AVG

Tough on threats. Easy on you.

Westlands School and Technology College
'success and excellence for all in a caring community'

IT in Education Vanguard Learns Value of Networked Antivirus with AVG

Westlands School & Technology College in Torquay prides itself on the success achieved by its students and aims to provide an environment in which every pupil can achieve their full potential. The School is part of a national pilot scheme to deliver Information Technology across the curriculum and plays a lead role in training for teachers in the application of IT. Additionally, Westlands is an Open University Reference Centre and its facilities are available after school and into the evening to offer adult learning opportunities. As a result of these commitments, the School is at the forefront of IT development in education and has invested heavily in its IT infrastructure.

Westlands has first class teaching accommodation with state of the art IT suites. Currently, the school has 1,700 users of its 800 PCs and 300 laptops and every classroom is connected to the internet. Additionally, the School loans out trolleys of 25 laptops to neighbouring primary and junior schools.

Originally, the School's network was protected from intrusion by a firewall, but did not have a co-ordinated antivirus policy. Though many of the teachers had single-user AVG Anti-Virus protection installed on their PCs, most machines were not protected.

Lesson in Antivirus

Two years ago a particularly malicious virus infected the School's network. David Aspden, Network Development Manager, recalls, "Once the virus had passed through our firewall it was effectively open season." He continued, "Affected PCs infected other machines and then shut down. We were not able to control the attack. After an un-enviable morning, we decided to shut down the entire network and clear the virus, PC by PC." Needless to say, the IT team were not keen to repeat the exercise and quickly concluded that the School required a network-strength antivirus product.

Westlands decided to expand its use of AVG Anti-Virus to protect the IT infrastructure using the AVG Network Edition. There were two main reasons for the choice; transparent operation and ease of management.

Transparent, Centralised Protection

AVG provides non-intrusive virus protection. Students are not aware that the software is in operation. The AVG Anti-Virus scanning process does not interrupt the work of the students and AVG does not attempt to modify their internet use. For example, many security antivirus systems block the download of zip files. However, Zip files are commonly used in the academic world to compress information necessary for the student work.

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> *Tony Bennett, ICT Manager,*
> *Westlands School & Technical College, Torquay*

Another key benefit was that students are unable to access or control the management of AVG Anti-Virus. All deployment and maintenance is centrally applied. Tony Bennett, ICT Manager, commented, "We find that the AVGADMIN management console greatly simplifies deployment and updating of the software." When a new machine is added to the network the AVG system automatically installs the default antivirus settings. Whilst in use, the profile on the PC is automatically updated by the servers. The School has scheduled AVG to initiate a virus-sweep of all machines after school at 16.00 every day. Central administrators do not have to continuously check that AVG is working effectively as many of the administrative tasks are automated by the software.

AVG Anti-Virus has continuously provided us with comprehensive antivirus protection that allows our students to make the most of IT. We can be confident that our network will continue to function with the minimum of administrative involvement. As a result, we plan to renew and expand the AVG licence as our use of Internet-connected computers increases."

Having recently won several awards for excellence in the use of technology, the school is in a position to deliver a standard of education ready to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Key Benefits of AVG:

CENTRALISED MANAGEMENT:
AVG Network Edition can use used to manage 1,000s of users through AVGADMIN management console and AVG DataCenter data repository.

EASE OF USE:
AVG Network Edition is easy to deploy. Updates are downloaded automatically throughout the day to a centralised location and the workstations constantly check for these updates.

COMPETITIVE PRICING:
AVG UK is committed to providing competitively priced antivirus protection and has a growing reputation among users for delivering excellent value for money.

ACCESSIBLE TECHNICAL SUPPORT:
Friendly, professional technical support is available via email 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Telephone support is also available Monday to Friday, 8.30 am–5 pm.

www.avg.com