



Top of the class in network security
365IT security services provide world wide assurance

The Customer

The Cognita group encompasses 58 schools across the UK, Europe, South-East Asia and Latin America. Fitting a broad profile, the family of schools includes nurseries, pre-prep, prep, junior and senior schools. Cognita employs 3,500 teaching and support staff, in the care and education of over 17,900 pupils.

The Challenge

Cognita schools are designed to be largely autonomous. Each school is led by a head-teacher and a school based leadership team. Being part of the group ensures that schools benefit from support services and from access to an extensive collegiate network.

Regional teams of experienced educationalists provide academic staff with a range of expertise, whilst core business functions, such as systems infrastructure are provided by dedicated staff, that work across the regions.

With this model in place, Cognita relies on an extensive data network and the challenge was to improve security and enforce it across the network to protect IT resources and provide peace of mind. Cognita also wanted to connect all sites to the head office and establish peer networks between each school.

“ 365IT offered a complete service, which was instrumental in the success of the project.

Andrew Savin, Group IT Director

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The 365IT Solution

365IT recommended, designed and deployed a security solution that can handle a range of different types of IT threat in a unified and integrated way. By addressing a number of security issues with a single solution based on WatchGuard's Unified Threat Management (UTM), 365IT enabled Cognita to effectively set, manage and report on firewall, anti-virus and intrusion prevention policies for the whole business.

365IT also addressed the growing threats in email security with centrally managed services that support worldwide operations, based on a combination of the Mimecast anti-spam and email archiving solution, with Websense web security providing protection against the growing range of web-based threats. This provides a centralised email and web security policy for all Cognita users around the world.

The Benefits

- Provide a secure solution for all users around the world
- Unified solution that can handle a wide range of security threats
- Cost effective and efficient environment
- High performance security environment for all users
- Complete service including installation, configuration, training and support.