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We know education

Every school, college or Multi Academy Trust is unique. Each with a different digital footprint and different security needs.

Whether you've got a simple LAN, or a larger multi-site estate with guest wi-fi, BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) and lots of 1:1 devices, we've got security solutions to suit. Whatever your set up.

We're working with thousands of education customers right now

Understanding comes from experience.
And right now, we're helping literally thousands of academic organisations across the UK to deliver exceptional learning experiences.
We're proud they've chosen us.

Our dedicated education team are here to support you

For any organisation, security can be a challenge. And in education, student safeguarding adds an extra layer of complexity to manage. Getting it right needs sector specific expertise, so you can avoid costly mistakes and vulnerabilities that could be exploited.

That's why we have a team of education focused IT, network, security and communications specialists. They've developed a deep understanding of what academic customers need. And the challenges you face. Like those around security.

The connected world presents lots of threats. We'll help keep your students, staff and network protected.



We know security

We prevent thousands of potential cyber attacks on our own network every day

We've got over 3,000 security experts protecting our network from constant attempted attacks. Plus we monitor and manage customer and BT devices from sixteen accredited global security centres. Right around the clock.

That's world class security expertise

We protect critical national infrastructure

We're trusted by military, emergency services and governments to keep them safe. We'll do the same for you.

That's security credibility.

We offer security and safeguarding solutions for schools, colleges and MATs

We've combined our security expertise with our knowledge of the sector to create a portfolio of solutions especially for education.

That's just what you need.

Security isn't just about protecting data, assets and IP

In education, it's about protecting children

We understand that your number one priority is to protect the children and young people in your care. And to keep them safe from harm.

So when it comes to security choices, you need a solution that offers more. Of course protecting your sensitive data is really important. As is protecting your intellectual property, assets and users. But more than this, your solution needs to appreciate the very specific security needs of your school, college or Multi Academy Trust. As well as the regulatory compliance you need to demonstrate.

Our solutions measure up against the stringent regulatory standards expected in education

Built with education customers in mind, our solutions will help you deliver against the expectations laid out in the Prevent Duty and the statutory guidance on Keeping Children Safe in Education.

We have solutions that make the grade.



Best in class reliability

We only build our solutions on products from best in class security and safeguarding partners. So you can rely on them.

- Firewall and Unified Threat Management
- Web filtering
- Proactive monitoring
- DDoS

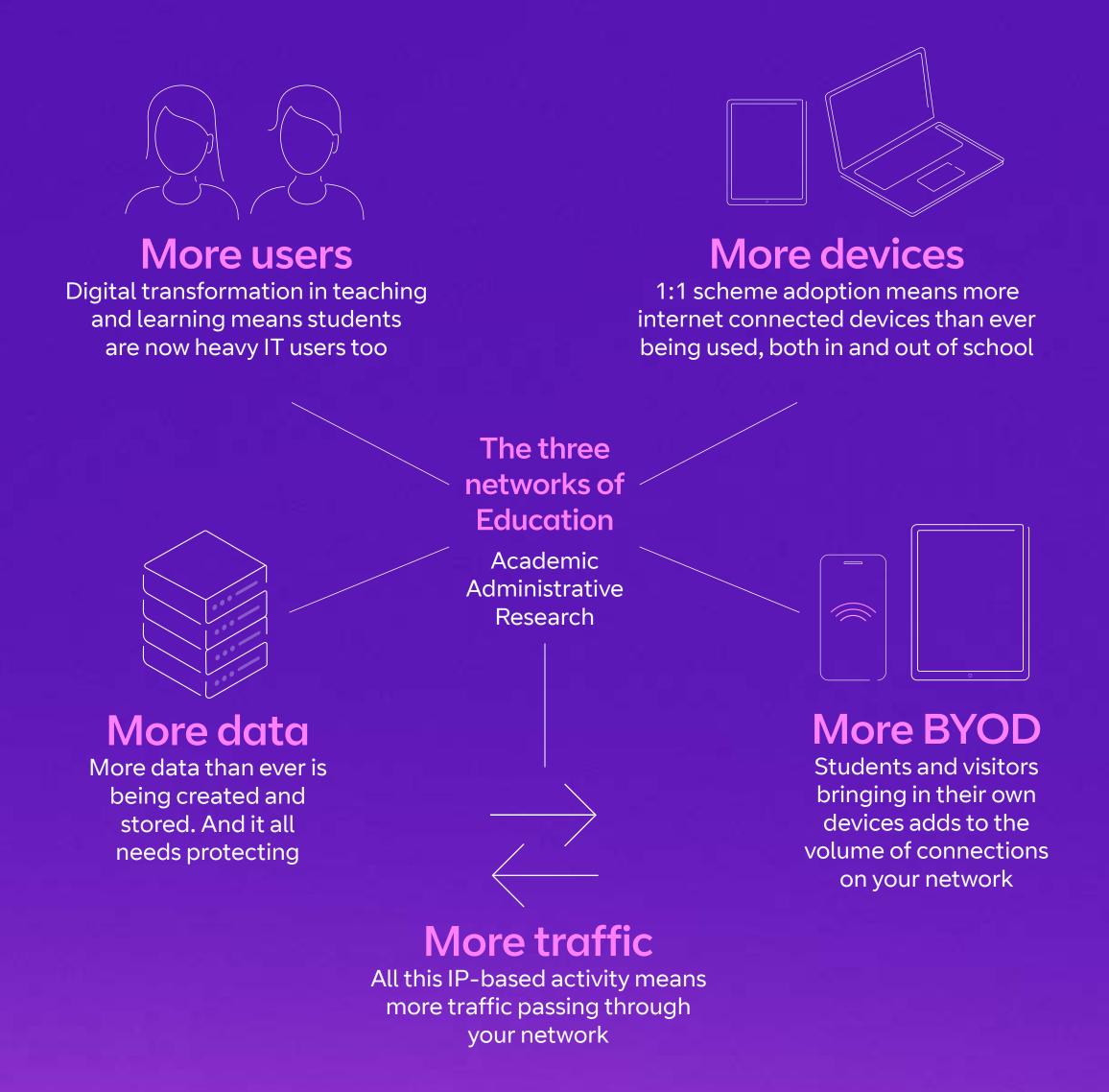
Complete solutions

After understanding your needs, challenges and existing technology set up, our experts will propose the most appropriate combination of these products for your school, college or MAT.

Build a safer, more secure learning environment.
We'll help you to:

- Secure your network and prevent attacks that cause downtime and disruption to learning
- Block access to digital content that can be harmful or dangerous to students
- Proactively monitor students' digital activity to identify inappropriate or concerning online behaviour
- Get insightful reporting and alerts so you can intervene early in high risk cases

Digital transformation is revolutionising teaching and learning. But with it comes a complex and ever changing "attack surface" to manage. And more potential points of vulnerability like these:



We'll help you to manage the complex threat landscape

Protection for your school, college or MAT in an IP connected world

As cloud adoption and digital transformation change the shape of your network, your security strategy must adapt too. It needs to protect your students against the ever changing threat landscape of today's increasingly digital world. Wherever those threats may come from and however they present themselves.

We'll help you deliver against your security and safeguarding goals

We understand all of this. And that's why your relationship with us matters. We've got the experience, expertise and a portfolio of best in class products and services to help you deliver against your security and safeguarding goals. We'll help you keep everyone safe from harm.



Cyber attacks on education are on the rise

According to the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), there's been a worrying increase in cyber attacks on education establishments¹. They can take many forms, depending on the attacker's motivation and skills.

Like any organisation, you'll need to prove you've taken reasonable steps to protect your school, college or MAT's sensitive data in the event of a breach.

We'll help you build the defences you need.

Attacks can take many forms:

- Some malicious software, or malware, is designed to divert a portion of your hardware and bandwidth for its own nefarious purpose. Like hosting pirated software or adult content.
- Some programs could delete critical data, or even bring down your network entirely, resulting in lost learning.
- Cyber criminals gaining access to your network could encrypt or steal sensitive data. They may then demand a payment for its return, or to prevent its release. This is called a ramsomware attack.

Firewall and Unified **Threat Management**

Prevent unauthorised users from accessing your network and your sensitive data. And keep hackers from compromising your systems with malicious nasties like malware and ransomware.

A firewall is the network equivalent of a security guard at your gates

Firewalls inspect the data that passes in and out of your network to ensure all traffic is legitimate. Our properly configured firewalls allow your students and staff to access all the resources they need, whilst keeping out malicious users or programs.

Combine a firewall with other features for Unified Threat Management

UTM combines a firewall and other security features into a single device, making it easier to manage and monitor. Depending on your needs, our solutions can include antivirus, content filtering, email and web filtering, intrusion prevention, anti spam, Virtual Private Networking and more.

Education doesn't have to be a soft target for hackers

As companies beef up their digital defences, cyber criminals will look for easier targets. Don't let that be your school, college or MAT. Our experts will help you choose, install and configure the most appropriate firewall or UTM solution for your needs from the world class partners we work with. These include:















Web filtering

Protect your students from accessing unsuitable or harmful online content, without restricting their freedom to explore and learn. With web filtering designed especially for schools, colleges and MATs, you can achieve a safer digital learning environment.



Filtering for education that measures up

The Department for Education's statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' states that schools and colleges in England should "ensure appropriate filters" are in place.

It says that children should not be able to access harmful or inappropriate material from the school or college's IT system. It also warns against "over blocking" and unreasonable restrictions which could negatively impact the learning experience.

Appropriate web filtering is about balance. Our solutions, based on technologies from world class partners, will help you get it right.







We'll guide you through the options and help you make the right web filtering choices for your safeguarding strategy. Consider the web filtering features you may need:

Deployment options

On premise, cloud-based or hybrid approach

Wherever you are on your digital transformation journey, we've got deployment options to suit. From traditional on premise filtering, to a cloud-based approach that works when staff and students are working away from school. Or perhaps a hybrid of the two would be best? Whatever your needs, our experts will help you make the right choices.

Policy based rules

One approach doesn't have to fit all

Content that's appropriate for one group of users, may be inappropriate for others. And in an academic setting, one size rarely fits all. The ability to set web filtering policies based on user group, content category or location IP gives the granular control you need for an age appropriate solution.

Audit and accountability

Your need for reporting and alerts

With increasing focus on regulatory compliance, it's important to keep detailed and secure records of any concerns. Your Designated Safeguarding Lead and Senior Leadership Team will need accurate reporting. But in what level of detail, how often and what alerting is needed? From quick and easily deployed pre-built reports, to bespoke analysis with granular detail, we'll right-size the solution to meet your requirements.

Dynamic content analysis

Protection without over blocking

With our help, you can choose the right content filtering for your school, college or MAT. Select from standard filters which block specific URLs and IP addresses, to content aware solutions. These dynamically analyse content in real time before deciding whether to block. They protect children from accessing unsuitable or harmful content, yet prevent "over blocking" which could restrict their freedom and negatively impact the learning experience.

Device enrolment

1:1 devices, BYOD and guest wi-fi

Staff and student devices used in school will need to be enrolled into your solution. If you adopt a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy, or offer guest wi-fi, it's important these devices are enrolled into your safeguarding architecture too. We'll help you decide on the right solution to support your infrastructure.

A multi-tenant approach

Centralised reporting for Multi Academy Trusts

Centralising operations helps MATs to take advantage of economies of scale. So you'll want your filtering solution to support this model. A multi-tenant approach gives access to centralised reporting across all schools in the Trust, yet offers the freedom and focus of local dashboards too.

Proactive monitoring

Take your safeguarding solution to the next level with Smoothwall Proactive Monitor. It alerts safeguarding teams to digital risks as they happen, so they don't become real-life incidents.

Monitoring that's built for education with regulatory compliance in mind

As well as filtering, the DfE's statutory guidance also states that appropriate monitoring systems should be in place. We've partnered with Smoothwall to offer schools, colleges and Multi Academy Trusts a reliable solution that measures up against regulatory obligations. And then some.



Smoothwall Monitor is a real-time digital monitoring solution that offers a human moderated service. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Works online and offline

Captures potential risks outside of regular web browsing activities

Smoothwall Monitor identifies student activity that may present a risk, wherever it happens. It captures text input via the keyboard, whether online or offline. Be that within traditional web browsers, within messaging apps, or within productivity apps like Microsoft Word. It even works via encrypted "dark web" browsers.

Works in real-time

Human moderated service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year

Activity is captured and assessed as it happens. In real-time. Potential risks are automatically flagged for review by human moderators who remove false positives. This eliminates wasted time on trawling data, so you can get on with teaching and learning.



Immediate safeguarding alerts

Intervene early to improve student outcomes

High risk incidents are then sent directly to your safeguarding officers by phone and email so they can take immediate action. Early intervention means better student outcomes.



DDoS attacks are one of the widest ranging threats to your information infrastructure

And sadly, attacks on educational institutions are all too common. They attempt to bring online services down by flooding them with lots of unnecessary requests or traffic. This prevents legitimate application requests from being fulfilled and so renders the network, its services and applications unavailable. DDoS attacks can be devastating for modern teaching and learning.

They're surprisingly easy to launch, so they could come from anywhere

With a little IT know how, anyone could launch a DDoS attack. Including a disgruntled ex pupil or staff member. Cyber criminals use them too. Often as a distraction to more sinister attack methods which could result in data loss or ID theft. Whilst firewalls offer some defence, an extra layer of targeted protection is needed to effectively detect and address the risks. That's what our DDoS solution provides.

Ours is the only solution to provide DDoS detection and mitigation in a single platform

Our Managed DDoS Security works by 'sorting and cleaning' internet traffic. As soon as any unusual traffic is detected, the protection system automatically kicks in. It separates malicious DDoS attack traffic out from normal requests, then redirects it to our Threat Management System where it's cleaned.

There's no downtime and no interruption to learning with our solution

The targeted IP address experiences no downtime, no matter the scale or frequency of DDoS attacks. Our technology works in the background, cleverly doing its thing. Even when an attack is underway, there's no interruption to learning and no distractions for teachers and other school staff to deal with.

Device-based security

The right laptops or tablets can make a big difference to your security strategy

So you've secured your network and you're protecting students from online harm with effective content filtering and proactive monitoring. Now take a look at your devices.

A laptop left on the bus, or a break-in at home can easily put your school or college's devices into the wrong hands. Even when being legitimately used by students and staff, a poorly guarded device can be an attractive "attack surface" for digital nasties to exploit. Device-based security is your first line of defence, with both the operating system and the device hardware itself playing a big part.

Whether you choose Google Chrome, Apple iOS or Windows based devices, they all have something to offer when it comes to security features. Our Education IT Specialists are always happy to explain the options.

Depending on the make and model of device you choose, you can boost security even further

When it comes to choosing devices like laptops and tablets, there's a lot to think about. Including the way the device hardware itself can contribute to your school or college's security defences.

Lots of devices designed for education offer security features that are built right in to the physical hardware.

Our Education IT Specialists are on hand to talk you through the options and focus in on the security features that are most important to you.



With us, you'll get more than just a technology supplier

We're trusted by UK public sector

We draw on 170 years of innovation and heritage to help the UK thrive in a digital world. Right now, we're keeping thousands of schools, colleges, MATs and universities connected. Plus, our technology runs the UK's national infrastructure and critical services, including the 999 network. You can trust us.

Complete education solutions you can rely on

Our always on, always secure network provides the rock solid connectivity that educators can rely on. Whilst our huge range of applications, devices and services create dependable education solutions that bring learning to life. And all from one single, education focused partner.

Committed to helping the next generation thrive

We're bridging the gap between education and employment by supporting the inclusion of children and young people in the UK's digital skills agenda. By 2026, we aim to empower 25 million people by helping them gain the skills they need to flourish in the digital world.



Book a free consultation² session

to learn how we can support your school, college or MAT's security and safeguarding strategy

Request a session

Terms and conditions apply.

- 1. Source: https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/news/alert-targeted-ransomware-attacks-on-uk-education-sector published June 21
- 2. Free phone or video consultation is available to UK schools and colleges and is offered subject to availability

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