

## **Cyber Essentials and Respond Healthcare**

### **What is it?**

The Cyber Essentials Certification is a government backed, industry supported scheme designed to help organisations protect themselves against common internet threats. Launched by the department for Business and Innovation in 2014, the aim of the scheme is to encourage organisations to adopt best practices for their IT Security Strategy which in turn helps to make the UK a safer place to do business.

### **The Benefits**

- Protection against common threats  
Current research suggests that around 80% of common cyber attacks can be mitigated by implementing basic controls to protect internal systems from 'unskilled script kiddies' – individuals that use common hack techniques published by more skilled hackers. The Cyber Essentials Certification means that Respond have these controls in place.
- Demonstrates commitment to Cyber Security  
Displaying the CE Logo on correspondence materials shows potential customers, partners and investors that Respond takes systems security seriously. As an organisation that stores personal, medical and financial information it is imperative that our customers and potential customers know that we take the integrity of their data seriously which helps to build long term trust and strengthen our brand.
- Government contracts unlocked  
The UK Government is attempting to improve its supply chains by insisting that suppliers bidding on any of its contracts that handle sensitive information must be compliant with the Cyber Essentials scheme. The Cyber Essentials Plus certification (due early 2020) will also open the door to Ministry of Defence contracts.
- GDPR  
The Cyber Essentials scheme helps with current GDPR regulations as it shows we have taken steps and introduced safeguards to protect from data theft, loss and unauthorised access.

### **The Next Steps**

Respond Healthcare remain committed to protecting the data of their customers and as such, their IT Security Strategy will see the Cyber Essentials Plus certification achieved in early 2020 as well as further investment into its current, world leading, AI based cyber security solutions.