



## Prince Alfred College upgrades to a Next Generation Platform after an extensive evaluation of many solutions

### Background

Prince Alfred College, a leading South Australian independent boys school, educates around 1,100 children from pre-K through to year 12, including boarding and international students. Established by the Methodist Church in 1869, the College is affiliated with the Uniting Church in Australia and is an International Baccalaureate world school. CyberHound assists the College in streamlining its internet management efforts by offering them a powerful and intuitive unified solution.

*“The CyberHound Solution is an incredible all-in-one solution. It is not only the most feature-rich and reliable solution for schools but it is also the highest performing solution I have seen,”* said Chris Downing, Systems Engineer.

### Situation

The College began their 1:1 laptop journey in 2011 with the introduction of the One to World Notebook program. This program has enabled them to transform the educational experience at the College and is resulting in increased motivation and engagement of their students. To ensure the performance and capabilities of each device the ICT team decided to adopt a Windows platform and mandate a Microsoft tablet device. All students from years 7 – 12 are now involved in the parent-funded program and moving forward will have the option to select their own device, assuming it meets minimum technical requirements.

While the focus of technology in the College is to enhance learning outcomes, it is also an important way for their boarding and international students to stay in touch with family and friends. Technology is also integrated into the learning environment of the younger grades with them using a combination of Mac and Window devices.

### Challenges

The College’s previous internet management solution combined a custom-built unified threat management solution (UTM), with custom scripts to monitor activity, and separate web filtering. While performance was acceptable the ICT team were dedicating significant and increasing levels of time to keep it up to date. The web filtering solution also did not integrate with the UTM so it meant they had to maintain and update these separately.

As students got more proficient with technology, the ICT team noticed an increase in the number of students trying to access peer-to-peer or other inappropriate web applications (including anonymiser services) from the school network. This is something that they wanted more granular control and visibility of to ensure they could identify and block the behaviour when students stepped outside the agreed boundaries. More importantly they wanted the opportunity to educate the students about being responsible online digital citizens.

Parents also wanted the option to extend the web filtering rules while their children were away from the school network, which was not possible with the existing solution.

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Chris Downing,  
Systems Engineer  
**Prince Alfred College**  
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## PRINCE ALFRED COLLEGE

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Chris Downing,  
Systems Engineer  
**Prince Alfred College**



## Solution

The College undertook an extensive research and evaluation process to identify a new solution that would best suit their environment. In all the College looked at twenty solutions, with the CyberHound solution standing out as the best in class.

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One of the biggest benefits the College is experiencing from the CyberHound Solution is it provides a unified solution that requires no on-site updating or custom policy writing. This is saving the ICT team significant time, as everything is in one place, and they no longer have to worry about having out of date protection.

*"We had the confidence to let the CyberHound Solution take over in its primary role sooner than anticipated as it worked so well. We were then also able to retire a few appliances earlier, meaning further cost savings and ease of use,"* Chris said.

The ICT team also enjoy how easy it is to create and modify policies. *"I'm used to people promising the earth until the sale comes in, and then it's like – where's the support guy. This was the opposite. We needed support to get things to operate the way we wanted it, and the guys at CyberHound were fantastic."*

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When it came to securing budget, the CyberHound Solution's ClearView feature meant that the ICT team could share the investment with the College's Wellbeing Department, helping to validate the decision to purchase the solution. They were keen to contribute to ensure they had the best student welfare platform available and an ability to easily enable responsible digital citizenship with minimal teacher intervention. The proven benefits the platform has provided other schools were a deciding factor for the Department.

Some of the other benefits the CyberHound Solution has delivered the College include:

- Extending web filtering and access policies off the school network – the CyberHound Solution's Borderless Internet Compliance Agent means that students can experience the same security and policies wherever they connect to the internet, giving parents peace of mind and control over web and social media use.
- Simple 'on-boarding' of devices – students can easily on-board their device to the school network ensuring all security certificates are installed and enabled without the ICT team having to be involved.
- Global view on digital behaviour – the CyberHound Solution has already been valuable in providing insight into the use of certain web applications allowing the College to proactively address this behaviour with students.
- Flexibility and growth for future requirements - *"The CyberHound Solution allowed us to tick more boxes than we knew we wanted at the time and has enabled us to achieve specific requirements which we didn't think were possible,"* said Chris.

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