



Case Study

March 2026

One Platform, Complete School Security

Cranbourne School

The Background

Cranbourne is a large secondary school serving approximately 1,400 students, supported by an extensive team of teaching and operational staff. Like many modern schools, it operates a complex IT environment across multiple platforms, devices, and critical systems that must remain reliable to support teaching and learning.

Managing cyber security at this scale requires real-time visibility and rapid threat response, which had become increasingly difficult as the school's infrastructure expanded.

Gary is Cranbourne's IT Manager. As the sole IT specialist on site, he needed tools that would reduce complexity, improve oversight, and save time while strengthening the school's cyber security posture.



"The process was quite broken, I'd need to identify an issue and then check AV services, Firewall, local devices, servers etc. Issues would get resolved but it was a difficult process."

Problem Statement

Gary explained that maintaining oversight of real-time cyber threats was challenging, as he lacked straightforward visibility across all platforms. The school relied on multiple software solutions to cover various cyber security services, and managing these alone across a large site with 1,400 users was extremely time consuming.

He noted that the speed at which he could investigate and resolve issues for staff and students was problematic. Quick fixes were difficult to achieve given the fragmented way he had to approach problems.

Gary emphasised that teachers need to teach and students need to access their work. When problems take too long to resolve, they become a significant burden on the entire school community.

The Solution

Elmdale IT had supplied Cranbourne's print solutions for many years. Gary said the relationship had always been strong, so when the school began exploring IT suppliers, it made sense to consider Elmdale.

He noted that their support has been excellent. The school has consistently received high-quality service across account management, project planning, and delivery. Gary highlighted that their willingness to be flexible was particularly important given the way schools operate.



Elmdale IT introduced Guardz Ultimate to Cranbourne as part of their ongoing support to strengthen the school's cyber security. After reviewing the challenges Gary faced with visibility, manual investigation, and time-consuming threat monitoring across multiple systems, Elmdale IT identified Guardz Ultimate as the most effective solution for a school of Cranbourne's size.

Elmdale IT walked Gary through the platform's capabilities, demonstrating how it provides complete real-time oversight, automated threat detection, and centralised incident remediation from a single dashboard. The introduction of Guardz Ultimate gave Gary immediate access to automated phishing defence, browser protection, endpoint security, identity monitoring, and 24/7 threat intelligence, all within one unified solution.

Elmdale IT managed the onboarding process, ensuring the Guardz agent was deployed smoothly across devices and the school's environment was fully connected to the portal. This approach meant Gary could adopt the new system without disruption while gaining an immediate improvement in visibility, security automation, and operational efficiency.

"The demo was eye-opening. To be able to see all the things Guardz has visibility of is a huge step forward. Guardz allows us to see things that are happening in real time that we previously didn't know existed."

The Outcome

Cranbourne School have been a Guardz user since 2024. The single central platform has transformed how easily Gary can monitor activity across 1,400 users.

- 1 Guardz provides real-time threat detection across all devices and platforms, revealing threats that were previously invisible.
- 2 Incident response time has been reduced by up to 70%, with fixes completed in one place instead of switching between 5+ separate tools.
- 3 Gary now saves approximately 10-15 hours per week on threat investigation and system monitoring.



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