# St Aloysius' College

St Aloysius' College is a Catholic co-educational independent school. It was founded in Glasgow in 1859 with a roll of 25 students. Today the College comprises Kindergarten, Junior School and Senior School and is home to some 1,250 boys and girls together with over 200 teachers and support staff. The College has successfully used products from NetPilot Internet Security (NIS) for over 11 years and is an enthusiastic supporter of their use in schools.



St Aloysius' College is located in the historic Garnethill area of central Glasgow with additional facilities in Millerston. The College campus is varied, providing examples of award-winning modern architecture as well as historic listed buildings.

Being geographically spread over multiple sites and each site typically having multiple buildings, it necessitated a forward thinking approach to network connectivity. All buildings have been linked using high speed fibre optic cable and routed back to a central network and server complex. Here, six of the College's servers are located together with the NetPilot equipment at the gateway to the public internet.

The College possesses the usual mix of desktop and laptop PCs for pupil and staff use. Wireless is being introduced campus wide and the College is allowing BYOD where users bring in their own tablets including iPads etc. However, browsing is subject to the same filtering safeguards implemented using NetPilot's units, as with College owned PCs.

"The NetPilot devices were initially purchased as highly efficient web content filtering devices. However, we needed more all-round internet protection and have additionally used NetPilot's firewall and other security features", explains St Aloysius' Network Manager, James Ewart. "I have been here for over ten years and a NetPilot device was installed when I arrived, so the College is a long time user. We started with one unit then upgraded to an updated model and more recently we have installed two of the latest NetPilot models."

NetPilot utilises a powerful combination of filtering techniques. It uses some of the most accurate lists of websites available, including from the security industry's biggest company – McAfee.

Lists with millions of sites are divided into over 90 categories. Also incorporated is the Internet Watch Foundation's CAIC list All list data is constantly and automatically updated. In addition, NetPilot implements content filtering, whereby the detail of each page is checked before it is displayed and is blocked if necessary.

NetPilot also provides Google/Bing SafeSearch enforcement, preventing searching for inappropriate images and text. Keyword and phrase filtering allows schools to build their own lists of undesirable words and phrases to block.

The NetPilot units not only provide content filtering for the College, but also act as firewalls, anti-virus, anti-spam and VPN gateways. These multiple combined functions are often called Unified Threat Management (UTM).

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Incoming mail is scanned before it is forwarded to the College's Microsoft Exchange server. The NetPilot's email policy mechanism allows full control and tailoring to the College's particular needs in order to block spam or indentify other types of email.

Authentication of network users is achieved by the NetPilot units interacting with the College's Active Directory server, so only a single sign on is required for access to on campus servers or external internet based resources.

James comments, "Traceability of internet activity is quite easy. If we view NetPilot logs we can see all the appropriate user and browsing details. Our pupils and staff are aware that filtering and monitoring is occurring and all their internet activity is being logged. This acts as a great deterrent and any issues are extremely rare."

An example of how NetPilot units provide more than just filtering is the physical and logical splitting of academic and administration networks at the College. Both communities have filtered access to the internet, scanned emails, and secure remote access functionality via SSL encrypted VPNs, yet are securely separated from each other.

"Another good example of NetPilot solving one of our more recent challenges is providing remote access", explains James."Staff needed secure remote access to College resources typically from home. We set up VPN links so remotely located staff using their laptops or desktop computers are authenticated and securely communicate with the College network using the NetPilot device as the VPN gateway. This was really easy to set up and is totally secure. Staff now have access to all the resources they need on College servers – and their location is not an issue."

James adds, "Not only are we very confident that the NetPilot technology works having used it for more than 11 years, we like the flexibility of dealing with the NetPilot organisation. They offer the flexibility of single year or multi-year subscriptions. We have just taken advantage of a three year arrangement. This covers provision of our two latest hardware units, all software subscriptions, and all support and hardware warranty for the period – all covered by one fee. We also liked that the hardware warranty included next school day replacement, should hardware fail."

James concludes by saying, "The NetPilot requires very little intervention from me in terms of network management. All software updates are totally automatic. The only thing I might undertake occasionally is amending filtering profiles. Otherwise the NetPilot units just work – I can concentrate on other tasks!"

"We have never seriously considered moving away from NetPilot. In 11 years of use we have had no major issues. Of course we have had problems with internet access – but it's always been something else. NetPilot devices have never let us down."

**SOLUTION OVERVIEW**

• More than 11 years of successful use in a large school environment.

• Comprehensive internet security.

• Powerful internet filtering

• Firewall and remote access.

• Reliable and simple to use.

**"It does a great job with regard to filtering – but it does so much more. I can sleep at night knowing the College is protected" James Ewart, Network Manager.**