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**Important information – please pass to
your Business Manager & IT Manager**

**6 weeks of advice on approaches to Cyber
Security**

Cyber Security #6



The time for schools to take action on Cyber Security is now.

You might have seen, or heard in the press, about the increase in Cyber Security **attacks** on educational establishments over the last month.

Just this week the two Skinners schools in Tunbridge Wells, Kent have had to close, following a sophisticated **Cyber-attack**. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-57404917>

The National Cyber Security Centre has issued an alert as a response to the **increased attempts** being made to profit from Cyber-crime. <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/news/alert-targeted-ransomware-attacks-on-uk-education-sector>

This recommends caution & emphasises **preparation** for targeted attempts to hack. There is obviously great concern & they want the message spread.

The attacks have the potential for those successfully compromised, to be **highly disruptive** at a time which is probably pretty difficult anyway.

Schools are playing **catch up** & thinking about summer schooling. In the meantime Covid isn't finished yet, even after the long haul school teams have had so far.

The emphasis on preparation from the NCSC, demands of schools, resource which is often already stretched, potentially fatigued & often **beyond** immediate skills at hand.

There is of course a lot to consider in ensuring schools do their best to **avoid** problems.

Also, the Skinners schools immediate concerns are typical – the incapacity caused by the attack, emphasises the need for clear **Business Continuity** planning.

Perhaps even more pressing though, is concern over **Data Protection** because of significant possible breaches of GDPR they must face.

Cyber Security is not just an IT problem – it goes well beyond that & has now become one of the **most significant** management team issues of the day.

Schools & academies don't know when or if they might be hit but something needs to be done – there could not be a better time to get **assurance**, not just on Cyber Security but also on GDPR & Business Continuity arrangements as well.

Our breadth of professional experience in One West means we can help you on **all fronts** – we have expertise not just in Cyber Security but also Business Continuity & Data Protection.

For some of you we already provide a DPO service & work with you on Business Continuity also – why not **close the circle** by thinking about Cyber Security with us as well?

If we are new to you we would be **delighted** to talk.

The bottom line is we want to do our bit to **help**.

If you are interested, contact:

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Thanks & we look forward to telling you more.

The One West Business & Cyber Security team.



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