how they are currently managed and whether screening could support your wider lockdown procedures.



What to check during your review

- Whether people inside can be seen clearly through doors, windows or partitions
- Which rooms are visible from corridors, receptions or shared areas
- Whether current blinds, covers or screens are working properly
- Whether products can be retrofitted to existing doors or glazing
- Whether large glazed areas need manual or motorised screening
- Whether staff would know who closes each blind, flap or screen
- Whether any areas need blackout, dim-out or privacy fabrics
- Which rooms may be used during a lockdown procedure
- Whether staff can close existing screening quickly

Useful starting point

A good starting point is to walk the building and look at each internal glazed area from the point of view of someone standing in a corridor, reception area or external approach.

Prioritise rooms and routes where people are most likely to shelter, gather or remain for longer periods.



The aim is to balance everyday visibility and supervision with the ability to close the sightline quickly during a lockdown procedure.



Glazed Areas That Often Get Missed

Internal glazing can be easy to overlook because it forms part of everyday building design.

It helps with supervision, daylight, openness and safeguarding.

During a lockdown procedure, the same glazing may create unwanted visibility into occupied spaces.

Use this table as a first-pass review.



Area to review	What to check	Action needed
Classroom door vision panels	Can pupils or staff be seen from the corridor?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Review
Corridor-facing classroom windows	Can occupied rooms be seen from main circulation routes?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Review
Internal glazed partitions	Are teaching, office or support spaces exposed?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Review
Reception areas	Are staff or visitors visible from entrance routes?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Review
SEND and pastoral rooms	Could vulnerable pupils or support staff be seen inside?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Review
Staff offices	Are admin, leadership or safeguarding spaces visible?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Review
First aid or treatment rooms	Can the room be made private quickly?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Review
Libraries, halls and studios	Are larger glazed areas difficult to cover?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Review
Sixth form or college spaces	Can open areas be screened if people need to shelter?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Review
Shared learning spaces	Are there exposed glazed areas between rooms?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Review

Quick test

For each area, ask:

- Can someone see clearly into this space?
- Could the glazed area be covered quickly?
- Would staff know how to operate the system?
- Is the current solution robust enough for daily use?



Walk the building from the corridor side. That is where most internal sightlines become obvious.



Door Vision Panel Considerations

Door vision panels are common in schools, colleges and public buildings.

During a lockdown procedure, a clear door vision panel may allow a direct view into the room.

Vision panel flaps provide a simple way to control that sightline.

They allow the panel to remain visible during everyday use, then be closed quickly when the room needs to be made visually private from the corridor.



Door vision panel checklist

Door/location	Room type	Can people be seen inside?	Existing cover?	Suitable for vision panel flap?
		☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
		☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
		☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
		☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
		☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No

Where to review vision panels

- Classrooms
- Offices
- Staff rooms
- SEND rooms
- Pastoral rooms
- First aid rooms
- Treatment rooms
- Meeting rooms
- Support rooms that may be used during an incident
- Internal doors on main circulation routes



Vision panels support daily safeguarding, but they should be reviewed where rooms may need fast privacy.



Manual vs Motorised Screening

The right screening option depends on the size of the glazed area, how quickly it needs to be covered and who needs to operate it.

Some areas may need simple local control.

Other areas may benefit from motorised or grouped operation, especially where several blinds need to move at once.



Option	Best suited to	Consider when
Manual roller blinds	Individual classrooms, offices and small glazed areas	Staff can operate each blind locally
Crank-operated blinds	Larger blinds or areas where chain operation is unsuitable	A more controlled manual operation is preferred
Motorised blinds	Corridors, reception areas, atriums and grouped glazing	Several blinds need fast or coordinated operation
Group-controlled blinds	Multiple windows or internal glazed elevations	One switch or control point is useful
Blackout fabric	Spaces needing stronger privacy and opacity	You need to reduce visibility as much as practical
Dim-out or privacy fabric	General screening and softer light control	Full blackout is unnecessary
Vision panel flaps	Glazed door panels	Door sightlines need quick local control

Choose manual blinds where:

- Each room can be controlled locally
- The windows are easy to reach
- Staff are present in the room
- The glazed area is small or simple

Consider motorised blinds where:

- Several blinds need to operate together
- Glazing is high-level or difficult to reach
- The area is large, open or shared
- Fast screening would support your procedure



Manual control can work well room by room. Motorised control may suit larger areas, grouped glazing or hard-to-reach blinds.

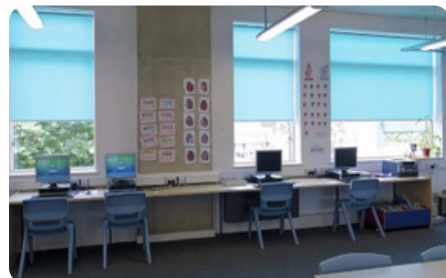


Retrofit Questions

Many schools need solutions for existing buildings.

A retrofit review helps identify what can be installed with minimal disruption and where a more detailed specification may be needed.

Use this table before speaking to a supplier, contractor or estates consultant.



Retrofit question	Why it matters	Notes
What type of glazing needs screening?	Doors, windows, partitions and large glazed areas may need different products.	
What fixing surface is available?	Products may fix to the wall, frame, reveal, ceiling or door face.	
Are existing blinds already installed?	They may need repair, replacement or upgraded fabric.	
Is blackout fabric required?	Some spaces need stronger opacity than standard privacy fabric.	
Is the area used by children?	Safety, durability and operation need careful review.	
Can staff reach the blind safely?	High-level or large blinds may need motorisation.	
Is power available nearby?	Motorised systems may need electrical planning.	
Can the work be phased?	Term-time access, holiday works and building zones may affect installation.	
Does the product need to match existing systems?	Useful for staged refurbishments or multi-building estates.	
Who will maintain the system?	Daily-use products should be checked, cleaned and serviced where needed.	

When a site survey helps:

- Doors and glazing vary in size
- The site has several building types
- You need manual and motorised options
- You want a phased plan across the estate
- Existing blinds are damaged or inconsistent
- You need support with specification before tender



Older buildings often need a site-specific answer. Door types, frames, fixing surfaces and access can all affect the final specification.



Key Questions For Your Estates or Security Meeting

Use these prompts during your next estates, safeguarding or security planning meeting.

Building and room use

- Which rooms may be used during a lockdown procedure?
- Which rooms have direct visibility from corridors or shared areas?
- Which areas would be hardest to screen quickly?
- Are there any open-plan spaces where people may need to shelter?
- Are SEND, pastoral or first aid spaces visible from circulation routes?

Procurement and installation

- Can products be retrofitted to the existing building?
- Are phased works needed?
- Can installation be completed during holidays or out of hours?
- Do you need a site survey before specification?
- Who will inspect and maintain the products after installation?

Doors and internal glazing

- Which doors have vision panels?
- Can those vision panels be covered quickly?
- Do current covers allow normal daily visibility?
- Are any door covers damaged, missing or unsuitable?
- Would staff know how to use them during a lockdown procedure?

Operation and staff response

- Who would close the blinds or vision panel flaps?
- Can the products be operated quickly and safely?
- Are controls easy to find?
- Is staff training needed?
- Should operation be included in lockdown practice procedures?

Blinds and screening

- Are existing blinds working properly?
- Do any blinds need blackout or stronger privacy fabric?
- Are any blinds too high or too large for easy manual operation?
- Would motorised or grouped control help in larger areas?
- Are there glazed partitions that need screening?



Good questions help turn a general lockdown policy into a practical building plan.



Survey Request Checklist

Areas to include in your review

- ☐ Classroom door vision panels
- ☐ Corridor-facing windows
- ☐ Internal glazed partitions
- ☐ Reception areas
- ☐ Staff offices
- ☐ SEND rooms
- ☐ Pastoral rooms
- ☐ First aid or treatment rooms
- ☐ Libraries
- ☐ Halls and studios
- ☐ Sixth form or college areas
- ☐ Shared learning spaces
- ☐ Other public or visitor-facing areas

Products to discuss

- ☐ Manual roller blinds
- ☐ Crank-operated blinds
- ☐ Motorised blinds
- ☐ Group-controlled blinds
- ☐ Blackout fabrics
- ☐ Dim-out or privacy fabrics
- ☐ Vision panel flaps
- ☐ Cassette systems
- ☐ Retrofit installation
- ☐ New-build specification support

Site details

School or site name:

Contact name:

Role:

Email:

Phone:

Site address:

Preferred survey dates:

Main areas of concern:



A sightline survey should identify the areas to review, the products to consider and the best way to phase the work.



Book a School Sightline Survey Today

Enviroscreen Systems can help you review internal glazing, door vision panels and screening options across your school, college or public building.

We supply and install manual blinds, motorised blinds, blackout fabrics and vision panel flaps for commercial, education and public-sector environments.

Our team can support you from initial survey and specification through to installation and aftercare.



Book a school sightline survey:

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