

YMCA GEORGE WILLIAMS COLLEGE

CASE STUDY

Specialist training organisation tests the security of their online training systems.

Penetration testing for peace of mind

YMCA George Williams College.

- Full OWASP web application assessment
- Development day to improve internal understanding of a skillset
- Full reporting and remediation advice

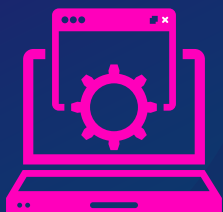
THE CLIENT: YMCA GEORGE WILLIAMS COLLEGE

YMCA George Williams College works to provide transformational support to practitioners, funders, and policy makers across the sector, to improve the quality and impact of provision and outcomes for children and young people across the UK. Each year over 1000 students from across the UK choose to study with the College from different backgrounds providing a rich and diverse environment for study.

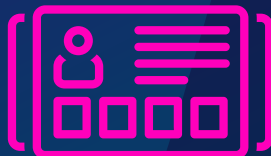
The College engaged with Cybaverse to ensure their data was secure and to ensure their compliance with industry partner regulations.

OVERVIEW

YMCA George Williams College were looking to engage with a Cyber Security partner to conduct a comprehensive security review of their web application service offering and provide a development day to upskill internal staff. They needed to ensure the security of the personal information held on their web application and ensure their compliance with industry regulations.



Training Web Application



Personal Information



Development Day

SCOPING AND PRE-TESTING

To accurately provide a quotation, a scoping call took place with one of Cybaverse's Account Managers and an experienced Penetration Tester. This enabled Cybaverse to comprehensively understand the needs of the business and the web application. This allowed for an accurate and bespoke proposal to be drawn up that met YMCA George Williams College's exact requirements.

After working through the competitive quotes, the client chose Cybaverse because of the range of services available and the option to have a retest and feedback following the initial test. This would help the business continue their strategy of building secure ecosystems of data with their partners.

It was assessed that YMCA George Williams College required a Web Application Penetration Test and 'discovery day' which allowed Cybaverse to full explain test findings and support with remediation.



A full comprehensive web application assessment, looking at OWASP Top Ten as minimum



An internal penetration test of the network and active directory review



An external penetration test

“ The testing highlighted areas we could improve on. The development day then was available to thoroughly explore and understand the issues identified and implement solutions. ”

“ Cybaverse was costed a little toward the upper end of some of the other providers, but seemed to offer the entire spectrum of checks plus thorough feedback and remediation support. We needed this to continue our strategy of building ecosystems of data with our partners. ”

Cybaverse were successful in their tender and scheduled the work to be completed within an agreed timeframe.

TESTING

Cybaverse, unlike other penetration testing companies, build a relationship with clients and see them as a partner rather than a one-off project, this is even more apparent throughout the testing period.

From scope to project completion, Cybaverse's technical experts stay in constant contact with clients to keep the client up to date with testing progress, reporting critical findings and ensuring the client is receiving the most value out of the penetration test.

“ The outcome was what we hoped for namely, an list of items we could improve and the knowledge to be able to implement. If you are not just looking for a certificate and really want to understand and explore your issues, then choose Cybaverse. ”

METHODOLOGY

Cybaverse use their extensive experience alongside industry guidelines such as the OWASP Top Ten to conduct the assessment of the web applications. Our tester first scopes the web applications by crawling the site and finding all pages and any search functions. This will build a picture of possible actor vectors.

Our consultants will always cover the OWASP Top-10 vulnerabilities that commonly affect web applications:

- Broken Access Control
- Cryptographic Failures
- Injection
- Insecure Design·Security Misconfiguration
- Vulnerable and Outdated Components
- Identification and Authentication Failures
- Software and Data Integrity Failures
- Security Logging and Monitoring Failures
- Server-Side Request Forgery (SSRF)

“ If you are not just looking for a certificate and really want to understand and explore your issues, then choose Cybaverse. ”

REPORT AND SUPPORT

Throughout the engagement, the YMCA George Williams College was kept continuously updated with progress for any high or critical findings, allowing the client the opportunity to begin remediating and working with Cybaverse to fix any immediate issues.

Cybaverse always present a clear, detailed, easy-to-read report making it easy for management to understand the risks the business faces. The report includes technical findings, detailing how the vulnerabilities were found to allow the client to recreate the proof of concept and follow remediation guidance.

In this instance, Cybaverse worked alongside the client, working through each finding and offering support and ensuring the swift remediation of any vulnerabilities.

SUMMARY

Cyabverse, unlike other penetration testing companies, were able to offer the client a bespoke service that truly met their needs. The client was able to undergo testing and get a full report and debrief on the testing process, alongside support and guidance from a cyber security expert to ensure remediations were implemented quickly and effectively.



Infinitely secure.
Infinitely simpler.

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