The K-12 Learning Environment Has Changed

K-12 education used to be simple. Students learned exclusively in the classroom with hardcopy materials and relied on the school or local library to get the books they needed to complete their homework. Technology advances allowed school districts to initiate a gradual transition to a more digitally focused K-12 environment, but the coronavirus pandemic made the transformation to a digital education world an immediate imperative. Today, K-12 students rely on school-issued Chromebooks and personal mobile devices to access cloud-based educational apps that deliver customized learning, social media apps to collaborate with teachers and other students, and the Internet to reach web sites to do their homework.

Schools and Students Are Targets for Cyber Threats

Digital education expands the learning landscape, which makes K-12 students far more vulnerable to compromise of their personally identifiable information (PII), like their social security number. Cyber criminals specifically target the education industry for its large volumes of this high-value, sensitive data with ransomware and malware attacks. In just one-month during 2021, educational organizations suffered over 5.8 million malware incidents. In 2020, ransomware attacks affected nearly 1,700 U.S. schools, colleges, and universities, up 100% from the prior year. The average attack cost $2.73 million in downtime, repairs, and lost opportunities. In addition, the compromise of student PII could trigger a violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), with its own set of penalties and consequences.
Protecting K-12 Students & Complying with FERPA Requires a Unified Approach

The Lookout Security Platform eliminates the need for outdated, insufficient, siloed solutions that fail to meet the depth and breadth of security and privacy requirements of the modern K-12 digital education system. With a single, unified platform, Lookout:

- Controls and enables access to the on-premises and cloud-based apps students, teachers, families, and administrators need
- Offers endpoint protection for all the devices students use to learn, collaborate, and do their homework, including Chromebooks, iPhones, and iPads
- Provides secure web gateway functionality for safe student web browsing by enforcing policies to block access to sites deemed inappropriate or outside of acceptable use
- Counteracts cyber-criminal activity by protecting data wherever it goes and is stored, continuously assessing risk (by analyzing information gathered from more than 205 million devices, 160 million apps, and millions of web sites daily), and dynamically blocking access to locations where viruses and malware may be present

About Lookout

Lookout is an integrated endpoint-to-cloud security company. Our mission is to secure and empower our digital future in a privacy-focused world where mobility and cloud are essential to all we do for work and play. We enable consumers and employees to protect their data, and to securely stay connected without violating their privacy and trust. Lookout is trusted by millions of consumers, the largest enterprises and government agencies, and partners such as AT&T, Verizon, Vodafone, Microsoft, Google, and Apple. Headquartered in San Francisco, Lookout has offices in Amsterdam, Boston, London, Sydney, Tokyo, Toronto and Washington, D.C. To learn more, visit www.lookout.com and follow Lookout on its blog, LinkedIn, and Twitter.