



Customer-at-a-Glance

Kingsway Park High School is an 11–16 mixed foundation school that opened in September 2010. Situated in Rochdale in Greater Manchester, the school's motto is 'Aspire, learn, achieve.' It has been rated 'Good' in recent Ofsted inspections.

Industry

Education

No of users

1,200

Sophos Solutions

Sophos XG330 firewall
Sophos Central
Sophos Endpoint Advanced
Sophos Server Protection Advanced

Sophos Customer

Since 2010

Kingsway Park High School Improves Reporting With Sophos and Saves 50% Year-On-Year



'The Sophos firewall far outweighs anything I have ever seen and the transition from our previous firewall took much less time than I expected. It is by far the best on the market.'

Martin Chatwood,
Senior IT Technician, Kingsway Park High School



'By switching to Sophos, year-on-year we have saved 50% on the cost of our firewall and endpoint security.'

Martin Chatwood,
Senior IT Technician,
Kingsway Park High School

In September 2010, the new Kingsway Park High School opened its doors to students following an amalgamation of Balderstone Technology College and Springhill High School. With the launch of the new school came associated IT challenges and overhauls. Martin Chatwood, the school's senior IT technician, describes the steps he has taken to ensure the new school has the very best IT security. find out the steps he has taken to ensure the new school has the very best IT security provision.

Business Challenge

Kingsway Park High School has been using Sophos Endpoint Advanced for over five years and has always been happy with the level of protection it provides for staff and students. Yet, the firewall the school had in place – not a Sophos product – wasn't performing as well as it should have been and any reporting functionality would have incurred additional costs on top of an already high price tag. When the firewall contract ended, Senior IT Technician Martin Chatwood began to search for alternatives and additional layers of IT security to protect the school.

Technology Solution

In March, following an online demo, Kingsway Park High School took out a three-year EnterpriseProtect contract with Sophos. The products they have installed include:

- › **Sophos XG330 Firewall**
A fresh approach to managing firewalls, responding to threats, and monitoring the network. XG Firewall provides comprehensive next-generation firewall protection that exposes hidden risks, blocks unknown threats, and automatically responds to incidents.
- › **Sophos Central**
A unified console for managing and synchronising Sophos products. The Security Heartbeat™ ensures endpoint protection and firewalls talk to each other, improving protection against advanced threats.

▸ **Sophos Endpoint Advanced**

Blocks malware and infections by identifying and preventing the techniques and behaviours used in almost every exploit.

▸ **Sophos Server Protection Advanced**

Comprehensive defence in depth using deep learning malware detection exploit prevention, anti-ransomware technology, application white listing, active adversary protection, and root cause analysis.

Business Results

In addition to saving 50% year-on-year by switching to the Sophos XG Firewall, Martin notes that the school experienced a number of functionality benefits, for example:

- The Security Heartbeat™ from Sophos enables the school's endpoint protection and firewall to communicate with each other for increased resilience against threats.
- Reporting is far more advanced than before, allowing the IT team to see individuals' activity, highlight issues, and display warnings.
- The intuitive interface makes it easy for the IT team to quickly see what is happening on the network. "It's powerful yet straightforward," says Martin.
- Web filtering right down to a user level instead of the previous blanket blocking allows office staff to access finance websites, use proxy addresses or VLAN, for example, and creates less workload for the IT team who previously received multiple calls or emails requesting access.
- Simple set-up and bulk self-installs meaning the implementation process was stress-free and not at all time-consuming.

Martin concludes: "The way all our security products now work together and talk to each other has made a massive difference to the way we work, and being cloud-based we can also log in and work wherever we are. It's simple to see any issues or risks and the products are easy to install right out of the box. We've saved money and I believe we also save at least two or three hours a week working out what's going on. Our Sophos partner Software Box Ltd has also been brilliant, getting all the pricing for us and bringing it all together."



'The reporting we now have has made a big difference; it saves us time and the granularity it provides enables us to drill down to individual and highlight any issues.'

Martin Chatwood,
Senior IT Technician,
Kingsway Park High School

According to Richard Longhawn, Internal Account Manager at Software Box Ltd: "Supporting Kingsway Park High School with this project has been a real pleasure and we have seen some huge leaps forward with the levels of IT security in place at the school. Sophos products have been ideal and have provided excellent value for money too, perfect in an education environment."



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