

Data backup masterclass from leading secondary school.

Cloud-based solution delivers complete data resilience and security, helps IT manager sleep better at night.



Data insecurity and sleepless nights

When IT Manager Peter Robinson joined Worthing High School experience told him that finding the right cloud backup solution for the school's servers would be top of his priority list. The secondary school had 20 virtual servers and 2 physical servers but just four were being backed up in the cloud at the time. This was giving Robinson sleepless nights.

"I was really worried that we didn't have complete resilience. With just four servers being replicated in the cloud with our existing solution, a lot of critical data simply wasn't being backed up. We urgently needed to find a new cloud backup device," he explained.

Robinson's worries didn't end there. He was also concerned that the school did not have a robust SaaS backup solution for Microsoft 365. "Back then we were just relying on the fact that Microsoft never goes down. But we couldn't go on like that just hoping that we would never lose any data. We needed to find a third-party solution that included Microsoft 365 in the package. Native backup just wasn't enough," noted Robinson.

The search for a solution

Robinson knew that more sleepless nights would follow if he didn't quickly find the right solution. "I did a lot of research myself and spoke to the guys at our reseller partner Bist Group. They've got a guy there who is really knowledgeable about backup. When he recommended Barracuda's offering, I also read a lot of whitepapers and reviews to check that it was right for the school. And it was. We looked at three or four vendors

Profile

- Fast-growing secondary school dedicated to the pursuit of academic achievement and excellence
- Based in Worthing, West Sussex

Challenges

- Only 25% of server data was being replicated in the cloud
- Insufficient Microsoft 365 backup
- Bolster disaster recovery plan

Solutions

- Barracuda Essentials Complete
- Barracuda Cloud-to-Cloud Backup
- Barracuda Cloud Archiving
- Barracuda Backup
- Barracuda CloudGen Firewall

Results

- 100% of server data is now replicated in the cloud
- Individual emails and Microsoft 365 data is retrieved at the click of a mouse
- Recovery from a disaster would now take just days instead of months or years

at the time but Barracuda Backup ticked all of our boxes,” he continued.

The reseller partner quickly set up a trial dashboard for the school’s small IT team of two to test and everything worked well from the get go. “We got the appliance delivered and I installed it myself. It’s a simple interface and easy to use. We also decided to sign up to Barracuda Essentials for Microsoft 365. Barracuda’s support was great and they responded quickly if I needed any help with anything,” said Robinson.

Sleeping peacefully

“Everything is now backed up regardless of how critical the data is. All SQL databases are backed up. Email is backed up through Microsoft 365 and all the data used day to day by our students and staff is backed up and secure. Barracuda really has saved me countless sleepless nights,” he continued.

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Barracuda Backup manages itself with minimal interaction from the team. “Once it’s set up you just leave it to go. We simply set our schedules and all the servers get backed up every day. We’ve got 8 terrabytes in the cloud which is compressed down from 17 terrabytes on site,” added Robinson.

“The Barracuda device backs up our servers to a local box in our server room and everything is replicated to the cloud and we’ve got unlimited storage and retention. Before Barracuda,

the cost to back everything up was just so prohibitive. And now if there is ever a disaster then we can get back up working in days whereas before it could have taken months or years.”

Backing up and retrieving Microsoft 365 data is also now effortless thanks to Barracuda’s SaaS solution. “Having email security and cloud-to-cloud backup in one package is a really great feature. It’s all in one interface so it’s easy for our team to backup and restore data. Sometimes one of our students will delete their work by mistake and we just go onto the restore browser to retrieve it. It’s such a quick process. We can also drill down and restore individual emails at the click of a mouse. You simply browse to the email or item you require and click restore. It’s as simple as finding and opening a file using Windows Explorer,” he continued.

“When you add all of this up it’s been a great transition. We were so happy in fact we also went with Barracuda Firewall to replace our old firewall. My dealings with Barracuda’s support team have been brilliant. They always come back really quickly. The Barracuda online community is also a great resource.”

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**Learn more about Barracuda Essentials,
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