SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
Global Education Security Standard

Version 1.0 Release
The Student Data Privacy Consortium publish the first ever international education sector specific data security standard – the Global Education Security Standard (GESS)

Washington, DC, 18 May 2023---During the second annual Privacy & Interoperability Symposium, the Student Data Privacy Consortium (SDPC) announced version 1.0 of the first ever international education sector specific data security standard. The Global Education Security Standard (GESS) reflects the combined work and outputs of a multi-national team dedicated to improving the cyber safety of the education sector. The Student Data Privacy Consortium (SDPC), a Special Interest Group of the non-profit Access 4 Learning (A4L) Community, has been successful in bringing the educational technology (EdTech) marketplace players and school districts/states/countries together in addressing student data privacy obligations.

This SDPC Project Team has come together over the past 18 months to synthesize security, privacy and child safety requirements from across the USA, Europe, New Zealand and Australia to develop a set of relevant controls, which draw on existing international standards, to produce a set of controls which can be used by the education sector to drive adoption and compliance across the thousands of applications used across schools globally. This work leverages the work previously produced by the...
Global Education Security Standard (GESS) is a matrix/crosswalk of all existing security frameworks along with the core set of controls applicable to PK-20 data.

With the range of technical, functional, cyber security, data protection, privacy and other requirements, it is increasingly laborious to demonstrate compliance during procurement exercises.

With the growing number of security standards and frameworks, there is a significant amount of crossover, and much of it not in a language that allows for consideration of educational or operational needs of educational institutions. GESS streamlines this process by identifying and cross-walking security criteria that are applicable in Educational Technology products.

Building on the success of the ETAG assessments across Australia and New Zealand, the Student Data Privacy Consortium has brought together a working group of educational departments, leading vendors and academicians to develop a Global Education Security Standard, to provide a common grounding baseline for all, as well as regional requirements.

**GESS Documentation**
View a comprehensive report on control questions and response options for K-12
Download the File

**GESS Self Assessment**
How is your school? Find out by using the GESS Self Assessment tool
Start Assessment

**Other Ways to Explore GESS**
This is a user guide with supporting text below an online book with additional content
Start Exploring