Leading Girls School Uses Technology to Support Value System

A Sydney Catholic school is leading the way in providing a safe social media and internet environment for students by adopting CyberHound's award-winning technology. The technology enables Kincoppal-Rose Bay School of the Sacred Heart to manage all aspects of students' internet use. The school adopted CyberHound's technology specifically for ClearView. This unique and innovative product helps staff monitor social media communication to prevent inappropriate use and help identify concerning online activity such as bullying, self harm, eating disorders and other issues.

"Deciding to implement CyberHound for our school's needs was an easy decision," Kincoppal-Rose Bay School of the Sacred Heart Principal, Hilary Johnston-Croke says. *"It has greatly assisted our school in providing protection from online threats. CyberHound provides the Kincoppal-Rose Bay Staff with quick notification of any issues online with our students, allowing us to deal with said issues in a timely manner."*

The Situation

Kincoppal-Rose Bay School of the Sacred Heart is a leading Catholic independent school that is part of the international network of Sacred Heart schools. Located in Rose Bay in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs, the School is co-educational (P-6) and girls only day and boarding (Years 7-12).

With over 130 years of educating hearts and minds, Kincoppal-Rose Bay prepares its students for lives of courage and confidence, educating them to discover their purpose, cultivate their talents and passions, and commit themselves to service as global citizens of the world.

While the School is steeped in tradition, it employs the latest technologies, and techniques to educate and protect its students. The focus is on the 'positive education' of the whole student.

The School has embraced the use of technology in classrooms and this put a huge strain on its previous internet management platform. Some of the challenges faced by staff and students included:

- 1:1 laptop programs for students in years 7-12 meant that students had a device they could connect to the internet outside of the control of the school.

- Increased use of social media without appropriate controls.

- Lack of visibility of underlying pastoral care issues.

- Slow internet performance, which meant that teachers could not take ad vantage of rich media and eLearning opportunities as much as they wished.

- Web filtering technology that blocked access to genuine learning tools and online content.

"CyberHound has allowed Year Coordinators to monitor student internet and social media usage. This knowledge has helped them to tailor pastoral programs which focus on helping students to construct an ethical digital footprint and safe use of technology."

Marie Wood, Director of Students
Kincoppal-Rose Bay School
www.krb.nsw.edu.au

KINCOPPAL – ROSE BAY
SCHOOL OF THE SACRED HEART

CyberHound provides schools with the ability to optimise and manage their existing internet services. We help students engage in new forms of learning while also supporting teachers to confidently use digital content and resources without the worry of access, internet speed or reliability. Over the last 17 years, CyberHound has developed the most comprehensive learning enablement and cyber safety solution for schools and our solution is now the benchmark for schools in Australia and internationally.

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The Solution

After a careful review of the existing solution and other solutions on the market, the School decided to deploy the CyberHound solution. This decision was made on the basis of CyberHound's long commitment to schools in Australia, its local support capabilities and its unique capability to manage social media use.

The school was also very impressed by the references it took out at other schools that are benefiting from the technology and the company's support.

After careful planning the CyberHound solution was implemented in April 2013 and the school started seeing immediate benefits.

Benefits

The School has seen widespread value from its investment in the technology. CyberHound's ClearView is able to deliver benefits to the school across several crucial areas:

Student Welfare

- Using CyberHound's ClearView, the School is able to enforce the principles around student respect and support for each other – even across the use of social media platforms.

- All social media communications are monitored so inappropriate language is blocked before it reaches its target. Perpetrators can be identified and misuse can be managed.

- The School is able to manage internet use on school-owned laptops whether they are on the school network or outside the network (i.e. at home, on the bus or elsewhere).

- ClearView can identify unusual patterns of communication that may indicate a student is in need of support (i.e. suffering bullying, using drugs, considering self harm). These evidence-based triggers are crucial for pastoral care staff to act quickly to identify and assist 'at risk' students.

Internet Use

- CyberHound technology allows the School to enforce controls over the use of the internet at various time of the day (e.g. during homework time and late at night).

- Boundaries can be set for students around internet use with different policies for each year group – providing a tremendous degree of flexibility for staff.

- Reliable controls can be set over the use of the internet with none of the previous issues of genuine educational content being blocked.

Internet Performance

- CyberHound's technology dramatically improves internet performance without any internet link upgrades or cost. The CyberHound platform is designed and optimised for high throughput across the most demanding of networks.

"The CyberHound solution has proven to be easy to manage. The accuracy of the web filtering has helped save a lot of time and frustration. We have all been delighted by the performance of the solution as the previous solution caused internet performance degradation. I am very pleased with our decision to implement CyberHound's unique technology at the School."

Ed Tillyer, IT Manager
Kincoppal-Rose Bay School

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