# Cyber Security Essentials:

## Practical steps to protect your organisation and support learners


gateway qualifications

# Agenda

- Welcome
- Cyber Threats Impacting UK Businesses & Available Resources
- IASME Certifications - Redpalm Technology Services
- Cyber Security Essentials – East Lancashire Learning Group
- Q&A
- Contact details

gateway qualifications

# Cyber Threats Impacting UK Businesses & Available Resources

**Inbal Iahr – Outreach & Engagement Officer**

Report Fraud | CITY OF LONDON POLICE

# The Scale of the Threat 2024-25

Fraud is the single **biggest** crime type in the UK

**43%** of businesses reported a cyber breach or attack in the last 12 months

Fraud makes up **39%** of all crime

This rises to **50%** with cyber crime included

- 336,207 fraud reports
- £2.6bn fraud losses
- 67% of fraud is cyber enabled
- 90% of fraud has an online element with growing prevalence of AI
- 48,314 cyber Crimes reported
- £7.5mil cyber losses
- 1 in 2 businesses suffer cyber breaches

# Current Fraud & Cyber Crime Trends Impacting Businesses

Phishing

Payment Diversion Fraud

Ransomware & Malware

# Anatomy of Phishing

## Broad Attack Vector

### Phishing

**Messages are sent or calls made en masse**

- Messages are not personalised
- May be followed up with Spear Phishing

**Often acquired from data:**

- Available in the public domain
- Leaked or stolen from breaches elsewhere

## Targeted Attack Vector

### Spear Phishing

Personalised to the target(s)

**Research Required**

- Personalised to a specific target
- More believable

**Additional Vectors:**

- Business E-Mail Compromise
- Potentially followed up with further attacks

### Whaling

Targeted at high-level decision makers.

**63%**

**of the 42m losses were suffered by an organisation**

**Forward suspicious emails to:**

**report@phishing.gov.uk**

**Forward suspicious texts to:**

**7726**

# Why you should report suspicious emails

**By reporting phishing attempts you can:**

- reduce the amount of scam emails you receive
- make yourself a harder target for scammers
- protect others from cyber crime online

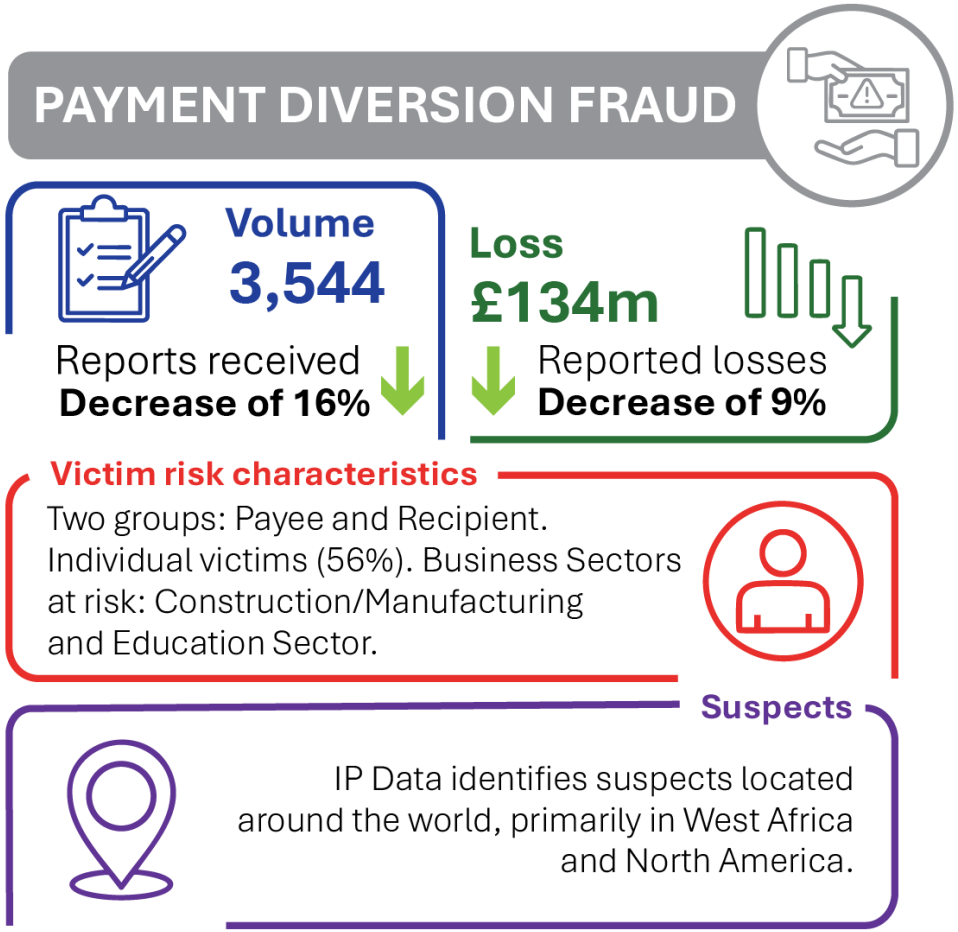
**As of February 2026, the number of reports received stands at:**

**52m**
**Reported Scams**

**Resulting in**
**243k**
**Scams being removed**

**Across**
**433,000**
**URLS**

# Payment Diversion Fraud




**Invoice Fraud:** Impersonation or a hacked email account as a result of Business Email Compromise (BEC).

**CEO Fraud:** impersonating an authority figure within the organisation.

**Salary Diversion:** targets financial reps or HR departments of companies.

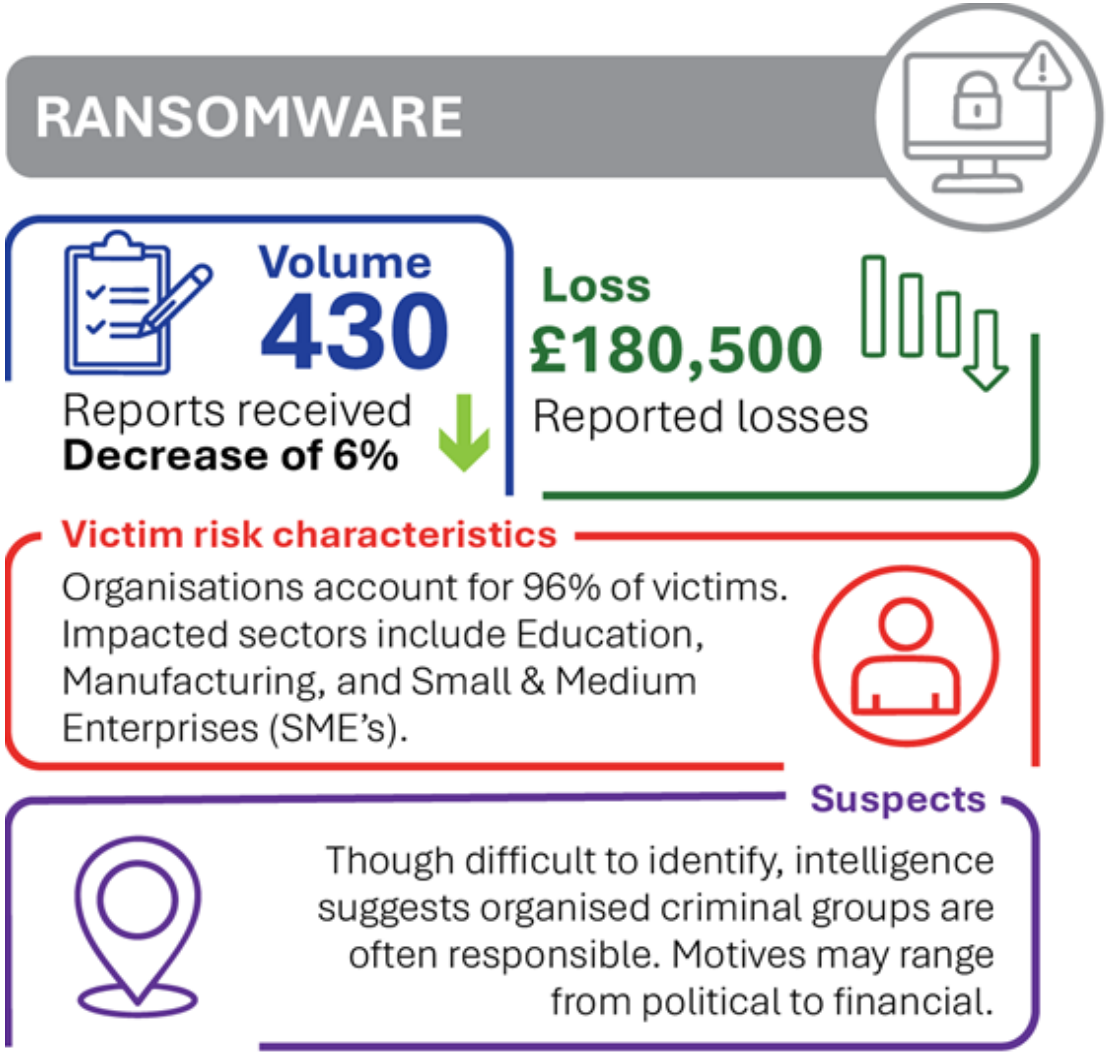
# Malware and Ransomware

**Malware** is **mal**icious soft**ware** code that can harm your computers, networks, and the data and devices linked to them.

**Ransomware** is a type of malware that prevents you from accessing your device (or the data that is stored on it), demanding a ransom to unlock the impacted device and/or data.

**Signs your device has been infected**

- Your antivirus software will notify you or your device will show a ransomware message asking you to pay money to unlock it.
- Your device will run slower than normal, reboot by itself and frequently close apps/programs or open them without you actioning this.
- You notice pop-up boxes from programs/apps you do not recognise asking unexpected things from you.

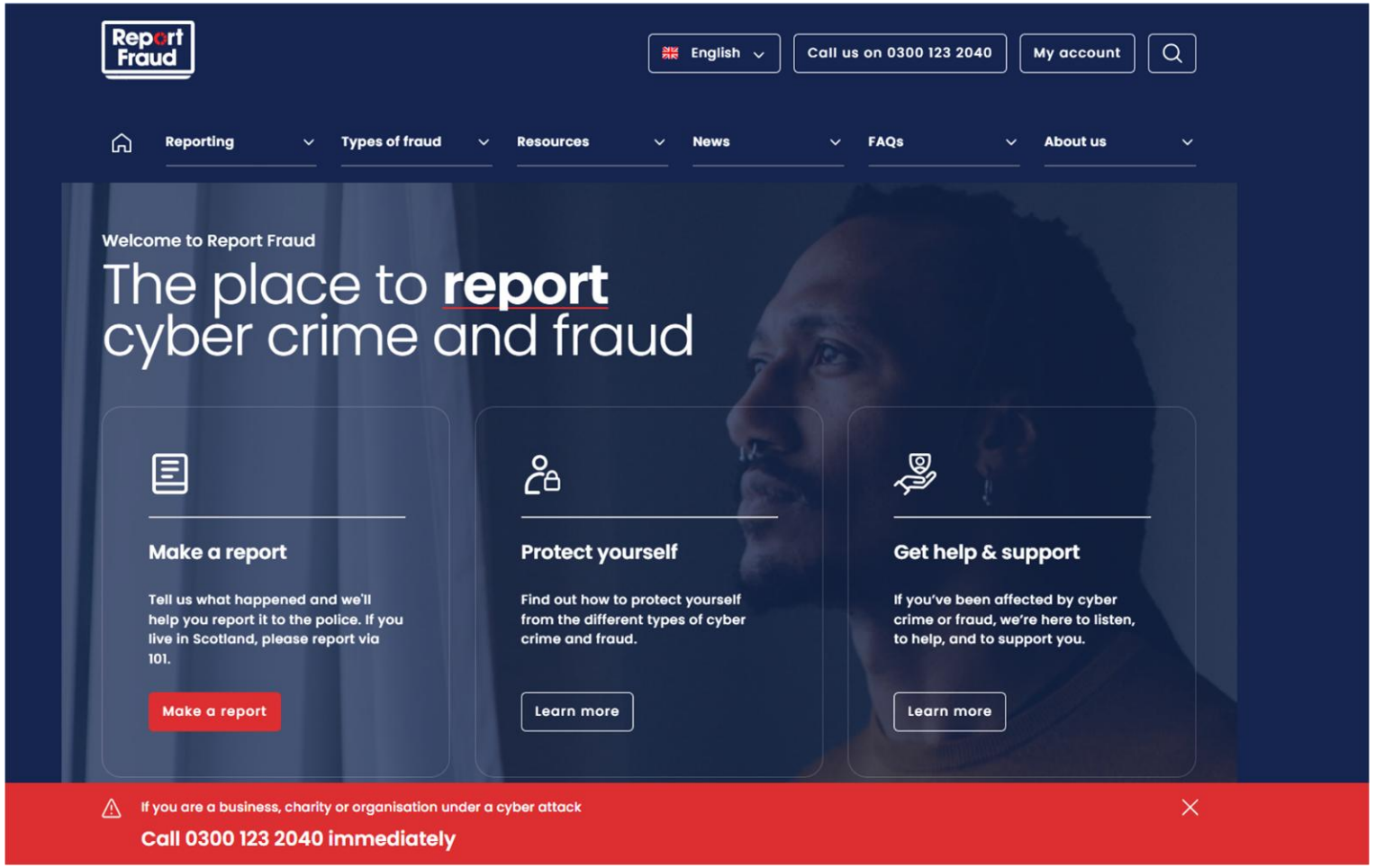


# How To Report to Report Fraud

Report Fraud | CITY OF LONDON POLICE

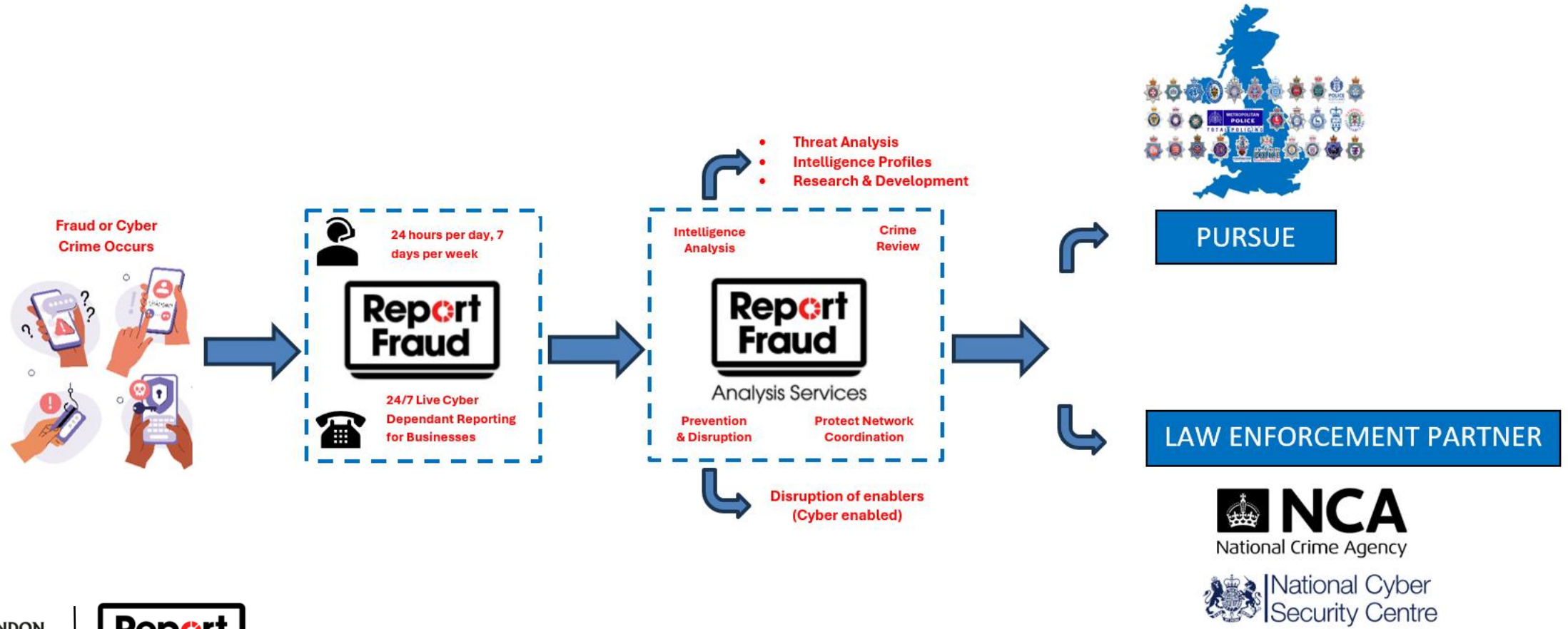
# Report Fraud

Tell the police about cyber crime and fraud
reportfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040




**EVERY REPORT COUNTS**

# Reporting Cyber Crime and Fraud




CITY OF LONDON POLICE | Report Fraud

# Services for UK Businesses

Report Fraud

CITY OF LONDON POLICE

**The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)** are the leading Government body in the UK for cyber crime. There are a range of services they offer to support businesses, from sole traders to large businesses and the public sector:

- Management guides
- Training for staff
- Cyber Essentials
- Exercise in a Box

National Cyber Security Centre

- Cyber Action Toolkit
- Mail/Web Check

- Supply Chain guide
- Early Warning Checker
- Cyber Security product assurance checker
- Cyber Governance resources and board member training

## NCSC Reporting

NCSC also offers guidance on how to report cyber crime

https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/campaigns/cyber-resilience

# POLICE CYBERALARM

Police Cyber Alarm is a free cyber threat detection tool funded by the Home Office and managed by the National Police Cybercrime Team.

It helps identify malicious external activity against a members' network through monitoring and vulnerability scanning.


https://www.cyberalarm.police.uk

NPCC
National Police Chiefs' Council

# THE CYBER RESILIENCE CENTRE NETWORK

Scan to find your regional centre

There are 9 regional CRCs in England and Wales that make up The CRC Network.

The CRC Network is a strategic collaboration between police, government, private sector and academia to help strengthen cyber resilience across micros, small and medium-sized enterprises and third sector organisations to protect the UK economy.

# CRC Services

Cyber Resilience Centres help businesses and third-sector organisations become more secure through knowledge sharing and signposting to trusted guidance.

- Membership is free and starts SMEs on a 16-part journey towards better cyber resilience
- Guiding them to trusted resources
- Encouraging them to adopt Cyber Essentials as a minimum standard
- Helping them protect themselves and those in their supply chains

National Cyber Security Centre
a part of GCHQ

CYBER ESSENTIALS

CYBER ESSENTIALS PLUS

**CRC Services**

- 1-2-1 cyber discussion
- Regional threat alerts
- Monthly newsletter
- Invites to webinars and business networking events
- Access to fully funded technical services provided by Cyber PATH

**Cyber PATH Services**

- Security Awareness Training
- First Step Web Assessment
- Full Web Application Assessment
- Internal Vulnerability Assessment
- External Vulnerability Assessment
- Business Continuity Review
- Security Policy Review
- Internet Discovery


# Regional Organised Crime Units (ROCUs)

The policing Protect network spans across England, Wales, Northern Ireland, and Scotland.

In each region and local force there is a Protect team who focus on raising awareness around cyber crime and fraud through education and community engagements.

They also offer staff training at all levels of an organisation and team building exercises to better prepare the organisation should a cyber attack happen.

https://www.rocu.police.uk/our-national-network

# NCSC Accredited Cyber Griffin Baseline Briefings

The Cyber Griffin Team at the City of London Police Provide two (1 hour) online Briefings.

The Briefings are designed to teach you ways in which you can defend yourself against the most common cyber attacks.

- Part A covers: Social engineering, phishing and account security
- Part B covers: Secure connections, malware, and artificial intelligence

Book your place at https://cybergriffin.police.uk/events or contact business.engagement@cityoflondon.police.uk to arrange bespoke sessions.


Report Fraud

CITY OF LONDON POLICE

For any further questions or enquiries please contact us on:
**business.engagement@cityoflondon.police.uk**

OFFICIAL

# IASME Certifications

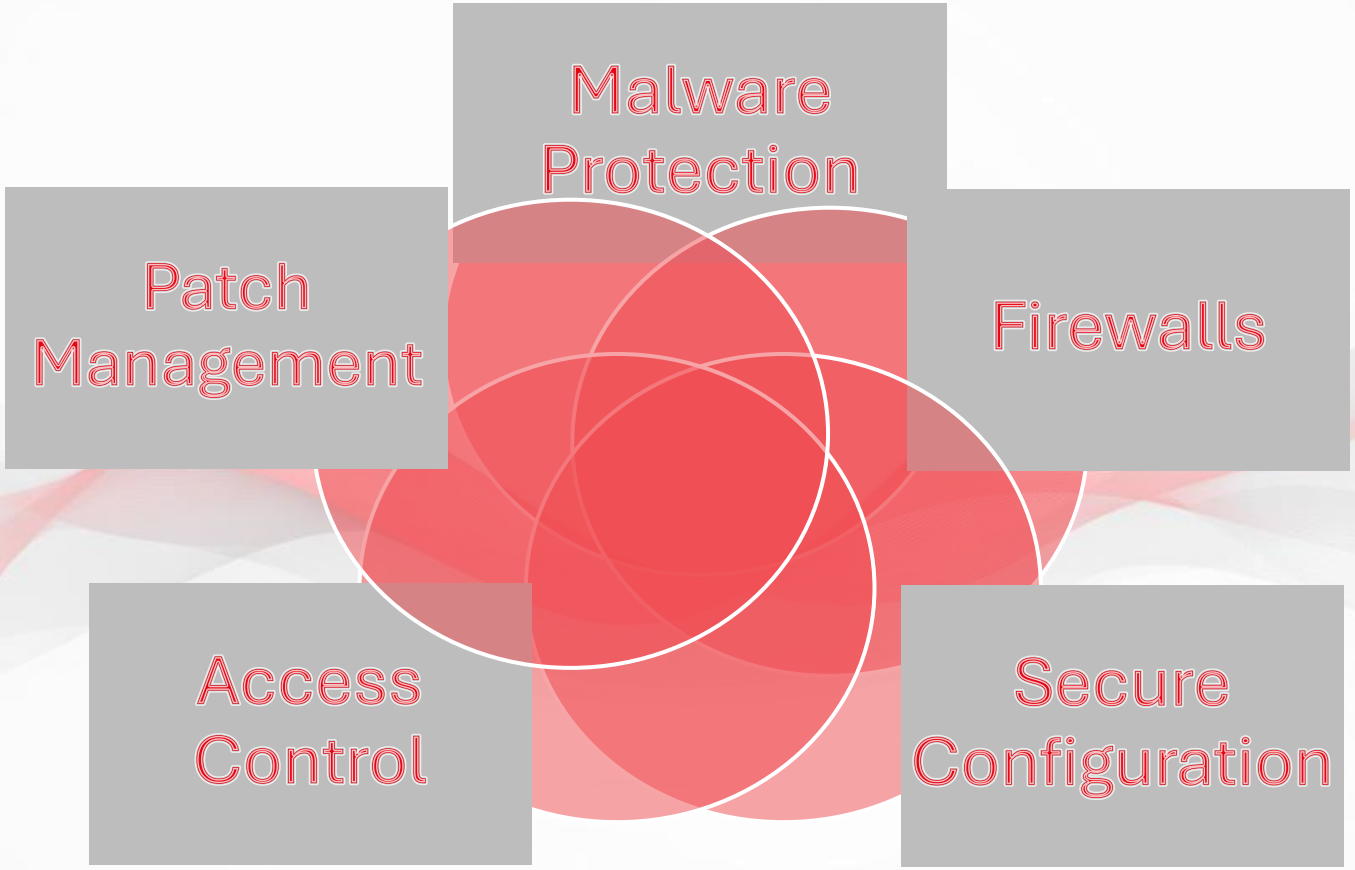
Martyn Fleetwood | Redpalm Technology Services

# Certifications Overview

- Certifications Covered
- UK Focused Cyber Standards
- Practical, Achievable Security
- Certification Visibility

# Cyber Essentials (CE)

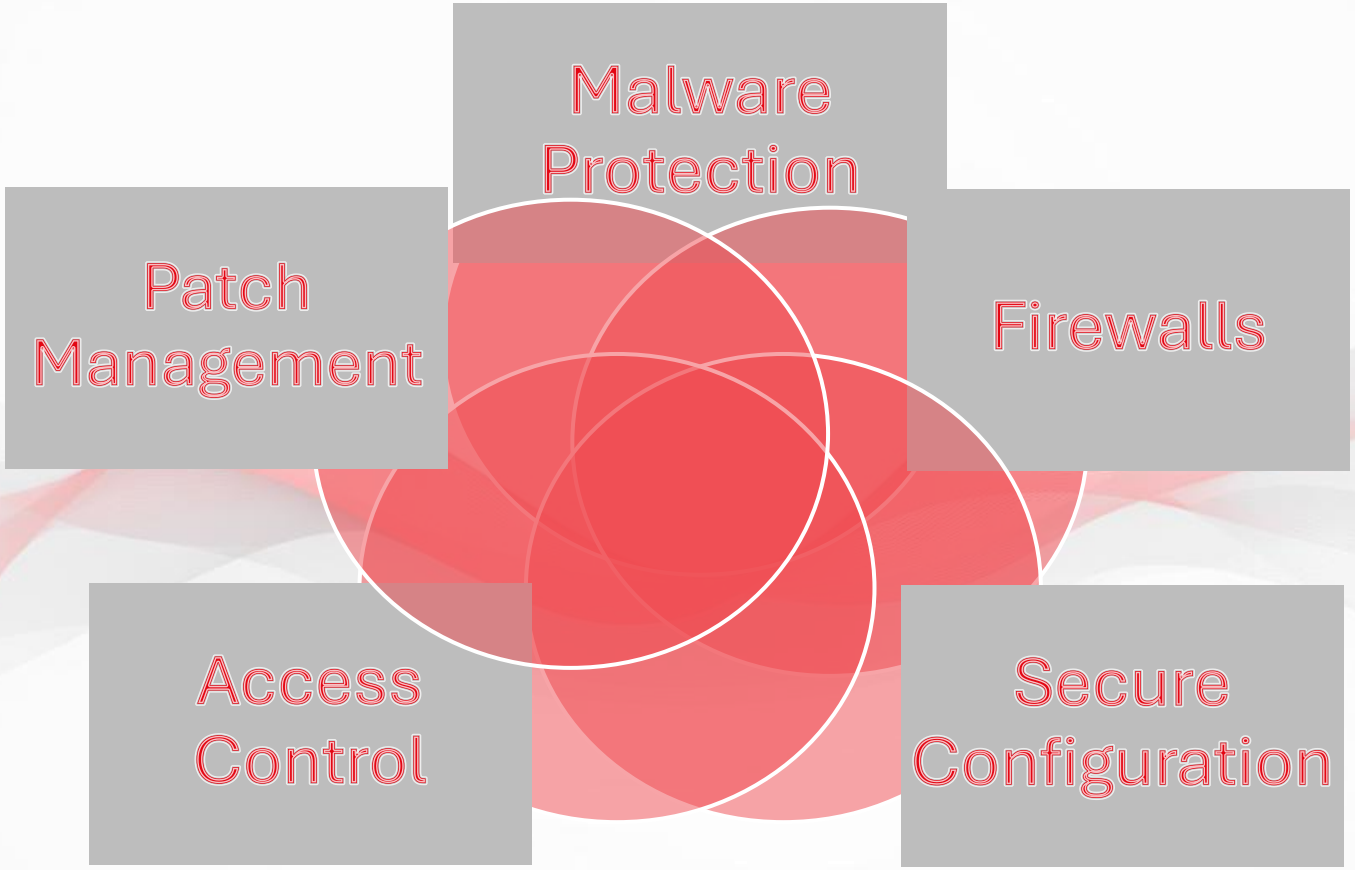
# Controls of Cyber Essentials



# Cyber Essentials Plus (CE+)

- Builds directly on Cyber Essentials
- Independent technical audit; not self-assessed
- Validates controls are in-practice
- Provides higher assurance to both clients and stakeholders

# Cyber Essentials Plus



# IASME Cyber Assurance Level 1

Focus on policies, processes, and governance

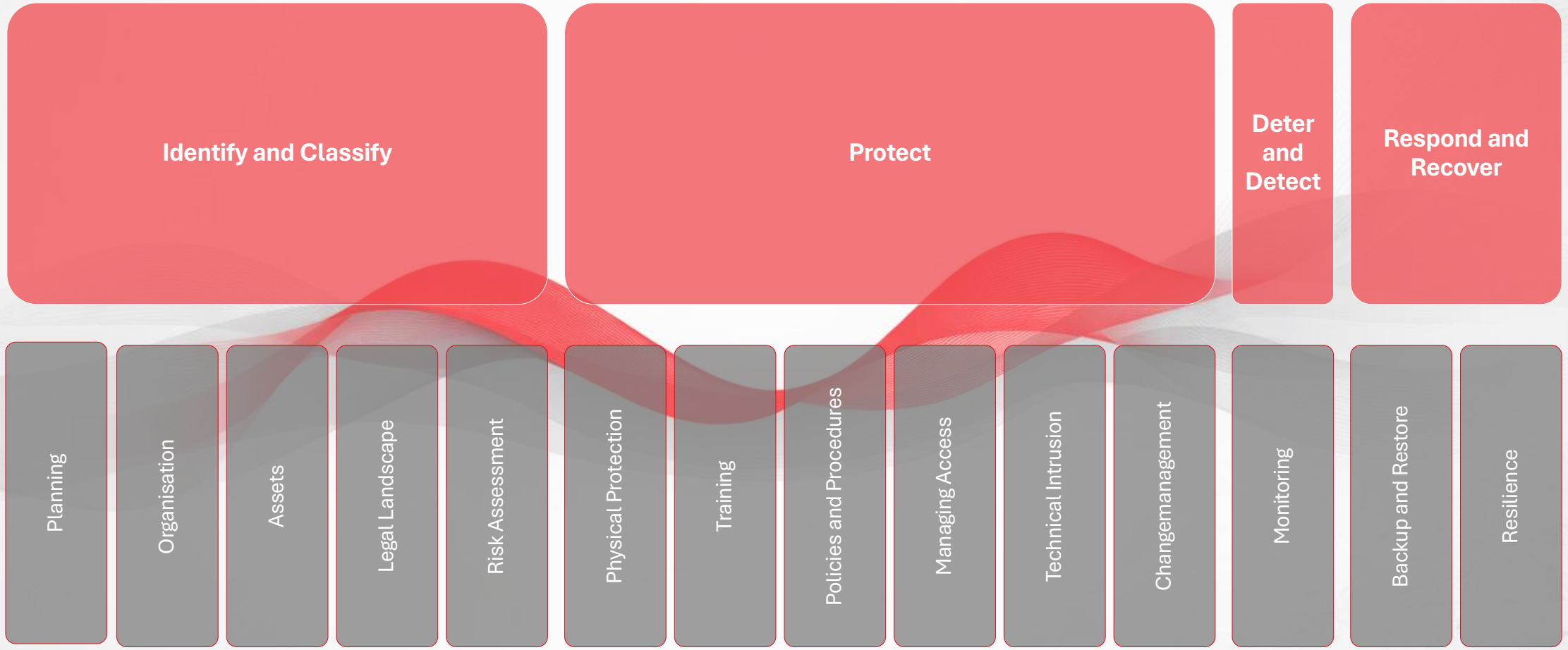
Self-assessed with structured evidence

**Moves organisations from ‘secure enough’ → ‘structured security’**

Broader cyber maturity framework

Builds beyond Cyber Essentials(/+) baseline

# Cyber Assurance Level 1



# IASME Cyber Assurance Level 2

Independently audited version of Level 1

Validates implementation of controls

**Suitable for organisations needing stronger assurance**

Deeper testing and evidence requirements

Demonstrates higher level of cyber maturity

# Streamlining The Assessments


**Assessments are becoming more aligned, reducing duplication and creating a clearer, structured path through certification.**

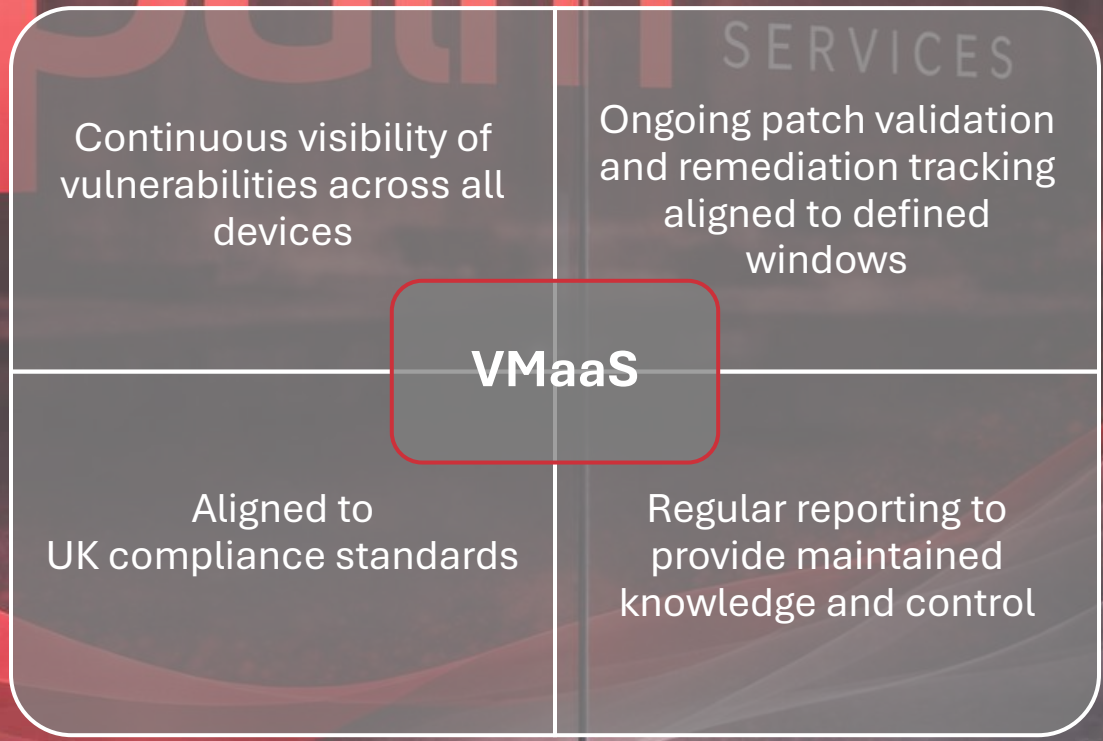
This places greater emphasis on maintaining a consistent environment with:

- Automated OS and application patching
- Continuous vulnerability visibility and remediation
- Structured processes and documentation
- Accurate asset management
- Ongoing training and industry awareness

# The Redpalm Approach


**Applying structured, continuous control across the environment to maintain security and compliance.** Maintained environments reduce risk and avoid last-minute remediation, simplifying certification.

Operational controls sit behind certifications to ensure environments remain secure, compliant, and consistently maintained.



# Questions

# Cyber Security Essentials Webinar

Andrew Dewhurst

April 2026

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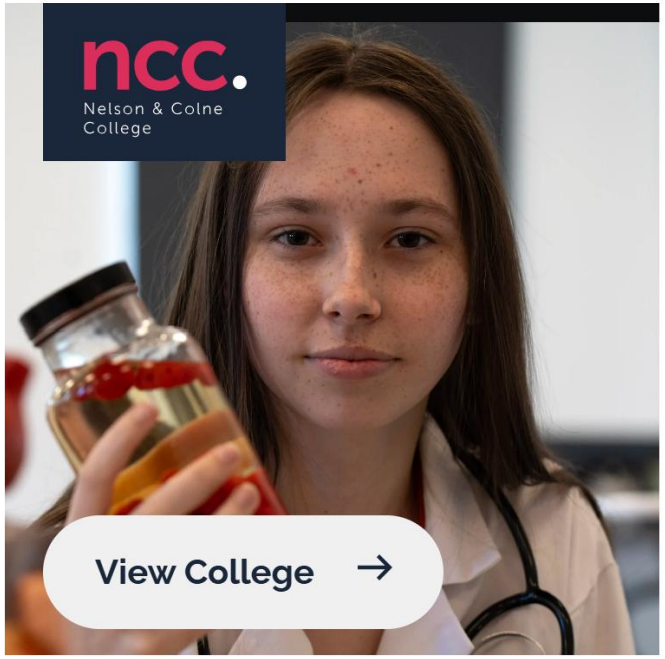
East Lancashire Learning Group

LET'S BE EXTRAORDINARY

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

20 YEARS OUTSTANDING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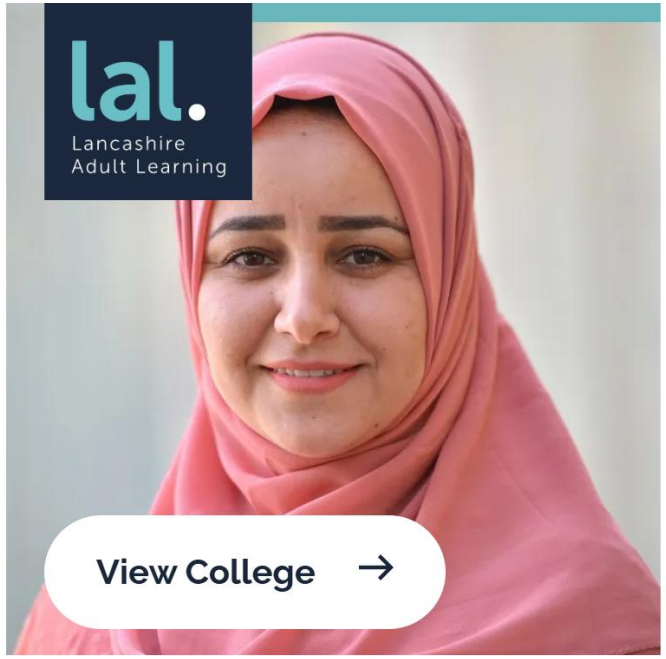
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Lancashire Adult Learning
View College

# #1

College in the Country for Adult Learning

# 99%

Maths and English Pass Rate

# #1

In Lancashire for Higher Education Student Satisfaction


Across the Group, we are proud to have been rated Outstanding by Ofsted for 20 consecutive years — a distinction held by no other college in the country. This long-standing recognition is a testament to our unwavering commitment to excellence, inclusion and the success of every learner.

**Over 350 students** studying at degree level progress to university each year, many as the first in their families to access higher education.

**More than 11,000 adults** engage in learning annually across Lancashire Adult Learning, gaining vital skills in English, maths, digital, and employability.

**Over 500 apprentices** are trained each year in high-demand sectors including advanced manufacturing, health and social care, construction, and digital technologies.

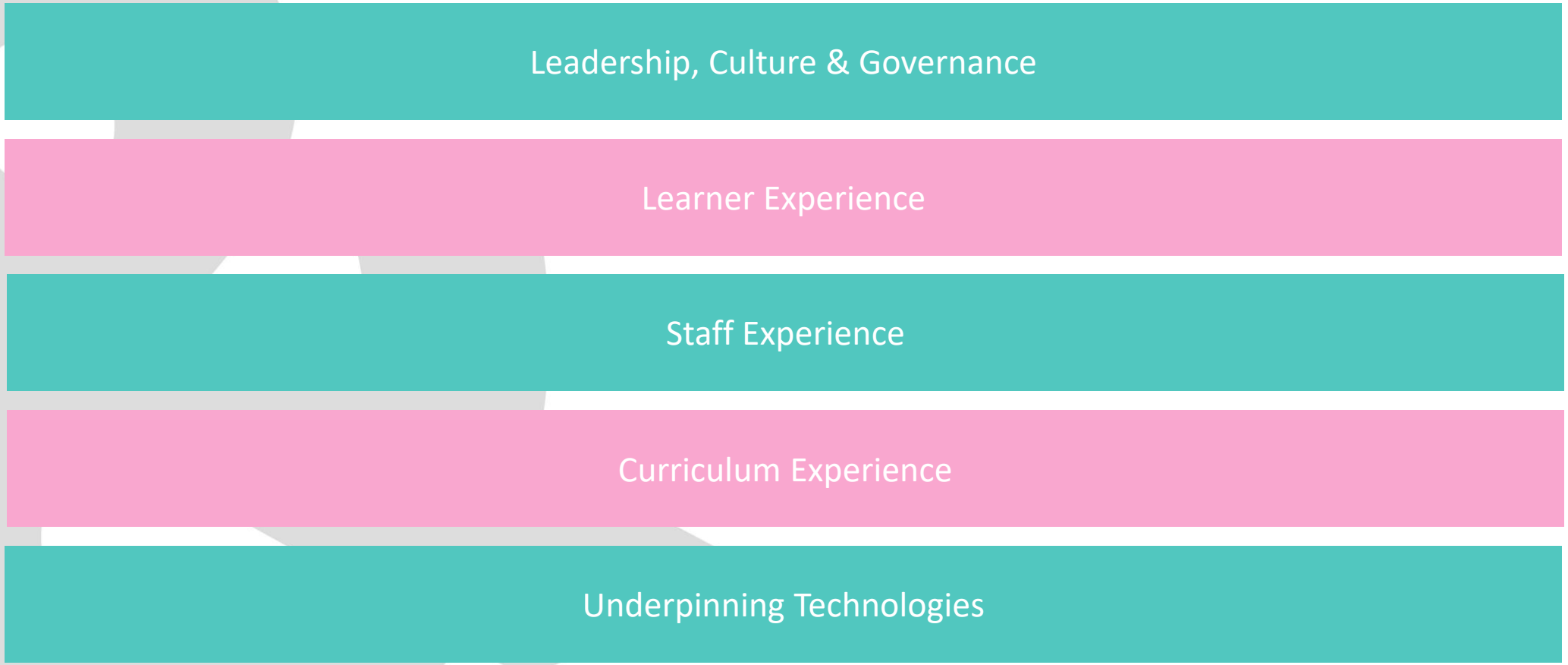
**Over 2,500 students** aged 16-18 progress onto universities across the country and enter high-value careers.

# “Inspired by Digital”

# “UK CIO100 recognition 2025”

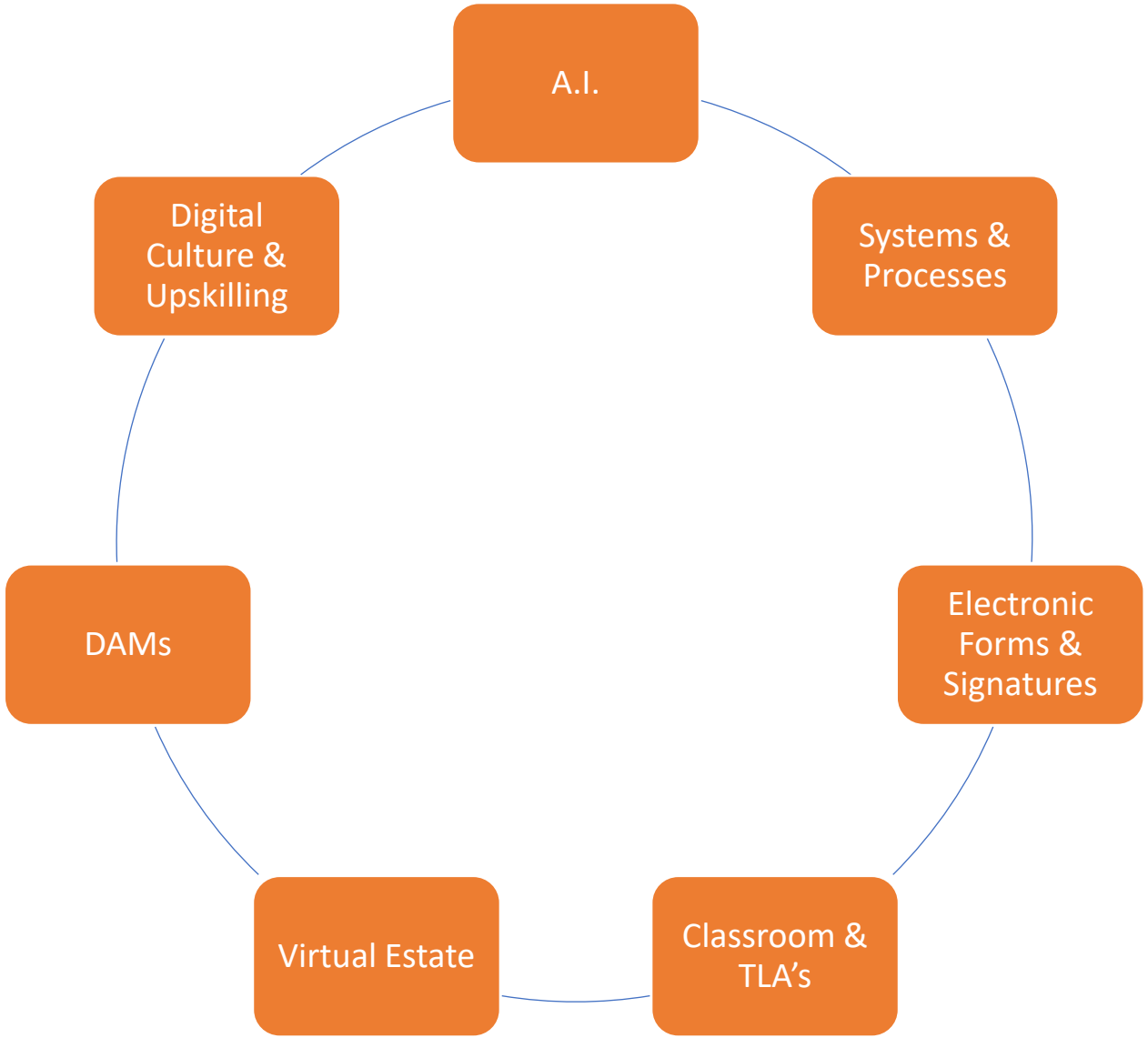
# Digital Strategy 2026

Strategy Layer



# Digital Strategy

**Experience Transformation**



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# East Lancashire Learning Group

## Internal Audit
**2025-26**

Cyber Security

March 2026

## Audit approach

Our approach to the review will be:

- Discussion with relevant staff involved to establish the current arrangements in place.
- Review of IT security, access control and user policies for adequacy.
- Review of the Group's strategy for identifying and addressing system vulnerabilities in a secure and timely manner.
- Review of the Group's anti-malware/virus software including web protection.
- Review of the Group's network security appliances and monitoring.
- Review of the Group's data leakage prevention controls and monitoring.
- Review of the Group's network access controls including user account controls, remote access, third party access.
- Discussion with staff involved to establish the current arrangements in place at the Group for Backup and Disaster Recovery.
- Review of the Group's cyber awareness training for staff.
- Review the Group's vetting processes for suppliers in relation to their cyber awareness.
- Review of the Group's IT asset management.


CYBER
ESSENTIALS
CERTIFIED
CYBER
ESSENTIALS
CERTIFIED
PLUS

National Cyber Security Centre

# Gold - delivering excellence in cyber security education

A successful application that achieves the Gold Award Criteria will be recognised as a CyberFirst School/College - Gold Award.

They will have evidenced their commitment and dedication to delivering excellence in cyber security education.

The Gold Award will be awarded for a period of 3 years.

# Thank-you

# Questions?


01206 911 211

@GatewayQuals

www.gatewayqualifications.org.uk

enquiries@gatewayqualifications.org.uk


gateway qualifications

# Contact us

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