

Barracuda Helps O'Connor Catholic College Build a Better Environment with Increased Control over Applications



Profile:

- O'Connor Catholic College
- Located in Armidale, New South Wales, Australia
- Co-educational secondary school
- 500 students
- 60 staff members

Challenges:

- Difficulty in accessing multiple applications
- Inability to block specific content

Solution:

Barracuda CloudGen Firewall F600

Results:

- Centralized management
- Efficient URL filtering
- Control over applications

About O'Connor Catholic College

Founded in 1975 with the combination of two of Armidale's longest established schools, St. Ursula's College and De La Salle College, O'Connor Catholic College (formerly O'Connor Catholic High School) is a co-educational Catholic secondary school in Armidale, New South Wales, Australia.

The College takes its name from former Bishop O'Connor, who was the Bishop of Armidale from 1904 to 1930, and his contribution to Catholic education in the diocese during this time was outstanding. The 72-year-old institution has a total of 500 students and 60 staff members.

Inability to Restrict Unwanted Content Affected the Flow of Studies

Manual restrictions over websites and content is a tedious and cumbersome job. Firewalls can help organizations implement various measures, such as restrictions over content with just a few clicks. Members of O'Connor Catholic College were facing several issues with adapting its user interface for a student-appropriate environment. Since it is an educational organization, they needed a system that could easily avoid and block unwanted pop-ups, restrict certain content, and filter what students would be able to access.

The problem was very apparent, and the institute initially turned to its IT department to control this issue manually. However, considering the requirements, the manual intervention could only help to a limited extent. The IT team at O'Connor Catholic College eventually started to look out for a specialized solution that could simplify accessing applications, as well as block certain content to maintain the decorum and avoid distractions in the classroom environment.

Barracuda CloudGen Firewall – A Complete Solution

O'Connor Catholic College encountered various issues to restrict and manage content. They explored a lot of solutions and finally chose Barracuda CloudGen Firewall since they felt it was very user friendly and could serve next-generation security purposes like application control, user awareness, URL filtering, etc.

After an extensive exercise of evaluating the most suitable web protection solutions in the market, O'Connor Catholic College decided to implement the Barracuda NG Firewall F-Series F600. The Barracuda NG Firewall has now given O'Connor Catholic College the ease to control, regulate, and block unrequired content as well as access various applications, which they previously had problems accessing.

Mark Harris, the ICT Coordinator for O'Connor Catholic College, mentioned that the Barracuda NG

About the Barracuda CloudGen Firewall

Barracuda CloudGen Firewalls feature advanced security capabilities, including integrated Intrusion Prevention (IPS), URL filtering and antivirus to identify and block evasion attempts that would trick traditional systems. Barracuda's security extends beyond a network to Barracuda's Advanced Threat Protection (ATP) cloud for both statistical and sandboxing analysis of zero-day and targeted threats that routinely bypass signature-based IPS and antivirus engines.



Barracuda
CloudGen Firewall

Firewall's user ability and what it could do brought a positive change in students' concentration on their studies.

"Installing the Barracuda CloudGen Firewall increased our confidence as we now have better control over the content we would want to access or block. It has improved the classroom environment a

Barracuda CloudGen Firewall is efficient, reliable, and accommodating. We are immensely satisfied with the change it has brought about in the day-to-day aspects of the classroom environment, and have also recommended other colleges to use the same.

Mark Harris

ICT Coordinator

O'Connor Catholic College

great deal as there are no distractions like pop-ups or unwanted windows. Students are also restricted from accessing inappropriate content. As a result, they stay focused," said, Mark Harris, ICT Coordinator, O'Connor Catholic College.

Conclusion

The faculty at O'Connor Catholic College acknowledges that deploying the Barracuda CloudGen Firewall was a smart decision. The solution has given them liberty from the unnecessary exercises of manually blocking every unwanted link, and the college is now able to better contribute to the students' education.

Barracuda CloudGen Firewall

Fast Facts

- Integrated next-generation security
- Full SD-WAN capabilities included
- Full user/group awareness
- Full application visibility and granular access control
- Advanced Threat Protection (incl. sandboxing)
- Built-in web security and IDS/IPS
- Connection-friendly and robust VPN
- QoS and link balancing
- Industry-leading central management

About Barracuda Networks, Inc.

Barracuda simplifies IT with cloud-enabled solutions that empower customers to protect their networks, applications, and data, regardless of where they reside. These powerful, easy-to-use, and affordable solutions are trusted by more than 150,000 organizations worldwide and are delivered in appliance, virtual appliance, cloud, and hybrid deployments. Barracuda's customer-centric business model focuses on delivering high-value, subscription-based IT solutions that provide end-to-end network and data security. For additional information, please visit barracuda.com.

Barracuda Networks and the Barracuda Networks logo are registered trademarks of Barracuda Networks, Inc. in the United States. All other names are the property of their respective owners.