



Beyond the basics – Why Microsoft 365 security and governance training is essential for hybrid working

Hybrid working looks set to remain a feature of many of our lives after the Covid-19 pandemic. But as companies continue to invest in digital transformation, it is essential that they also build the right skills for employees. Otherwise they can expose their operations to a range of security and governance-related risks.

ADAPTING TO HYBRID WORKING

Security and compliance is essential in any IT environment. This is even more important when implementing changes to working patterns or locations. The Covid-19 Pandemic has seen large numbers of companies shift to remote and hybrid working seemingly overnight. And it looks set to continue, with YouGov polling showing 55% of employers expect an increase in home or remote working¹.

In the rush to adopt hybrid working, cloud solutions like Microsoft 365 have proved to be immensely popular. But moving out of a centralised office also raises serious risks for businesses, particularly from social attacks, phishing, data leaks or loss, web application breaches, non-compliance with regulations such as GDPR. Being aware of the threats is one thing but being able to effectively create a robust cloud security and compliance posture is another. Many companies are identifying important gaps in the security, compliance and governance skills of their workforce.

¹Source: <https://www.acas.org.uk/new-study-reveals-half-of-employers-expect-more-flexible-working-after-pandemic> July 2021



NEW OPPORTUNITIES. NEW THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES.

Hybrid working has a lot of advantages, but creates some new issues for IT teams to think about. Security controls may not be as stringent as they would be for an onsite setup and IT teams may struggle to update them remotely. Moving data to the cloud creates new potential challenges around sharing, confidentiality, privacy and data leakage as employees access company data from a range of public and private networks.

Without the right skills in place, businesses are leaving themselves vulnerable to potentially damaging attacks and breaches. According to Kaspersky, employee human error or lack of knowledge contributes to 46% of cybersecurity incidents². This highlights just how important up-to-date and tailored training and skills development can be. Without it, companies are not just limiting the value they get from their Microsoft 365 investment but increasing the likelihood of potential incidents causing more disruption and damage than they should.

PLUGGING THE GAPS

Microsoft 365 is helping businesses all over the world grasp the opportunities of hybrid working. But unfortunately, this won't have gone unnoticed and companies need to ensure they are as resilient and secure as possible. That makes security and governance skills development essential.



Explore our broad range of **M365 Security and Governance training here**

WHAT DOES QA OFFER?

As the UK's leading tech skills provider, QA delivers 70% of the country's cloud training. We are Microsoft's largest Gold Learning partner in the UK and have delivered comprehensive training on the company's technologies and applications to over 45,000 people.

We are the only training provider that goes beyond the Microsoft Curriculum to offer our in-house 'Mastering' technical courses. And because the security and governance features of Microsoft 365 are constantly being updated, we review our courses every four weeks to ensure our customers have the most up-to-date information for current technologies and future changes.

4+

Microsoft 365 Security official training and certification courses*



2

QA authored Microsoft Security 365 training*



82%

Trainer Quality Indicator (TQI)*



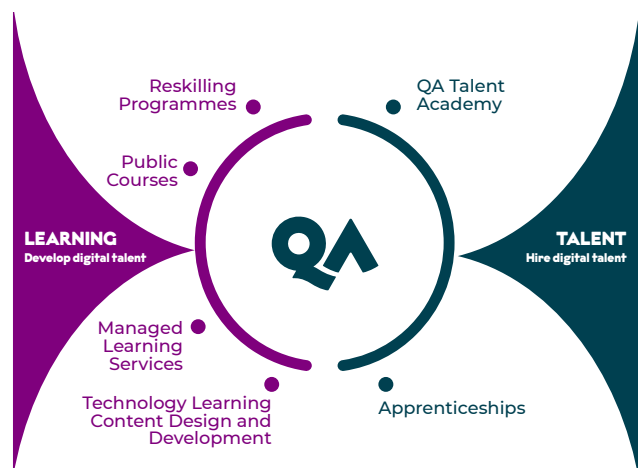
76%

of learners rate our courses 9/10 or higher*



*From July 20 – July 21

At QA, we are so much more than just a training organisation. Whilst our subject matter experts transform the skills of individuals, the capabilities of teams, and even the whole organisation, we also provide talent solutions designed to help every organisation win the digital race faster.



²Source: <https://www.kaspersky.com/blog/the-human-factor-in-it-security/2021>



Where you learn from matters! Don't take our word for it, hear what our learners think...



MICROSOFT 365 SECURITY ADMINISTRATOR

I have learned a lot in the past week and I have more of an understanding of how things have been set up within my business and how policies have been implemented.

– Louisa Teresa Baxter



MICROSOFT 365 SECURITY ADMINISTRATOR

Exactly what I needed, and very relevant for decisions that are in-play, and other that will be made soon.

– Ryan Young



MICROSOFT 365 SECURITY ADMINISTRATOR

This course will definitely help me chart a course for the next 12 months.

– Lauren Mcewan



MICROSOFT 365 MOBILITY & SECURITY

I have more confidence in the areas I had less experience in... I now want to go back... and apply what I've learnt on the course. Thank you.

– David Banton



MICROSOFT 365 MOBILITY & SECURITY

Filled in a lot of gaps in my "education". Put a few spotlights on where my skills are weakest.

– Rob Dunphy





The benefits of Microsoft 365 security and governance training

The last year has seen many businesses accelerate their digital transformation plans. While this is helping to drive new ways of working and collaborating, it also has the potential to leave businesses exposed to new threats. Making sure that doesn't happen means equipping employees with the right skills. With the right training businesses can benefit from the following:

UNLOCK THE SOLUTION'S FULL POTENTIAL

The security and compliance functionality available with Microsoft 365 is extensive. The problem is that it is not enabled or configured by default, meaning that many businesses may think they are fully protected when in fact there are serious gaps. Tailored training like our 'Mastering' courses go further than the official Microsoft curriculum to ensure businesses have every available tool at their disposal.

ENSURE CORRECT IMPLEMENTATION EVERY TIME

Every IT investment needs to be closely aligned with a business' wider goals and strategy. The way solutions like Microsoft 365 are implemented is absolutely crucial to their ongoing success and ability to add value. The compliance and security functionality of Microsoft 365 is complex and constantly evolving – training ensures your team never misunderstands a feature or implements it incorrectly.

CREATE AN OPTIMISED HYBRID WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Having a robust cloud security posture is essential for companies looking to effectively enable their employees to work from anywhere. Your employees may be checking their emails on their phone or using public Wi-Fi networks. Securing all devices and managing access for users is absolutely critical.

MAKE CUSTOMER DATA MORE SECURE

Building the skills of your workforce is not just beneficial for your business, but also potentially your clients and other stakeholders too. Microsoft 365 has a lot of functionality relating to identifying and safeguarding sensitive data, but making the most out of these features requires tailored training.



³Source: [IDC White Paper, sponsored by Microsoft, Leveraging Microsoft Learning Partners for Innovation and Impact, doc #US47225021, January 2021](#)

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FUTURE-PROOF YOUR BUSINESS

Microsoft 365 is constantly being updated with new features or updates. It can be easy to fall behind and miss out on something that could add real value to your operations. This is why we update our courses every four weeks. Our clients can be confident that they are always getting the latest insight and technical expertise.

BOOSTING CAPABILITIES, NOT RISKS

As we all continue to adapt and benefit from new ways of working, it is essential that businesses don't leave themselves exposed. Solutions like Microsoft 365 have all the tools and features businesses need to take full advantage of digital transformation in a secure way, but only if employees have the skills necessary to utilise them.

At QA we can equip your teams with the Microsoft 365 security and compliance skills they need to make sure your business is always secure and resilient. We are the UK's leading tech training provider not just because of breadth and depth of our courses, but also the support and flexibility we offer to learners. We help businesses push forward by powering the potential they already have.

Get started by visiting qa.com/M365 or contact us directly to discuss your bespoke training needs.

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