

Lawnswood School

Industry:  
Education

Location:  
Leeds, United Kingdom

Workstations:  
650

## Lesson in Defence

Award winning school integrates layered security strategy for total network protection

### Key Benefits:

- Reduced support time in the classroom
- Reduced maintenance
- Centralised management
- Total unrivaled protection for peace of mind

*“With such a heavy reliance on IT on a daily basis and with ever increasing malware threats, it is absolutely essential that all of our systems run as smoothly as possible and are completely secure”*

Lawnswood School has over one hundred years of experience in delivering a high quality comprehensive experience for all their students. The school was awarded specialist status in Mathematics and Computing and this has enabled Lawnswood to enrich the curriculum, facilities and continue benefiting students with cutting-edge developments.

The school has 1,500 students, 150 staff and runs 650 workstations. The network runs VMWare ESX on 3 physical servers which in turn run 30+ servers.

Over recent years the Lawnswood IT team have faced some challenges in their day-to-day operations including virus attacks, unauthorised downloading of applications, changes to software settings by users and workstations needing to be manually updated with no central control.

Noel Reynolds is the IT Manager at Lawnswood and had been looking for a network security solution to manage malware attacks, adhere to the schools application compliance requirements and reduce the support time spent in classrooms. The ability to control all of this from a central management system was also very important.

“With such a heavy reliance on IT on a daily basis and with ever increasing malware threats, it is absolutely essential that all of our systems run as smoothly as possible and are completely secure,” said Reynolds. “We previously had HDGUARD which was difficult to manage over a network. I’d heard of Faronics Deep Freeze instant system restore system and the more I researched the product I discovered the Faronics Layered Security solution consisting of anti-virus, application control and instant system restoration.”



By integrating the Faronics Layered Security solution Lawnswood is taking no chances with their IT protection. Anti-virus program works by blocking known threats and is paired with Anti-Executable - a Control Listing application. A Control List is a list of applications that are authorised to launch on a computer. If a program isn't on the list, it will not run. IT administrators get to decide what applications are necessary on any given machine, and then block all others. This has the added benefit of not only blocking malicious software, but also un-authorised, system-heavy or just plain unnecessary programs from running – increasing system performance and reducing the likelihood of problems that require valuable IT support time to fix.



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— Noel Reynolds,  
IT Manager, Lawnswood School

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At the core of Faronics' layered security product suite, Deep Freeze automatically restores workstation configurations with every reboot. The restore to reboot approach prevents unwanted or unwelcome changes from sticking, ultimately reducing IT support and callout costs.

"System restoration is a familiar concept to IT people," continued Reynolds. "It is often easier to simply wipe and restore a computer to its original configuration than to try and diagnose highly specific misconfigurations. However, this is a time consuming process, which may put a machine out of commission for hours to days. With frequent reports from the teaching staff of not being able to instruct efficiently as users had changed the configuration settings on the machines, we knew we needed absolute control. A Layered Security strategy from a central point of management gives me the control I need."

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— Noel Reynolds,  
IT Manager, Lawnswood School

### Faronics Layered Security: 3 Security Solutions for Total Security and Control

