Strengthening network security to protect data, systems and users

Toad Hall Day Nursery, Bicester

Toad Hall Day Nursery recognised the need to strengthen its network security to protect its data, systems and users, and reached out to OX IT Solutions to deliver a cutting-edge solution to protect sensitive data.

OX IT Solutions Ltd

Toad Hall Day Nursery



Project Brief

Hardware and firmware present a large attack surface for potential attackers to target. For a business responsible for handling sensitive data relating to children, the risks and consequences of a breach are significantly higher.

Toad Hall Day Nursery recognised the need to strengthen its network security to protect its data, systems and users.

The Bicester-based nursery accommodates children from birth to five-years-old, and with lots of data to protect, having a secure network is critical. Oxfordshire-based OX IT Solutions took on the project to improve security.

Toad Hall Day Nursery was looking to upgrade its firewall to take advantage of the latest technologies and security features, so the decision was made to move up to a new advanced solution.

Before a wider technology refresh could take place, securing the network was the immediate priority.

Thomas Jackson, Operations Manager at Toad Hall explained: “Being part of the childcare industry, it is important to keep all sensitive data secure and regularly review our IT infrastructure to ensure its suitability. As part of a recent review we decided there was a need to update our IT infrastructure to ensure we kept up to date.”

Jon Townsend, Technical Manager at OX IT, said: “What Toad Hall was hoping to achieve was security on the network.

“Toad Hall needed a firewall that could do web filtering and content filtering. They hadn't had any updates done on the network for a while, so they approached OX IT to provide that service.”

The Solution

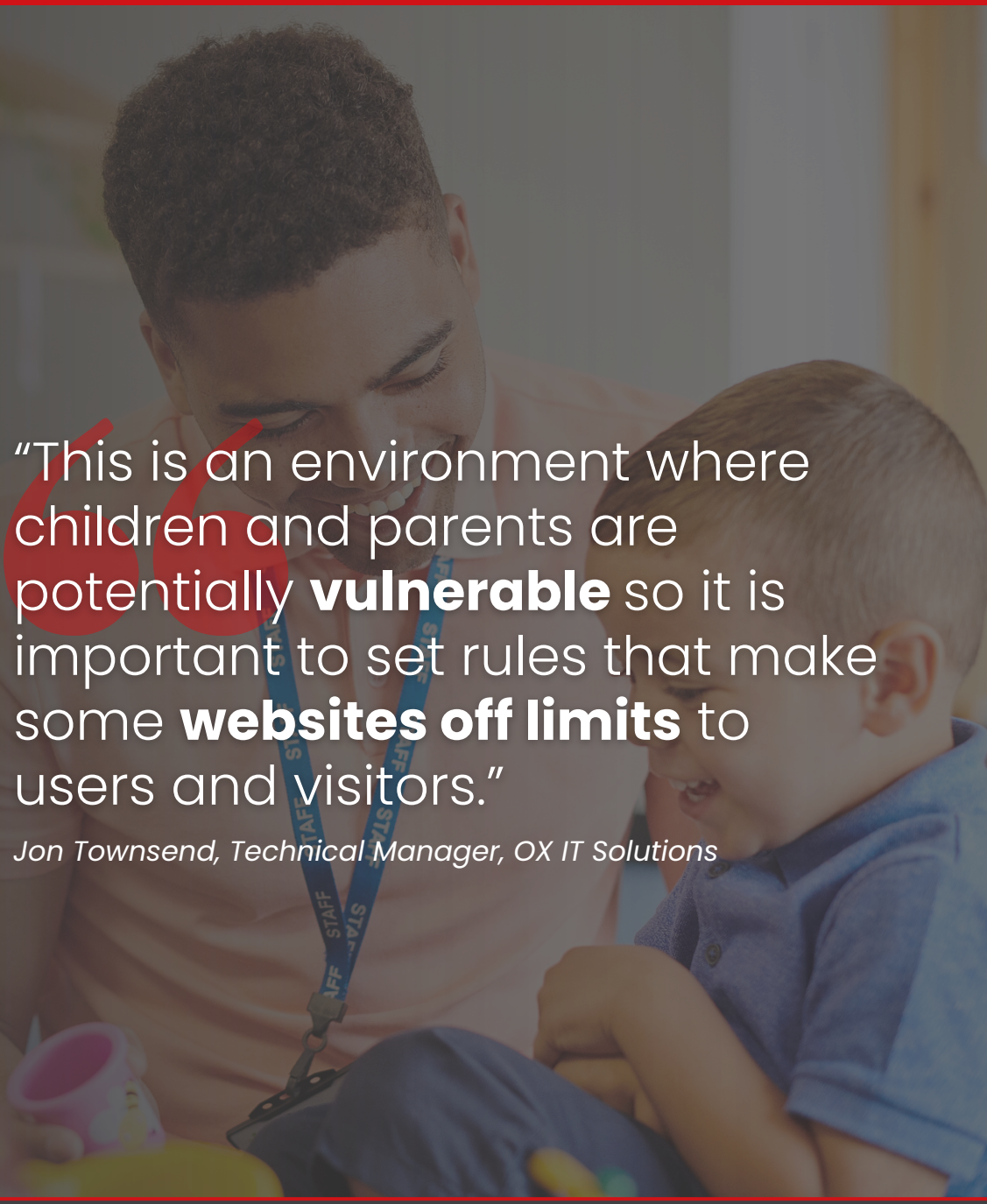
To address the security risks, Toad Hall Day Nursery purchased a new WatchGuard firewall from OX IT Solutions.

New web and content filtering policies were implemented to control access to inappropriate websites, ensuring users only had access to content relevant to their roles.

Jon Townsend said: "This is an environment where children and parents are potentially vulnerable so it is important to set rules that make some websites off limits to users and visitors, and Toad Hall also needed separate policies for managers who could have access to certain websites.

"A classic example of this, Facebook was limited to those who needed to go on Facebook for employment purposes."

He added: "There were some challenges during the implementation due to the current configuration on the network, but we managed to overcome those by changing the configurations on the WatchGuard, which added a bit of extra time to the work."



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>
> *Jon Townsend, Technical Manager, OX IT Solutions*

The Benefits

With the new WatchGuard firewall in place, Toad Hall Day Nursery now operates on a network with enhanced security, with confidence that sensitive data is protected.

Ongoing support from OX IT Solutions ensures the network remains up to date, with regular firmware updates, live threat protection and continued visibility over network activity.

Thomas Jackson said: "Jon Townsend and the technical team at OX IT Solutions have been outstanding in managing this for us. Thanks to their expertise and ongoing support, we have complete peace of mind knowing that our sensitive data remains secure and protected.

"Another key priority was the ability to tailor our web content filtering, ensuring that only appropriate and suitable material can be accessed by both children and staff."

Jon said: "By purchasing the Watchguard, Toad Hall has further secured its network and can now continue with the rest of the desktop refresh and other services they need.

"With the new Watchguard, Toad Hall has updated firmware, updated web filters, updated content filters and live updates so they can continue to be secure on the network."

Thomas said: "In addition, the deployment of a new suite of computers has enabled our staff to work more efficiently and effectively, helping to improve productivity across the organisation.

"Overall, we are extremely pleased with the technical support we have received and are confident that choosing OX IT Solutions as our IT support provider was the right decision."

Contact Us

Get in touch to request a consultation with a member of our team.



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