

Cyber security: one trust's story



Department
for Education



An academy trust in England with over **6000 pupils** and **800 staff** experienced a **ransomware** attack. The incident was identified by a large spike in bandwidth by the school's network supplier.

Total estimated cost of damages: £1 million.

Around **2 million files and 2 terabytes of data were taken**, including names, addresses, national insurance numbers and possible bank details.

Everything connected to the system was considered infected or compromised. This included catering, costing the Trust **£10,000 a day** to feed children unable to access digital payment systems.

Learning was significantly impacted, particularly for 1,500 students working towards exams. Lost data included coursework and assignments.

The Trust had a cyber response plan, which they followed immediately. They also had **cyber risk cover** that gave them access to specialists who helped with the response.

Since the incident, the Trust has enhanced their log in security, implemented two-factor authentication and revised their password policy. **Attitudes and perceptions have also changed, and they recognise cyber security measures are critical to have in place.**

Scan to visit the hub.



“ I strongly believe actions and advise should be focused on being prepared and being ready to respond to when an attack happens. ”

-Educational chief executive
of the trust