



Your guide to meeting the government's cyber security standards in schools

The Department for Education (DfE) has set out new cyber security standards for schools and colleges to meet moving forward. The full DfE guidance can be viewed [here](#).

If you haven't done so already, we would recommend you review your network and device security as a priority.

To make it easier for you to ensure your school is meeting the standards, we've created a handy checklist that cover the key points you need to be aware of:

Cyber Security (Firewalls)

To meet the standard you must:

- ☒ Protect every device with a correctly configured boundary, software firewall or a device that performs the same function.
- ☒ Change the default administrator password, or disable remote access on each firewall.
- ☒ Protect access to the firewall's administrative interface with multi-factor authentication, or a small specified IP-allow list combined with a managed password, or prevent access from the internet entirely.
- ☒ Keep firewall firmware up to date.
- ☒ Check monitoring logs as they can be useful in detecting suspicious activity.
- ☒ Block inbound unauthenticated connections by default.
- ☒ Document and reasons why particular inbound traffic has been permitted through the firewall, and change the rules when access is no longer needed.
- ☒ Enable a software firewall for devices used on untrusted networks, like public wifi.

The cyber security standards form part of the wider DfE digital and technology standards for schools and colleges. The full DfE digital and technology guidance can be viewed [here](#).