

# American School of Dubai

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CASE STUDY

# Learning Enablement in the Digital Classroom

## Securing technology for schools

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The American School of Dubai, a leading independent American community school in the UAE, is focused on ensuring their students are future-ready through a highly relevant education program. Technology plays a fundamental role in facilitating this, especially in the middle and high school year levels. The School prides itself on their industry leading network technology, enabling them to embrace technology more broadly within the curriculum and enhance learning outcomes.

### The Challenge

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The School is organised into three divisions - Elementary, Middle and High Schools - with 1,900 students and 350 staff. Each School division has very different requirements for accessing online resources, which places significant demands on their network and security infrastructure.

Connectivity in the UAE can also be challenging at times. With online tools and content so integral to the education

experience at the School they required an innovative solution to maximise the performance of the internet whilst also securing their network.

With the previous solution the School's ICT team used to experience poor support and service response times which had negative impacts on learning. Support is therefore a key consideration, especially in the area of security where they don't want to compromise.

“The School's ICT team highly value the professional and responsive support provided by the experienced CyberHound Support team.”

Peter Chang, ICT Manager, American School of Dubai

## The Solution

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Superloop's CyberHound solution provides the School with an education focused security and wellbeing solution that delivers the high level of granularity and flexibility demanded by their K12 environments.

The technology enables the school's ICT team to easily configure their own custom access policies specific for each of the three school divisions, ensuring appropriate levels of control around web activity and access to online content.

In order to address performance requirements of the School, they have implemented two CyberHound appliances with eight internet links connecting into each.

This supports the School in managing up to 4,500 devices on the network at one time accessing content heavy applications such as YouTube. The CyberHound's Application Control Engine also enables the ICT team to effectively identify, manage or block a constantly evolving list of applications.

## The Benefits

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One of the key benefits being experienced by The American School of Dubai is the increased visibility around online activity, delivered through the CyberHound's behavioural analytics platform, ClearView. This has been fundamental in providing the School with crucial insights to proactively identify at risk students.

The CyberHound security solution is also delivering the following benefits to the School:

- Enhanced network security and data protection
- Improved control and flexibility for customising policies for individual student cohorts
- Enhanced visibility with customisable reporting
- Student welfare benefits through the behavioural analytics platform
- Granular controls for web filtering catering for their education requirements
- Reliable professional support by highly experienced industry experts

## Security and Protection

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CyberHound's education-specific feature set is enabling the American School of Dubai's ICT team to best cater for the evolving needs of their School community. Having access to professional and reliable support is invaluable and provides them with the confidence to know their network and students are protected.

"We find the ClearView feature a huge benefit. We can quickly forward anything concerning direct to our school counselors to address. Being able to prevent something from happening it is worth every bit of the investment."

"There are a number of web filtering solutions on the market but our research found that the CyberHound solution offers the most competitive financially and also offered a point of difference for K12 schools with its specific education feature set."

"The high level of support from the CyberHound team has always been very good and responsive so we haven't felt isolated. We haven't looked back since we have implemented the CyberHound solution."

**Peter Chang, ICT Manager, American School of Dubai**