

CWL Systems deliver a secure, robust and child proof network



Customer Case Study

"By using Windows 2000 and Terminal Services, along with the power that Group Policy provides, we have regained control of our own network and now enjoy the experience that confidence in the security of our network brings.

Using the experience and knowledge of CWL, we now have a system so secure, that we don't have to be constantly watching the pupils to see what they're trying to break. This has saved us hundreds of man hours a year, which used to be taken up with restoring deleted data and re-installing computers that our pupils had destroyed".
*"Not to mention being able to utilise old hardware" Says **Nigel Emmerson Network Manager.***

Overview.

Frederick Gough Comprehensive School is for 11 – 16 year olds, serving the people of Bottesford, a town with a population of 12,500, on the southern outskirts of Scunthorpe. Frederick Gough School is leading the way in developing innovative approaches to teaching and learning. Recently after speaking to numerous I.T. companies and because of our experience in securing networks, Frederick Gough School chose to have CWL Systems Ltd to secure their network from the misuse of the 1200 pupils.

The Challenge.

An I.T. Educational specialist was currently being used for the school's network servers and applications, with their own bespoke software to restrict pupils access to network resources. However, with the network a bit out of date, the pupils had found many loopholes and ways around the security restrictions, being able to delete others files and modify systems, causing constant headaches to the teachers.

What was required was a secure network, which prevented abuse and corruption by the pupils, whilst still being easy to maintain and configure.

The requirements were:

- A restrictive, yet flexible, lock-down of the network system and hardware.
- Pupils to only be able to access specifically defined application and folders.
- Teachers to be given full control of the network and pupils accounts.
- A way of easily rebuilding any failed or new PC's on the network.
- Easy addition of applications and printers, dependent on the location of PC's in classrooms.
- To integrate and use some of the schools old hardware in a new powerful environment.

The main focus of the challenge was to make a system so secure, that no-matter how crafty the pupils were, they wouldn't be able to delete others data, or corrupt the operating systems install, but still giving the teachers the control needed to teach efficiently.

» CWL Systems

Progress House • Oakpark Business Centre • Alington Road
St Neots • Cambridgeshire • PE19 6WL • United Kingdom

t: +44 (0)1480 217777

f: +44 (0)1480 215593

e: sales@cwlsystems.co.uk

w: www.cwlsystems.co.uk

Solution.

CWL Systems Ltd designed a new Windows 2000 network, running Terminal Services so that old hardware could be utilised, Group Policies for security, WinVNC for remote control of the workstations and a Veritas Backup solution.

The main reason for the upgrade to Windows 2000 was for the increased control that Active Directory and Group Policies gave the network administrator over the pupils access, the remote rollout of software and the more refined permissions structuring.

- Using all of Group Policies features the workstations were locked down so that pupils all had the same desktop settings and software but no access to local or network drives.
- Group Policies were also used to rollout software, so that every PC had the same software installed depending on which classroom it was in.
- All pupils' documents were redirected to a network share, where they could not gain access to any other users' data and whichever workstation was logged onto was automatically configured for the printer in the same room, preventing pupils from sending hundreds of printouts to remote classrooms.
- A requirement was to also be able to quickly load or rebuild PC's, so network installation images were created which could rebuild an entire operating system install within a matter of minutes, then depending on the room it was placed in, would automatically install software required for that room.
- As the school had a number of old hardware PC's and couldn't afford another 100 new computers, Terminal Services were implemented so that these older previously redundant computers could be used to access the newest and resource hungry software that would not have otherwise been possible, still using the Windows 2000 environment.
- The backup solution that was installed was Veritas Backup exec, which provided a powerful, easy to use data protection solution for all four servers.

Benefits.

By introducing a Windows 2000 network, Frederick Gough School has dramatically increased the pupils study time due to all computer systems being operational and using WinVNC, teachers could now also show all pupils remotely, how to use software in lessons.

Teachers have also benefited from not having to reload any computers, or restore missing data, leaving them more time for important teaching issues.

The huge cost savings from saved man-hours and the use of old hardware is a great benefit, only matched by the peace of mind of a self-running childproof network.

Summary.

In only three weeks, Frederick Gough School had a secure tamper-proof network, running efficiently and with easy administration. Teachers could now quickly and easily add or remove user applications, change user account settings from any PC, or rebuild and add new computers on the network with no further configuration necessary.

CWL Systems Ltd's engineers have used their experience and expertise in the field of network security, to implement a network so secure and self sufficient, that it runs itself and gives teachers the time they need to spend with pupils, rather than fixing problems.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about our Professional Services.
Call CWL Systems on 01480 217777 today

Technologies used

Terminal Services:

Terminal Services allows you to provide a consistent desktop environment to more people in your organisation by letting you deliver the Windows 2000 desktop and latest Windows-based applications to virtually any desktop computing device, including those that cannot run Windows

Group Policies: Allow administrators to define configurations for both servers and user machines. Local policy settings can be applied to all machines.

Through Group Policy, administrators define the policies that determine how applications and operating systems are configured and keep users and systems secure

