Education Standards Board

SharePoint – Anti-Virus/Malware Scanning Exclusions Recommendation

20/07/2023

# Overview

* It was observed remarkably high utilisation of the SharePoint Server CPU when performing a Search Full Index
* This is to be expected when performing a Full crawl to some extent, though due to this being a Single Server Farm with all services running on the single server, one service utilising a high load can affect others such as serving the web pages to users.

# Recommended Improvements

1. Exclude the common locations listed below from Anti-Virus scanning will reduce the impact on CPU Performance. As these locations contain files which are constantly updated by the application, the files are constantly being scanned by the Anti-Virus system, causing high CPU load.

**Locations Recommended to be excluded:**

* C:\Program Files\Common Files\Microsoft Shared\Web Server Extensions\16
* C\Program Files\Common Files\Microsoft Shared\Web Server Extensions\16\Logs
* C:\Program Files\Microsoft Office Servers\16.0\Data\Office Server\Applications
* C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework64\v4.0.30319\Temporary ASP.NET Files
* C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework64\v4.0.30319\Config
* C:\Users\ServiceAccount\AppData\Local\Temp\WebTempDir
* C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\SharePoint
* C:\Users\account that the search service is running as\AppData\Local\Temp
* C\Users\ServiceAccount\AppData\Local\Temp
* C:\Users\Default\AppData\Local\Temp
* C:\inetpub\wwwroot\wss\VirtualDirectories

**Microsoft Reference**

[Certain folders may have to be excluded from antivirus scanning when you use file-level antivirus software in SharePoint - Microsoft Support](https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/certain-folders-may-have-to-be-excluded-from-antivirus-scanning-when-you-use-file-level-antivirus-software-in-sharepoint-01cbc532-a24e-4bba-8d67-0b1ed733a3d9)