Central Learning Partnership Trusts Firewall, Filtering and Monitoring Provision

September 2023

The Central Learning Partnership Trust is dedicated to ensuring the safety of our students, staff, and visitors when they are using online resources and connected to CLPT's school IT network. To accomplish this goal, our in-house IT services team maintains a cutting-edge firewall and filtering solution, along with a third-party device monitoring system, to reduce the risk of staff, students, and visitors encountering inappropriate content online while connected to the trust's IT network.

The firewall and filtering system have been specifically designed and implemented to ensure that any device, whether owned by the school or personally owned, connecting to a CLPT school's network will be subjected to, at the very minimum, student-level filtering.

Additionally, the school employs a third-party cloud software package known as 'Senso Cloud.' Senso Cloud is an all-in-one cloud software package for allowing for teachers to be in control of student using IT in lessons and pro-actively monitor for safeguarding alerts for DSL's and the individual schools safeguarding teams.

Senso's safeguarding module is deployed to all school/trust owned devices across the Central Learning Partnership's academies and works by proactively monitoring devices via AI-driven threat analysis. Each violation is automatically and instantly logged, screenshotted with annotated audit log including the date, time, user, and school and categorised in-line with DfE, KCSIE and NCSE frameworks. School safeguarding teams can filter and sort by severity, phrase, user, keyword, visual threat, and more. Reviewing violations is flexible and allows you to pinpoint those that require support quickly, as well as providing full browsing history to understand online activity in a wider context. Keyword libraries are generated from Senso Cloud's own comprehensive keyword library, an integrated keyword library and URL list from the Internet Watch Foundation, which is updated monthly, as well as an up-to-date list of URLs from the Counter-Terrorism Internet Referral Unit. This means you are always monitoring for the very latest potential threats. Each keyword is provided with a definition where appropriate, too, taking out the guesswork of those modern-day acronyms and slang terms.

Senso Cloud is set up to provide DSL and school safeguarding teams reports and email alerts.

Any questions, queries or concerns relating to the firewall, filtering and or monitoring provision for CLPT's IT equipment and network should be directed to the CLPT IT Services team via the helpdesk by emailing helpdesk@clpt.co.uk or emailing either the trusts Head of IT (Dean Jones) or Trust Network Manager (Jordan Young).