Primary and secondary schools have a statutory duty to engage with the government's Safeguarding and Prevent agenda to protect students from malicious and harmful content from the internet and being drawn into terrorism. With the internet and social media playing an important role in the education of young people, comprehensive IT security is a key factor in complying with the agenda.

But what does this mean in practice? Simply that schools need to strictly monitor who is accessing or trying to access malicious or harmful content, consistently block access to inappropriate sites, and provide detailed activity reports to Safeguarding teams and law enforcement agencies, security services and Ofsted.

Fortinet can provide primary and secondary schools with security solutions and tools that comply with the requirements.

**Intelligent Monitoring**

Fortinet solutions provide real-time dashboards so that administrators can have complete visibility into user activity as well as quickly identify both at-risk students as well as malicious individuals and their actions. Sophisticated content filtering technology enables web traffic to be classified and filtered using multiple predefined and custom categories.

**Robust Blocking**

The ability to block access to harmful, inappropriate and dangerous websites is essential for compliance with the Safeguarding and Prevent agenda. Fortinet solutions can prevent students from visiting malicious sites, shield them from inappropriate online material, and maintain a safe and productive learning environment.
Automated Alerting

The ability to alert by email on inappropriate online activity such as but not limited to:

- Accessing sites prohibited in the Child Abuse or Extremist Web Filtering category
- Typing specific keywords (from a predefined list) in web browser search engines such as Google, Bing, Yahoo!, Yandex, DuckDuckGo, Baidu.

Fortinet solutions begin with traditional URL blocking lists, but go much further by expanding these methods and allowing their use in combination with a wide variety of features for inspecting, rating, and controlling perimeter web traffic at a granular level.

In addition to blocking inappropriate content, Fortinet solutions give administrators the ability to explicitly allow or block certain web sites to give refined control of web browsing activity.

As demand for internet access continues to grow, it’s important that meeting the demands of Prevent and Safeguarding shouldn’t impact the user experience. The Fortinet solution leverages custom Secure Processor Unit (SPU) technology to maintain performance without compromising protection.

In addition, Fortinet cybersecurity solutions are continuously kept up to date with real-time threat intelligence from FortiGuard Labs. FortiGuard is one of the world’s leading threat monitoring organisations and works in partnership with other cybersecurity organisations, security vendors, and law enforcement agencies.

Detailed Reporting

The ability to provide accurate reports to Safeguarding Teams and law enforcement and security organisations on demand is a key requirement of the Safeguarding and Prevent agenda.

Fortinet’s solutions feature easy-to-use, flexible widget-based views and drill-down capabilities, letting administrators quickly visualise and understand network activities. Detailed, aggregated logs offer deep insights into sessions that pass through the solutions.

A comprehensive suite of easily customisable reports, including default self-harm report and cyberbullying reports, allows administrators to quickly analyse and document inappropriate network usage, as well as identify at-risk students and network threats and inefficiencies.

For example, the Self Harm report (Figure 1) displays web search activity from various users and search terms used. The report provides several details amongst which are inappropriate search terms and the originating user/group.

The Cyber Bullying report (Figure 2) identifies students who are using inappropriate language in social media applications, displaying the names of the students and the inappropriate terms they have used.

These examples demonstrate how Fortinet solutions can help administrators identify both at-risk students and inappropriate activity and take the appropriate actions to comply with the Safeguarding and the Prevent agenda.

Safeguarding & Prevent Agenda Compliance

Fortinet solutions enable primary and secondary schools to safeguard their students and comply with the Prevent agenda as well as enable a progressive learning environment.