

CASE STUDY

CARDIFF METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY

FIRECHIEF®

making the world a safer place



FIRECHIEF KITCHEN STOVE GUARD

SMART FIRE PREVENTION
SYSTEM INSTALLED IN
PRESTIGE STUDENT
ACCOMMODATION



Client: McLaren Property

Architect: Holder Mathias Architects

Main Contractor: Midas Construction

Electrical Contractor: CMBE Electrical, Cardiff

Consulting Civil & Structural Engineers: Shear Design

WHAT WAS THE NEED?

The Fitzalan is a high-end student accommodation building located right in the heart of Cardiff city. As well as a variety of modern bedroom accommodation ranging from studios to two-bedroom apartments, the communal spaces include a cinema room, game rooms, luxury 'snugs', an on-site gym, a common room and a communal kitchen.

The accommodation was created back in 2017 when a series of one- and two-storey vertical extensions were added to the existing buildings to increase the size of the accommodation to a total of 357 beds.

The Fitzalan's owners McLaren Property, were in the process of selling the building. The new owner requested a full upgrade of all electrical installations and fire safety measures prior to completion. As all accommodation includes a fully kitted out kitchen with a combi microwave and hob,

fire prevention in these areas was considered of particular importance. The building's new owners specified that the Firechief Kitchen Stove Guard be fitted as standard in all 313 apartments and studios in addition to the existing fire suppression system.

WHY THE FIRECHIEF KITCHEN STOVE GUARD?

50% of all accidental dwelling fires start in the kitchen. However, the Firechief Kitchen Stove Guard provides a worry-free approach to managing cooker top safety without affecting cooking. The Stove Guard does this by alerting the user of pre-fire conditions and if no action is taken, it automatically turns off the electricity supply to the cooker. The intelligent heat sensor in the Kitchen Stove Guard tracks the rate of increasing temperature, as a steeply rising temperature is an indication of a developing fire hazard.

HOW IT WORKS

The Firechief Kitchen Stove Guard is a device that works out when the temperature of cooking is too high (and therefore potentially hazardous) and turns off the source of ignition, effectively preventing kitchen fires before they start. This creates a safer home for the tenants of apartments and shared accommodation.

The Firechief Kitchen Stove Guard is a smart way to guard against kitchen fires because it responds before the formation of toxic gases and before a fire is ignited. It will even cut off the electricity supply if the hob has been left on accidentally – the setting for this can be tailored to individual installations. The cooker is reactivated simply by resetting the system once the cause of the alert has been investigated and controlled. The device is designed to work with all electric hobs.



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THE BENEFITS

The fitting of the Firechief Kitchen Stove Guard solution brings a number of benefits to the Fitzalan student accommodation:

- Intelligent fire safety technology which prevents fires long before they can start. The heat sensor activates the cooker switch when pre-fire conditions are detected instead of reacting to extinguish a fire once it has actually begun
- Easy and simple installation. This was undertaken by the electrical contractors already working on site, some with students already living in the apartments, and others fitted in empty apartments before the students arrival. All students are fully aware of the Kitchen Stove Guard and how it works.
- Continuous 24/7 protection for peace of mind. The device monitors and adapts to the occupiers cooking style
- Automatic fault diagnosis constantly analyses the Kitchen Stove Guard's function when the hob is in use – no monthly testing is required
- Sleek sensor design, sympathetic to the modern décor of the apartment kitchens
- Lower cost – less than half the cost of a fire suppression system
- No annual maintenance required
- Fulfils the requirements of Stove Guard Standard EN 50615
- 2-year warranty

