



# Safe Schools 2.0

Driven by Knovation Solutions, powered by  
WatchGuard Technologies

# Executive positioning

Schools exist to keep children safe. That duty has always meant safe classrooms, safe playgrounds, and safe boarding houses. It now extends into every device a learner connects to, every network they join, and every site they visit. **Safe Schools 2.0** from Knovation Solutions and powered by WatchGuard Technologies is the cybersecurity stack that lets schools meet that duty in the digital environment.

Delivered as a managed deployment with automated response, scaled to the school's size and risk profile, without requiring an enterprise security team to run it.

# Education sector business challenges

The education sector faces a distinct set of pressures, driven by both resource limitations and rising cyber risk.

- **Ransomware exposure:** schools hold sensitive student, family and financial data and are seen as soft targets.
- **Budget and staffing constraints:** limited IT teams, modest cybersecurity budgets and fragmented security tools.
- **Expanding attack surface:** BYOD policies, shared device labs and student devices connecting to campus networks.
- **Credential and identity risk:** password reuse across staff and admin accounts open unauthorised access paths
- **POPIA and compliance pressures:** protection of student personal information is a school board obligation.
- **Online safety and exam integrity:** harmful content, network abuse and data leaks during assessments threaten both duty of care and academic credibility.

# Key capabilities

## Tier 1: Essential - Core Network Safety

**Outcomes:** Student internet safety on and off campus, harmful content blocked, attack surface reduced at the network edge.

- Network perimeter security with WebBlocker (80+ content categories)
- Gateway AV at network edge
- Application Control to prevent bypass
- DNS-layer filtering for tablets and Chromebooks
- Off-campus protection (works anywhere, no VPN)

## Tier 2: Advanced – Staff Protection and Privacy

**Outcomes:** Ransomware protection across staff devices and automated response, no interruption to classes. Finance systems and bursar accounts secured by MFA, fraudulent transfer risk materially reduced. POPIA section 19 safeguards in place: encrypted endpoints, MFA on data bearing accounts, documented security controls for governance and board reporting.

- Everything in Tier 1, plus:
  - Endpoint Detection & Response (EDR) for staff devices
  - Multi-factor authentication for finance/admin (~5% staff)
  - Automated patch management for staff endpoints
  - Optional full-disk encryption for staff laptops
  - Documented security controls for governance/compliance

## Tier 3: Premium – Airspace / Wireless Security

**Outcomes:** Exam networks isolated for assessment integrity, boarding house connectivity controlled outside curfew hours, students segmented from administration and finance systems, complete campus airspace security 24/7.

- Everything in Tier 1 and Tier 2, plus:
  - Secure segmented Wi-Fi (Staff, Students, Boarding, Guests, Exam)
  - Rogue AP detection (prevents hotspot/MiFi bypass)
  - Wireless intrusion detection across campus
  - Boarding house curfew policies
  - Exam Wi-Fi isolation
  - Network segmentation (students cannot access finance systems)
  - Complete airspace security for 24/7 environments
  - Single console management (firewall, endpoints, identity, wireless)

# One platform. Six advantages

Most schools manage security with limited IT staff, constrained budgets, and tools that were not designed for an education environment. Safe Schools 2.0 was built for that reality: one platform that covers every protection layer, scales with the institution, and is straightforward for a small IT team to operate it.

Pillar	Outcome
Unified security	One vendor, one ecosystem
Affordable	Education-friendly pricing
Easy to manage	Ideal for small IT teams
POPIA aligned	Protect student data
Automated response	EDR with rollback
Scalable	From 300 to 3,000 learners

# Outcomes that matter beyond IT

Safe Schools 2.0 is a turnkey cybersecurity framework from **Knovation Solutions**, powered by WatchGuard that enables schools to operate safely, protect learners' data, and ensure uninterrupted education.

It shifts the conversation from reactive IT protection to proactive institutional risk governance, giving the board and leadership the visibility and confidence they need.

The outcomes collectively deliver meaningful impact across the education environment:

- **Ransomware resilience:** threats detected and contained before they can shut down campus operations
- **Continuity of learning and operations:** automated response ensures classrooms stay running
- **POPIA compliance:** student and staff data is protected and auditable, reducing regulatory exposure
- **Exam integrity:** isolated, lockdown networks eliminate cheating, data leaks, and system misuse during assessments
- **Reputation protection:** parents and stakeholders see a school that takes its duty of care seriously
- **IT team relief:** your team focuses on learning, enabling technology, not constant threat management

## Where Control Becomes Confidence

**See WatchGuard webinar:**

[Webinar Recording - Keeping Children Safe in Education - Dolos.mp4](#)

Let's talk about protecting your school.

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