

Wellingborough School provides an excellent academic-based education program and expands the mind of its students through other social programs including overseas expeditions, cultural awareness, creativity, drama, music, enterprise and public speaking.

The Challenge

Previously, the School used a different Web filtering solution but decided in 2008 to review its Web filtering needs. Paddy Waugh, Manager of Information Systems at Wellingborough School explains, “We had some serious issues with our old Web Filter. The most significant was that the solution missed detecting and blocking anonymous proxy sites, enabling students to access Web sites that they shouldn’t.” It was also very slow in classifying new sites or reclassifying sites that should be blocked or allowed.

Paddy adds, “The database typically contained US-based sites and it was a cumbersome process to request updates that took up valuable IT time. The delay in updating the URL database was extremely frustrating to our teachers and impacted the learning resource available to our students.”

Key Benefits

- ✓ Saves IT time
- ✓ Full anonymous proxy control
- ✓ e-Safety compliance
- ✓ Increased web access flexibility
- ✓ Reduced IT management time
- ✓ Real time filtering
- ✓ Increased productivity
- ✓ In-depth reporting



Paddy Waugh, Manager of Information Systems

“Our staff and students are extremely happy that they have immediate access to safe Internet sites, the School is able to implement e-safety guidelines and the IT team are saving valuable IT time with the appliance’s easy management and maintenance, and high reliability. It is a win-win situation for everyone at the School.”

“We have found the Bloxx Web filter simple and straightforward to use, enabling the easy management and maintenance of our Web filtering. The system doesn’t impact the speed or performance of the network as our previous solution did, and is highly reliable with little or no downtime - even during installation. If we encounter problems or have any questions or Queries, the Bloxx Support Team is very responsive and always delivers a fast fix and response to our questions.”

The Solution

Wellingborough School saw the Bloxx Web filtering appliance in action whilst attending BETT, a focussed education technology event that takes place every January in London, UK.

“We knew what we needed from a Web filtering solution and created a list of key requirements that we used to evaluate the Bloxx appliance. It ticked all the boxes and we installed the Bloxx appliance in early 2008. We now have an easy-to-use, proactive, real-time Web filtering solution from Bloxx that we use to monitor and manage Web content activity for around 900 users. We have superior anonymous proxy detection and believe it to be 100% better than our previous solution from,” comments Paddy.

The Results

Bloxx’s Web filtering appliance powered by Tru-View Technology provides real-time Web content classification that delivers enhanced protection against anonymous proxies. Paddy adds, “Another huge benefit is that the School’s IT team can more easily and simply manage Web filtering and therefore dedicate more time to other more important IT tasks.”

“With Bloxx’s TVT content categoriser Web pages are automatically scanned, classified and filtered in real-time and Web content reclassification is done immediately.

This enables us to allow access to blocked sites immediately upon request, which would have taken days with our previous solution. Our staff and students are really pleased with this service,” says Paddy.

Another gold star for the appliance is the ability to quickly set up multiple user groups that can be enforced through the data delivered by the reporting capabilities.

“We easily created multiple user groups to manage the Internet access for all students and staff. I consult the reports and activity logs monthly to ensure that our AUP is enforced and any breaches clearly identified. I can also examine the data at any time and drill down to look at specific situations such as an investigation into Web use misconduct,” explains Paddy.

Paddy Waugh, Manager of Information Systems

“Our students can no longer access anonymous proxies in order to circumvent Web filtering technology and view anything they want on the Internet. Only by adopting such technology, we can ensure that pupils are not wasting time surfing sites that have nothing to do with the School curriculum but keep them focussed on accessing sites that help them to complete their course work. We can ensure that our users are fully protected from accessing inappropriate sites, assure compliance with our usage policies and meet e-safety guidelines. This is all down to the Bloxx appliance.”