



### Customer-at-a-Glance

Dating back to 1898, Sherborne Girls School in Dorset is an independent boarding and day school for girls aged 11 to 18. There are currently 469 pupils attending the school, with over 90% of students living on campus and residing in the seven boarding houses.

#### Industry

Education

#### Number of Users

469 pupils and 150 staff

#### Website

[www.sherborne.com](http://www.sherborne.com)

#### Sophos Solutions

Sophos Central  
Intercept X

#### Sophos Customer

Since 2005

Following a number of ransomware 'near misses' **Sherborne Girls School** implements Sophos Intercept X.



*'Going to the finance team to request funding for Sophos Central and Intercept X was not a problem. We all knew and trusted Sophos and we have saved money too.'*

**Tim Farr**

IT Manager, Sherborne Girls School



*'We attended a seminar and saw a presentation on Intercept X. We read up on the product and then decided to go for it. We were so sure it was the right product we jumped straight in.'*

**Tim Farr**

IT Manager, Sherborne Girls School

After a ransomware attempt on a staff laptop that just affected a few files, followed by a ransomware virus on a student's memory stick, the IT team at Sherborne Girls School realised an attack on the school's systems was a case of 'when' and not 'if'. They attended a seminar and saw a presentation about Sophos Central and Intercept X, and say they were so certain about the products, they jumped straight in.

## Business Challenge

Sherborne Girls School in Dorset has been a Sophos customer since 2005. In 2008 the school moved away from Sophos when the IT team purchased Lightspeed Systems, a web filtering and antivirus product. This product was then removed and ESET was installed. The school – never 100% satisfied with these products – eventually returned to Sophos in 2010.

In 2016, the school realised a ransomware attack was imminent, following an attempted attack on a staff laptop and a ransomware virus being brought into school on a student's memory stick. With no product installed at the school to protect them from an attack of this kind they looked to Sophos and partner company Foursys for advice.

## Technology Solution

The school was pleased with its decision to implement Sophos Central and Intercept X. The team also replaced the Linux firewall with WatchGuard and were pleased to see that Sophos Central and Intercept X worked very well alongside it, providing the school with a multi-layered approach.

IT Manager, Tim Farr, says that installing Sophos Central and Intercept X went very smoothly and was not at all memorable because it was just so simple.

## Business Results

Tim lists the benefits of Sophos Central and Intercept X to the school as being:

- › **Reduced costs and improved functionality**  
The school has been able to save a few hundred pounds each year and at the same time extend the functionality of their IT security products.
- › **Competitive pricing for education**  
Sophos has been able to offer the school excellent pricing tailored to schools, colleges and universities.
- › **Intuitive console**  
The school is very pleased with the Sophos Central management console, specifically the user interface and the notifications the team receives.
- › **Anywhere access**  
The school now has the flexibility to access the information they need from the management console, from anywhere. "It makes it far easier for us to manage and has freed up staff resources," says Tim.
- › **Designed by Sophos**  
"We have always been happy with how effective and trustworthy Sophos products are, and we were sure Sophos Central and Intercept X would do the job," says Tim.

Since installing Sophos Central and Intercept X there has been no sign of any threatening ransomware. According to Tim: "Previous products from other IT security vendors were often overly complicated and with no real management consoles, tasks always took a long time. In comparison, Sophos is very intuitive and you can see what you need to do at a glance, and get it done quickly. We would recommend Sophos Central and Intercept X to other schools, and we have already done so, for ease of use, cost, reliability and functionality."



*'Implementation was very easy and we ran Sophos Central and Intercept X alongside our on-premise solution, and then gradually switched everything to cloud. In fact it was so easy we can barely remember it.'*

**Tim Farr**

IT Manager, Sherborne Girls School



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