Press Release

**July 21, 2025**

**Securys Unveils New Compliance Support for Jamaican Schools at JISA Leadership Conference**

As the realities of the Jamaica Data Protection Act (DPA) take hold, Securys (Jamaica) Ltd., has stepped forward with a solution aimed at Jamaican schools - an often overlooked, yet critically exposed sector.

A new initiative for academic institutions called Privacy in Education (PiE), was revealed at the recently held Jamaica Independent Schools Association (JISA) Leadership Conference. The program is an overhaul of its pricing model for schools driven by advocacy from JISA, and direct feedback from school leaders.

According to Securys, the program slashes costs by nearly 90 percent, providing long-overdue relief to schools navigating the legal and regulatory obligations needed to comply with the DPA.

“This is more than a discount. It’s a deliberate act of partnership,” said Andre Palmer, Head of Practice at Securys Jamaica. “We’re sending a message that schools don’t have to choose between compliance and financial survival.”

**Schools at Risk, Law in Effect**

The DPA, now in force, requires every Jamaican organisation handling personal data, including schools, to register with the Office of the Information Commissioner, (OIC), designate a Data Protection Officer (DPO), and demonstrate active compliance through annual filings and impact assessments.

Despite the law’s passage, many schools remain two registration cycles behind, with limited resources to bridge the gap. The consequences are serious: fines of up to 4 percent of annual turnover, reputational fallout, and disruption to operations. In the education sector, the stakes are uniquely high. Schools manage sensitive data on students, parents, and staff-ranging from medical records to behavioural reports. Yet many institutions lack the internal capacity to respond to the evolving privacy landscape.

**Affordable Privacy in Education**

The Privacy in Education, (PiE), programme, according to Palmer offers a comprehensive, multi-year compliance support developed specifically for Jamaican schools. Participating institutions will receive critical support such as privacy gap and exposure assessment, remediation plans, an assigned data protection officer (DPO), staff training and privacy awareness workshops to assist with drafting and implementing core privacy policies.

To provide coverage, Palmer noted that no immediate payment is required— only a profile of the school with information such as the school’s name, principal’s name, a secondary point of contact, and contact information such as email or telephone number and current student count.

“At its core, the Privacy in Education programme is about protecting children, staff, and families from data misuse, breaches, and exposure. It’s about fostering a culture of responsibility in institutions entrusted with some of society’s most vulnerable members.”, shared Palmer.

“Data protection isn’t optional—it’s a matter of trust and care,” Palmer noted. “This is our chance to help schools step confidently into the future.”

A person standing at a podium

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Andre Palmer, Head of Practice at Securys Jamaica presenting the new Privacy in Education (PiE) compliance support for schools at the 2025 JISA Leadership Conference on July 15, 2025.