

Using Fujitsu server technology to promote digital transformation and keep students safe.

At a glance

Country: Australia Industry: Education

Website: www.trinityparishschools.catholic.

edu.au/stpeters/

Challenge

Like many schools, St. Peter's finds it increasingly difficult to imagine school life without technology. But staying safe online and protecting student data is becoming ever harder. The school needed a trusted partner to help deliver a trusted digital future.

Solution

St. Peter's chose FUJITSU PRIMERGY TX1320 servers as a key building block in their end-to-end security system. These were implemented as part of an overall security system delivered by Fujitsu partner Invotec.

Benefits

- Student, teacher and parent information is now protected by a robust security solution
- PRIMERGY servers provide the highest efficiency to cut cost while providing rock solid reliability



Customer

St. Peter's wants all students to become successful learners as well as confident individuals and active and informed citizens. The school has an enrolment of approximately 660 children and demonstrates a strong Catholic ethos, enhanced by the committed relationship between the parish and the school. The school endeavours to equip all students with the knowledge, skills and values to enable them to face the challenges of the twenty-first century with confidence.

Products and Services

■ FUJITSU PRIMERGY TX1320 servers



Smart is not necessarily safe

Technology is transforming how the students at St. Peter's learn. It provides them with new and engaging ways to access information and interact with their teachers and peers. Similarly, a school like St. Peter's has never been more reliant on online systems. Students and staff depend on being able to work online and if there is a breach the costs can be huge as teaching and learning suffer along with the school's reputation.

As Chris Joplin, Grade 4 teacher and IT specialist at St. Peter's explains: "Everything we have used over the years has been paper and pencil. Now it's all about bringing in the latest and greatest technology, but in a school that's quite hard because we need to show our teachers, our students and our parents that we are safe and secure. If we get that wrong then everything is on the line because they have put their trust in us."

Any educational institution, large or small, needs to show it can protect its students' data and keep them safe online. "Parents put so much trust into us. They send their kids here and they trust us with them and their information. We have banking information that they give us. We even have information from specialists like doctors and therapists. Obviously it's really important to all these different people that their security is maintained. So we need to make sure that they trust us because they are putting so much into our hands," Chris Joplin added.

But as cybersecurity threats have never been higher, it's become clear that no one business, institution or enterprise can go it alone. Schools need trusted partners, who can provide the knowledge and expertise to ensure that smart means safe.

Lessons in cybersecurity

Invotec, a Fujitsu partner, specialise in helping small businesses and institutions stay safe online, and schools present particular challenges. Anthony Fisher, Director at Invotec, explains "From a technical perspective, schools are probably one of the most at risk customers that we at Invotec deal with on a daily basis. Predominantly, that's because there's a user group within education that fears absolutely nothing: students."

Invotec and Fujitsu worked together to create the comprehensive security fabric needed to keep St. Peter's safe. The cybersecurity solution that was implemented prioritised safety and combined business continuity with the highest level of managed services. As Anthony Fisher explained: "The security is built across the wireless and the physical network. In a nutshell we are creating a digital perimeter that lets the good stuff in and keeps the bad stuff out."

It became clear that server security would be a key building block for St. Peter's end-to-end security system. In recent years the attack vectors for servers have been changing significantly and servers are increasingly becoming a target for different types of hackers. The old-school approach of only protecting endpoints, network communication and applications does not fulfil today's needs. That's why Invotec recommended St. Peter's used Fujitsu PRIMERGY TX1320 servers.

As Anthony Fisher explains: "Fujitsu were the only vendor who could really deliver and tick every box. From our perspective, Fujitsu provided all the requirements necessary to provide the solution we needed to implement. The PRIMERGY TX1320 servers met the requirements from a cost point of view, they are also small footprint with low power consumption and they have all the compute, memory and storage requirements that we need, all in one small box. Essentially, what we've delivered is security in a box."

A trusted partnership

Chris Joplin stressed the importance of having trust in his partners, saying: "Having Fujitsu & Invotec work with us gives us peace of mind. I think our partnership with Invotec and Fujitsu has been great. There's a real personal touch to it. I've met with many different people and they're always really willing to talk to you. It's been really helpful having Invotec and Fujitsu help us to implement all our new systems. We went from the dark ages into the present. It's hard to do that in a school so you need good partners."

Asked to describe Fujitsu in just one word, Chris Joplin answered: "The way I would describe Fujitsu in a word is probably 'consistent'. It's probably not a flashy word, but in teaching, it's a great word, because you want consistency in your equipment working, you want consistency in making sure you can deliver. So we don't need things to be flashy, we need things to work and so with Invotec and Fujitsu, it's been consistent and it's worked."

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