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Modern data protection empowers education for future generations

St Laurence's College safeguards critical school assets with robust data protection, backup and recovery solutions.



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Nick Lieschke

Director of Information Technology, St Laurence's College

Organization needs

At St Laurence's College, protecting school management records and updating backup and recovery capabilities is vital to supporting teachers and young learners. Leveraging the cloud enabled a quick and seamless transition to a modern technology landscape that provides timely recovery and safeguards student, teacher and school data.

Organization results

- Provides 51:1 deduplication ratio.
- Saves 10 hours/month with easy-to-manage infrastructure.
- Offers outstanding deployment and ongoing support experiences.

Solutions at a glance

- Dell Data Protection Suite Avamar
- Dell PowerProtect DP series appliances
- Dell APEX Backup Services
- <u>Dell ProDeploy Enterprise Suite</u>

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St Laurence's College has a lesson for all educators: robust, up-to-date technology is vital to enable an education mission and support students and teachers. With increasing cybersecurity vulnerabilities and growing data and infrastructure needs, St Laurence's College took action to modernize its data protection, backup and recovery capabilities, ensure operational continuity and uphold its important purpose.

Founded in 1915 in Brisbane, Australia, St Laurence's College is shaping future generations by creating opportunities for students to become the best versions of themselves through educational excellence. Underpinning St Laurence's commitment to educational excellence is a recent and essential technology update to better safeguard data and operations.

Today, St Laurence's College protects its critical student, teacher and operational school data with PowerProtect DP series appliances, Avamar and future-looking APEX Backup Services via the cloud.

51:1 data dedup ratio earns an A+

At St Laurence's College, Dell Technologies data protection is generating A+ outcomes. Most notably, data deduplication is exceeding expectations with a 51:1 deduplication ratio. Nick Lieschke, director of Information Technology at St Laurence's College, explains, "We would be hard-pressed to find another solution like the one provided by Dell that would protect our data and produce data dedup results of 51:1. The post-implementation results have been amazing, further enabling us to positively impact students and encourage future generations."

"In addition, Avamar doesn't demand a lot of effort from our system engineers. Once we set Avamar up, it's kind of a 'set it and forget it' arrangement where we just monitor it operationally as it requires minimal input after that," continues Lieschke.

Outclassing the competition while saving time and money

"Although we have used Dell Technologies for many years, we did look at other competing services and offerings in the market for this technology update. It was the simplicity, stability, total cost of ownership and data reduction provided by the PowerProtect portfolio that just outclassed the rest," shares Lieschke.

From a cost perspective, Lieschke states, "The Dell Technologies data protection solution is saving St Laurence's College an estimated \$50,000-\$100,000 over a five-year time horizon relative to competitive offerings." The new system is more stable, providing an easy-to-manage backup infrastructure. Consequently, Lieschke continues, "St Laurence's College is saving around 10 hours per month in infrastructure management."

Reduces costs by **\$50,000-\$100,000** over 5-year horizon.

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"We've now adopted the PowerProtect solution in an all-in-one integrated appliance. For St Laurence's College, this is a game-changer, enabling us to use one application across sites and migrate our older data to maintain our seven-year compliance."

Nick Lieschke

Director of Information Technology, St Laurence's College

Powering education through one-click data protection

Data protection plays a strategic role at St Laurence's College, helping to maintain critical assets. Primarily, protection covers data in the school management system, which houses staff records, student data and financial information. Additionally, data protection extends to other areas, such as web servers, file servers, databases and some Linux services that are critical to business operations. Lieschke says, "Because PowerProtect DP series appliance is an integrated appliance, we really only have a couple of clicks to update each appliance. As a result, it really reduces the amount of effort from our support team to maintain those units. Having that one-click update has been very good and the performance in general of the software has been very good as well."

Lieschke continues, "We've now adopted the PowerProtect solution in an all-in-one integrated appliance. For St Laurence's College, this is a game-changer, enabling us to use one application across sites and migrate our older data to maintain our seven-year compliance."

SaaS-based backup and recovery simplifies operations

St Laurence's College also chose APEX Backup Services to accelerate implementation, minimize investment and simplify operations. Lieschke shares, "APEX Backup Services is hosted off-site so we don't have to maintain any infrastructure. Since it's a SaaS-based cloud offering, all the hard work has been done by Dell Technologies, allowing us to take advantage of a simple process where we just select the workloads in our Microsoft 365 platform that we want to protect."

Best-in-class support creates seamless experiences

Dell Technologies deployment and support is also a best-inclass performer at St Laurence's College. Lieschke observes, "Our deployment and support experience from Dell Technologies has been excellent and, frankly, second to none. In particular, as the integrated applications have been running, the follow-up support continues to be exceptional. They have made the entire experience seamless using ProDeploy."

Lieschke concludes, "Dell Technologies saves us time and money while protecting our most critical data so we can focus on our important mission of educating and empowering our young learners."

3

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