Facing Critical Security Challenges, **Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai (SISD)** chooses to protect students and staff.

‘**Sophos Central Endpoint Protection Advanced** coupled with **MDM** gives us the protection we need to keep our E-users (students and staff) and the school’s critical data assets safe.’

**Samir Alsulahat**  
Head of ICT, Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai
Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai is the only international school located in Dubai Healthcare City. The school is committed to promoting pathways into healthcare careers and students will study Science from Grade 1 through Grade 12. As an IB (International Baccalaureate) candidate school, SISD focuses on offering students an immersive learning experience committed to a high quality and challenging, international education. For this reason, technology is an important part of the school’s curriculum. Technology and the internet drive advanced learning and intelligent classrooms, a paperless school administration and seamless parent-teacher communication. The school prides itself on keeping students, staff, and critical data assets safe from cyber threats. Sophos Mobile Device Management (MDM) and Central Endpoint Protection Advanced play an important role in this regard.

Business Challenge

Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai, was facing critical ICT security challenges like unmanaged mobile devices, threat of malware attacks, spam issues and students vulnerable to harmful online content.

“BYOD is now a fact of life in schools, which essentially means we need to be able to exercise some degree of control over student and staff devices” says Mr. Samir Alsulahat, the School’s ICT Head. “The increasing number of devices coupled with continuous reliance on the internet means we wanted better protection for these devices, along with the ability to easily manage and regulate them.”

SISD required a safer surfing experience, which would not impede the School’s teaching process, thus keeping both students and staff productive. The School’s IT team was looking for a solution that was easy to deploy and simple to manage and maintain. At the same time, the school’s ICT team wanted the ability to granularly control users’ web access with user based policy setting.

The team also needed an in-depth view of students’ online activities with comprehensive reporting, and all of this information had to be driven by extremely effective and efficient protection that combats malware.
Technology Solution

After a series of unflattering product demos from competing products that left Mr. Samir Al-Sulahat and his team unimpressed, they took a closer look at the product capabilities from Sophos. The team breathed a collective sigh of relief when Sophos's solutions demonstrated the capacity to deliver on the school's intrinsic security needs. Sophos identified Mobile Device Management and its Central Endpoint Protection Advanced as the perfect fit for Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai.

With Sophos MDM, Samir and his ICT team can:

- Easily manage and control BYOD and school owned mobile devices.
- Enable mobile devices quickly and simply, and in a risk free manner.
- Exercise control over Windows 10 laptops, tablets and desktops alongside mobile devices.
- Ensure better safety against loss and theft with the lock, wipe and locate functionality.
- Protect mobile devices against malware with 100% malware detection by Sophos Mobile Security for Android App.

The school believes in deploying IT security that does not impede the productivity of its students or staff. This is why Sophos Central Endpoint Protection Advanced was the right pick as it deploys easily and quickly and is simple to manage and maintain.

Sophos Endpoint Protection Advanced offers next-gen protection that blocks malware and infections by identifying and preventing those handful of techniques and behaviours used by attackers in most exploits. It does not rely on signature for malware detection and catches zero-day threats without affecting device performance.

This security solution pre-filters all HTTP traffic and tracks suspicious traffic as well as the file path of the process sending malicious traffic. It also makes policy setting a breeze and allows Samir and his team to enforce the school's web, application, device and data policies easily as a result of integrating seamlessly within the endpoint agents and management console. In addition, category based web filtering, category/name based application blocking, stricter management of removable media and mobile device and DLP using prebuilt or custom rules has bolstered the school's IT security infrastructure.

‘We are so satisfied with the benefits accrued that we advise and encourage students, parents and teachers to download Sophos Anti-virus for Home on their devices.’

Samir Al-Sulahat
Head of ICT, Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai

Business Results

By Deploying Sophos MDM, the IT department has enabled surfing and usage restrictions and enhanced student safety on the web; they are also getting a ringside view of how students are using their mobile devices. With Cloud managed Endpoint Protection Advanced, SISD has achieved its critical goals of adding a new layer of security to the School’s network and making online learning safely available for all students.

With Sophos Endpoint filtering and analysing every website that the student visits while at School and blocking access to dangerous websites, the teachers are rest assured that students are not accessing harmful content online.
‘With Sophos, we are way more informed about user activities online than ever before and definitely more protected against cyber-threats than we were in the past. We have a degree of comfort when it comes to IT security, and this allows us to do our job better.’

Samir Alsulahat
Head of ICT, Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai