POLICE - ALERT

Phishing attacks targeting schools

8th December 2023

City of London Police is warning schools across the UK to be vigilant against phishing attacks targeting school networks. Multiple schools have reported receiving suspicious emails containing malicious attachments that have infected their networks with malware.

Once infected, the school's email systems are used to send malicious attachments to other schools. Please read the information below on how to defend your network against phishing attacks, and what to do if your school has already been affected.

What to do if your school has been a victim of ransomware or other cyber incident

1: Enact your incident management plan.

    a: Contact your insurance provider if you have cover.

    b: If you are a part of a Local Authority, please contact them as soon as possible.

2: Contact your local law enforcement and **Action Fraud.**

3: Contact a Cyber Incident Response (CIR) company as soon as possible. Some CIR companies certified by the National Cyber Security Centre can be found **here**.

Please be aware that speed is of critical importance during a cyber incident to help protect and recover any systems that may have been affected and help prevent further spread.

If there is a suspected personal data breach then please inform the Information Commissioner's Office either online via www.ico.org.uk or contact them via their helpline on 0303 123 1113 within 72 hours.

Further guidance on cyber security for schools can be found here: **Cyber Security for Schools** - **NCSC.GOV.UK**