12.5.5 Online Authentication Facts

With Windows 10, Microsoft accounts can be used as well as local user accounts to authenticate. A local account is stored on the local system and all profile information associated with the account stays on the computer.

If an online Microsoft account is used to authenticate to the Windows system, Microsoft's online service is used to authenticate the user to the local system as well as to back up some user profile information to Microsoft's cloud.

In this configuration, the email address and password associated with the Microsoft account is used to log on to the system. If the same Microsoft account is used to log on to another Windows 8 or later system, the account's profile information is automatically synchronized to the other computer, including password, desktop configuration, and apps. Files associated with the user profile are not synchronized. However, the account's associated OneDrive account can be used to make user files available on other systems.

Once the online account has been created, you can associate a local user account with an online user account by following these steps:

1. Select **Start**.
2. Select **Settings**.
3. Select **Accounts**.
4. Select **Your Account**.
5. Select **Sign in with a Microsoft account instead**.

Online account settings can be managed by going to the Manage My Microsoft Account by following these steps:

1. Select **Start**.
2. Select **Settings**.
3. Select **Accounts**.
4. Select **Your Account**.
5. Select **Manage My Microsoft Account**.

From the Manage My Microsoft Account, the following information can be managed:

- Name
- The account email address (which is the account name)
- Personal info
- The account password
- The account security information

Microsoft accounts also allow you to set screen time that can allocate a specific number of hours that your child can spend in front of their computer each day. To manage a child account go to the Add a child setting by following these steps.

1. Select **Start**.
2. Select **Settings**.
3. Select **Accounts**.
4. Select **Family & other people**.
5. Select **Add a child**.

You can also close the account and delete all data associated with it.