

# 4 Keys to Securing Your Small School

## Are you a potential target?

Hackers target educational institutions of all sizes, including small schools and colleges. When it comes to cyber-attacks, hackers don't care how big your school is; they care how weak your security is.



The average cost to recover from a ransomware attack is **\$84,000<sup>1</sup>**



It is estimated that in 2022, there is a cyberattack every **11 seconds<sup>2</sup>**

Small schools and colleges need complete, flexible, layered security solutions because no one technology alone can prevent or eliminate cyberattacks. To defend against ransomware and other cyber-attacks, small schools need to look at four key points of entry and spread.

### 1

## Start with people

Make sure the people who access your school's systems are who they say they are.



### Verify identity

Protect your sensitive data by verifying the identity of users, devices, and applications with secure two-factor authentication.



### 2

## Look at connections

Students, administrators, and educators access your network in many ways. If you have a distance or hybrid learning model, users may be connecting from a classroom, a home laptop or tablet, or a mobile device.



### Prevent unauthorized access

Detect and block malware and viruses across student and faculty devices with endpoint protection.

### 3

## Pay attention to email

Every day, students, administrators, and educators inadvertently click malicious links or open harmful email attachments that download malware.



### Keep email safe

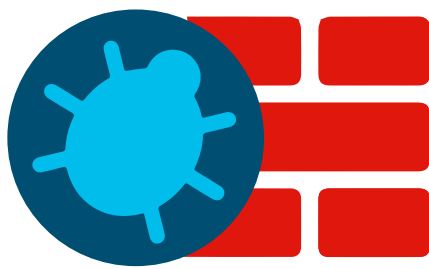
Block malware delivered through spam and phishing emails (don't forget about cloud-based email).



### 4

## Don't let malware spread

If malware gets in, it spreads across your network and can encrypt your files or take down critical systems. The internet and networks don't work without the DNS to route data, and neither does most ransomware.



### Defend your network

Block requests to sites that host malware with cloud-delivered security.

## Security that's designed for your small school or college

Cisco® Secure solutions work together and are backed by artificial intelligence and machine learning that can identify emerging threats. We've invested heavily in developing our security tools, and now small schools and colleges can benefit from the same security technology that powers the world's largest education institutions.

