

Appropriate Monitoring for Schools

May 2023



Monitoring Provider Checklist Reponses

Schools (and registered childcare providers) in England and Wales are required “to ensure children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school, including by establishing appropriate levels of filtering”. Furthermore, it expects that they “assess the risk of [their] children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology”. There are a number of self review systems (eg www.360safe.org.uk) that will support a school in assessing their wider online safety policy and practice.

The Department for Education’s statutory guidance ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’ obliges schools and colleges in England to “ensure appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place and regularly review their effectiveness” and they “should be doing all that they reasonably can to limit children’s exposure to [Content, Contact, Conduct, Contract] risks from the school’s or college’s IT system” however, schools will need to “be careful that “over blocking” does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what children can be taught with regards to online teaching and safeguarding.”

By completing all fields and returning to UK Safer Internet Centre (enquiries@saferinternet.org.uk), the aim of this document is to help monitoring providers to illustrate to schools how their particular technology system(s) meets the national defined ‘appropriate monitoring’ standards. Fully completed forms will be hosted on the UK Safer Internet Centre website alongside the definitions

The results will help schools better assess, in conjunction with their completed risk assessment, if the monitoring system is ‘appropriate’ for them.

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Monitoring System	WatchGuard Firebox
Date of assessment	Jan 17 th 2023

System Rating response

Where a supplier is able to confirm that their service fully meets the issue identified in a specific checklist the appropriate self-certification colour for that question is GREEN.	
Where a supplier is not able to confirm that their service fully meets the issue identified in a specific checklist question the appropriate self-certification colour for that question is AMBER.	

Monitoring Content

Monitoring providers should ensure that they:

Aspect	Rating	Explanation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are IWF members 		WatchGuard is a proud and active member of the IWF.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilisation of IWF URL list for the attempted access of known child abuse images 		The IWF list is utilized as a part of Watchguard's WebBlocker.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with CTIRU 'the police assessed list of unlawful terrorist content, produced on behalf of the Home Office' 		HMO police list is fully integrated into WebBlocker and updated monthly.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirm that monitoring for illegal content cannot be disabled by the school 		Management UI can be secured with credentials controlled by the administrating body. WatchGuard's MFA solution, AuthPoint, can be implemented on the Management UI; further ensuring only authorized personnel are able to change or disable security settings. But, we must leave this as AMBER because any provider solution can be disabled by the administrator that installs it.

Inappropriate Online Content

Monitoring providers should both confirm, and describe how, their system monitors/manages the following content

Content	Explanatory notes – Content that:	Rating	Explanation
Illegal	content that is illegal, for example child abuse images and unlawful terrorist content		<p>Category – e.g. Drugs, Extremist Groups, Hacking, Adult Content, Violence, Weapons and more</p> <p>There are number of categories that block illegal content, activities and object. These categories can be both blocked and/or reported/alerted upon.</p>
Bullying	Involve the repeated use of force, threat or coercion to abuse, intimidate or aggressively dominate others		<p>Category – Violence/Intolerance</p> <p>This category includes sites that depict offensive material on brutality, death, cruelty, acts of abuse, mutilation, etc. These categories can be both blocked and/or reported/alerted upon.</p>

Child Sexual Exploitation	Is encouraging the child into a coercive/manipulative sexual relationship. This may include encouragement to meet		<p>Category – Adult Material; Subcategory: Adult Content</p> <p>This category includes child abuse images and media that have been verified by the Internet Watch Foundation to contain or distribute images of non-adult children that are depicted in a state of abuse. Information on the Internet Watch Foundation is and the CAIC list is available at http://www.iwf.org.uk/. This combined with the ability to monitor HTTPS empowers the IT administrator to provide powerful blocking and reporting tools on attempted access to these websites.</p>
Discrimination	Promotes the unjust or prejudicial treatment of people on the grounds of race, religion, age, sex, disability or gender identity		<p>Category – Intolerance</p> <p>This category specifically includes websites that promote the identification of racial groups in degrading or hateful depictions. This category also includes websites promoting the superiority of any group at the expense of others. These categories can be both blocked and/or reported/alerted upon.</p>
Drugs / Substance abuse	displays or promotes the illegal use of drugs or substances		<p>Category – Drugs</p> <p>This category not only includes categorization on illegal drug activities including drug promotion, preparation, cultivation, trafficking, etc., but also subcategories related to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abused Drugs • Marijuana • Nutrition • Prescribed Medications <p>These categories can be both blocked and/or reported/alerted upon.</p>
Extremism	promotes terrorism and terrorist ideologies, violence or intolerance		<p>Category – Militancy and Extremist</p>

			<p>This category specifically targets websites that feature radical militia groups or movements with aggressive anti-government convictions or beliefs. These categories can be both blocked and/or reported/alerted upon.</p>
Gambling	Enables gambling		<p>Category: Gambling</p> <p>Filtering of sites that provide information about or promote gambling or support online gambling, involving a risk of losing money.</p>
Pornography	displays sexual acts or explicit images		<p>Category – Adult Material</p> <p>This category is one of most extensive categories with a focus on explicit sexual content websites (18+ years and over) which present or display sexual acts with the intent to sexually arouse and excite. Subcategories include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Content • Lingerie and Swimsuit • Nudity • Sex • Sex Education <p>These mature content websites (18+ years and over) that depict the human body in full or partial nudity without the intent to sexually arouse are also categories that can be both blocked and/or reported/alerted upon.</p>
Self Harm	promotes or displays deliberate self harm		<p>Category – Violence</p> <p>This category includes sites that depict offensive material on brutality, death, cruelty, acts of abuse, mutilation, etc. These categories can be both blocked and/or reported/alerted upon. This combined with the ability to monitor HTTPS and use Application Control to inspect communication channels such as Instant Messaging if permitted.</p>

Suicide	Suggest the user is considering suicide		Category - Violence This category includes sites that depict offensive material on brutality, death, cruelty, acts of abuse, mutilation, etc. These categories can be both blocked and/or reported/alerted upon. This combined with the ability to monitor HTTPS, allows IT admins to form an effective deterrent and monitoring solution to block violent and harmful content from students.
Violence	Displays or promotes the use of physical force intended to hurt or kill		Category - Violence This category includes sites that depict offensive material on brutality, death, cruelty, acts of abuse, mutilation, etc. These categories can be both blocked and/or reported/alerted upon.

This list should not be considered an exhaustive list. Please outline how the system manages this content and many other aspects

WatchGuard web content filtering solutions are based on proxying technology developed over more than 20 years. Due to our depth of experience gleaned from developing our firewall technology in-house, WatchGuard has been recognised as a market leader in the provision of Next Generation Firewalls.

Monitoring System Features

How does the monitoring system meet the following principles:

Principle	Rating	Explanation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age appropriate – includes the ability to implement variable monitoring appropriate to age and vulnerability. This will in turn define which alerts are prioritised and responded to. Further situations may warrant additional capability, for examples boarding schools or community based access 		Categories are not directly linked to age, instead the monitoring solution grants strong and flexible power to the IT administrator to decide which categories make sense for different age groups. WatchGuard's Active Directory integration allows admins to define policies by group, which could be defined by age, educational department,

		<p>or any other distinction for purposes of granular monitoring and filtering policies.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alert Management – how alerts are managed – if schools manage system alerts or support/management is provided 		<p>Fireboxes connected to WatchGuard Cloud benefit from extensive reports and alerting. WatchGuard Cloud also offers a Safeguarding feature where an email can be generated upon certain search terms being detected.</p> <p>Security events from multiple WatchGuard products can be brought to light in a single place with WatchGuard’s ThreatSync.</p> <p>For WatchGuard’s on-premise solution, Dimension, there are notification settings concerning system health, database issues, etc. that can be configured for electronic based notices.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit – Any changes to the monitoring system are logged enabling an audit trail that ensures transparency and that individuals are not able to make unilateral changes. 		<p>Logs and Alerts are generated upon any changes made to your Watchguard products. This capability is even more useful when utilizing WatchGuard Cloud.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) – if the system includes the capability to monitor personal mobile and app technologies (ie not owned by the school), how is this deployed and supported and how data is managed. Does it monitor beyond the school hours and location 		<p>WatchGuard provides support for BYOD especially when implemented through WatchGuard secure Wi-Fi access points. With WatchGuard Wi-Fi and Firebox tools, personal devices can be recognised as such and automatically assigned to a guest zone with a specific set of policies to avoid infections being passed into the school network, and to prevent access to internal systems.</p>

		<p>In addition, the WatchGuard Firebox allows the ease and flexibility of explicit proxy configurations for school/enterprise owned mobile devices that are used for off-premise scenarios.</p> <p>Logging and reporting options are available for both on-premise and WatchGuard Cloud enabled environments.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data retention –what data is stored, where is it (physically– ie cloud/school infrastructure) stored and for how long. This should also include any data backup provision 		<p>WatchGuard Cloud is hosted with AWS across three regions (NA, EU, APAC) and data cannot travel between these regions.</p> <p>Log data stored in WatchGuard Cloud is dependant on the license purchased for your Firebox. WatchGuard’s Total Security Suite offers 365 days of data retention. This cannot be extended.</p> <p>Data deletion can be requested via WatchGuard’s support team.</p> <p>For Dimension (on-premise) users, the physical security depends on the accommodations developed by the system administrator and data retention can vary depending on the server specifications.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Devices – if software is required to be installed on devices, the monitoring system should be clear about the devices (and operating systems) it covers 		<p>WatchGuard offers flexible monitoring solutions that can be deployed on devices or in clientless deployment scenarios.</p> <p>WatchGuard provides monitoring solutions on the</p>

		<p>network level through WatchGuard's Firebox which by itself does not require any clients.</p> <p>For remote users, the Firebox can be paired with our Mobile VPN solution. As a part of this, WatchGuard supports the native VPN clients of iOS and Windows devices to promote alternative clientless VPN deployments.</p> <p>Last, but not least, security and monitoring can be further bolstered with WatchGuard's endpoint solutions EDR Core, EPP, EDR and EPDR.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexibility - changes in keywords (addition or subtraction) can be easily amended according to an agreed policy 		<p>The WatchGuard URL filtering and web categorization services provides ease of search by categorization as well as aggregate search term logging.</p> <p>Keyword filtering is available in WatchGuard Cloud's Safeguarding solution.</p> <p>Should any further adjustment to the Safeguarding keywords be needed, WatchGuard is happy to work with the school to discuss adjustments.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group / Multi-site Management – the ability for deployment of central policy and central oversight or dashboard 		<p>WatchGuard Cloud offers centralized management for all of your WatchGuard products. Our platform was built with multi-tier in mind from the ground up.</p> <p>Firebox Templates allow changes to be made in one place for all devices</p>

		<p>associated with the template.</p> <p>From there, WatchGuard Cloud offers a multitude of dashboards and reports.</p> <p>For those who prefer on-premise; WatchGuard Management Server allows for the ability to deploy central policies through a single management pane.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring Policy – How are all users made aware that their online access is being monitored? Is any advice or guidance provided to support schools? 		<p>In general, if a user is blocked after accessing a web site which belongs to a blocked category, a block page will be displayed which can contain an explanation for the block, as well as information on whom to contact for more information, or a link to a support website.</p> <p>WatchGuard offers many channels of communication should any school have questions about configuration.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple language support – the ability for the system to manage relevant languages? 		<p>The WatchGuard web filtering solution is multilingual, both in the automated rating system, as well as for the human web categorization team which contains skills in all major languages to allow for detailed verification of page ratings.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritisation – How are alerts generated and prioritised to enable a rapid response to immediate issues. What operational procedures are in place to facilitate that process? 		<p>Utilizing the Safeguarding feature in WatchGuard Cloud, a specific type of alert can be specified for when search terms are matched to the Search Engine report. This will generate an alert to the specified email.</p>

		Any blocked access will generate a log message, which may also generate an alert. Such alerts may be generated for every blocked rule. The alerts can then be sent by several means including email, SNMP traps.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remote monitoring – with many children and staff working remotely, the ability, extent and management for the monitoring of devices (school and/or personal). Included here is the hours of operation together with the explicit awareness of users. 		WatchGuard’s endpoint solutions offer powerful monitoring capabilities for remote devices.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting – how alerts are recorded within the system? 		As explained above, all detections of forbidden or suspicious access will be logged in the WatchGuard Firebox, WatchGuard Cloud and/or Dimension products.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harmful Image detection – The inclusion or extent to which visual content is discovered, monitored and analysed (eg Image hash) 		WatchGuard blocks harmful images based on source URLs. WatchGuard does not do any real time image analysis.

Pro Active Monitoring - how any pro-active monitoring support is provided including if any automation is utilised and the safeguarding capability of the organisation's teams.

WatchGuard Cloud offers Safeguarding. This feature works in tandem with Search Engine reporting to generate alerts via WatchGuard Cloud UI and email to give near real-time alerts upon certain keywords being reported.

WatchGuard Cloud also offers a variety of dashboards and reports.

Scheduled Reports can be utilized for regular activity reviews to keep a close eye on activities across WatchGuard products.


Please note below opportunities or enhancements to support schools (and other settings) with their obligations around Keeping Children Safe in Education?

WatchGuard works closely with the education sector and multiple authoritative compliance bodies to determine the optimal mix of technology tools and policies to enable conducive educational environments for students. We continue to work closely with UK authorities, authoritative certification bodies (IWF etc.) and educational partners to refine our products according to KCSIE policy development and the needs of our educational users.

MONITORING PROVIDER SELF-CERTIFICATION DECLARATION

In order that schools can be confident regarding the accuracy of the self-certification statements, the supplier confirms:

- that their self-certification responses have been fully and accurately completed by a person or persons who are competent in the relevant fields
- that they will update their self-certification responses promptly when changes to the service or its terms and conditions would result in their existing compliance statement no longer being accurate or complete
- that they will provide any additional information or clarification sought as part of the self-certification process
- that if at any time, the UK Safer Internet Centre is of the view that any element or elements of a provider's self-certification responses require independent verification, they will agree to that independent verification, supply all necessary clarification requested, meet the associated verification costs, or withdraw their self-certification submission.

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