

MEDIAFLUX® CONNECT 365

**Unlimited M365 storage
is ending for universities.**

**Take back control of your data with
Mediaflux® Connect 365**

Microsoft are changing the way institutions are being charged for data in M365 Education. The days of unlimited storage are gone and are being replaced with hard ceilings of storage quotas.

Mediaflux® Connect 365 is a single pane of glass solution enabling universities to reduce storage costs while preserving data. Keep your data instantly accessible, searchable and governed.

The Challenge

Real Data, Real Costs

Microsoft has replaced unlimited education storage with a pooled model capped at 100TB plus an allowance per licensed user. If you exceed the total allowance, then everything above that (called overage) will be charged at \$US300 per TB per month, or \$US360,000 per annum per petabyte. That's expensive.

Moreover, from March 2026, Microsoft placed a limit on the amount of data that could be moved in/out of a tenant by any application at 400GB/hour. That equates to an allowance of 9.6TB per day, or 105 days spent moving every petabyte of data. For institutions with 3-4 petabytes of overage, it will take a year to move that data out.

A real decision needs to be made today and not kicked down the road. One university has publicly confirmed a "95 percent reduction of storage allocation".¹ The bigger you are, the harder you'll fall.

1. Saarinen, J. (2026, July 3). *UNSW faces a 95 percent cut to its M365 storage by October*. iNews. <https://www.itnews.com.au/news/unsw-faces-a-95-percent-cut-to-its-m365-storage-by-october-626797>

Institutions have four options:

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| 1. | Do nothing. | Accept the changes and pay for everything above your allowance, locked in at that rate for the term of your renewal. |
| 2. | Delete. | Fast, free, and irreversible. Without knowing what you have, you might delete data that should never be deleted. |
| 3. | Backup and delete. | Protects against total loss, but it's an IT-only fix. Shields against loss but leaves staff and students with no working access to their data. |
| 4. | Bring it under management. | Treat M365 data like all other institutional data. Understand what you have, what needs to stay in M365, what should move to alternate, lower-cost storage where it stays usable and visible, and what can be deleted safely, including duplicates. |



The Solution

An Off-Ramp to World-Class Data Management

Arcitecta is recognised as a Leader in the Coldago Research Map for Unstructured Data Management,² and an Outperformer in the GigaOm Unstructured Data Management Radar,³ with a proven track record in data management spanning over 25 years of experience in higher education. Its data management platform, Mediaflux, is a single system that manages, catalogues, and governs data of any type, across any storage, no matter how many billions of files or petabytes of data.

Arcitecta has created Mediaflux Connect 365 to ensure universities retain effective access to their data and empowers universities to quickly identify and categorise data within their Microsoft environment. It enables institutions to meet fast-approaching data migration deadlines and to start the lengthy Microsoft-controlled egress process.

2. Mellor, C. (2026, January 22). *Coldago has four leading unstructured data managers*. Blocksandfiles. <https://www.blocksandfiles.com/data-management/2026/01/22/coldago-has-four-leading-unstructured-data-managers/4090324>

3. Brown, J. (2026, February 13). *GigaOm Radar for Unstructured Data Management*. GigaOm. <https://portal.gigaom.com/report/gigaom-radar-for-unstructured-data-management-6>

Key benefits of Mediaflux Connect 365 include:

Data analysis.

Identifies the data residing in Microsoft 365 storage to help institutions determine what data they want to retain there, move or be deleted. Uses data analytics to identify what data must be moved and migrated into on-premises, cloud or hybrid storage.

Powerful metadata support.

Rich, searchable metadata makes data manageable at scale. No more archiving out of sight. Metadata provides details such as how and where the data was generated, enables data users to find what they need when they need it, and understand and identify what data they have.

Reduced storage costs.

Organisations can avoid the significant cost increases associated with the new Microsoft 365 Education storage limitations and commercial pricing changes.

Flexible storage options.

Maintains choice and control through flexible, vendor-neutral storage options, including on-premises (flash, object and tape) and cloud storage through any provider.

Improved governance under active data management.

All institutional data, including Microsoft's OneDrive, SharePoint and Teams, can be managed from a single pane of glass – providing simplified data management and visibility across storage types and locations. Today, these data repositories are unmanaged. This makes it difficult to understand what data is stored; to identify sensitive information, such as Personally Identifiable Information (PII); and to verify backup policies.



Renewal day is billing day. Don't wait until then.

If you are an educational institution that uses Microsoft M365 extensively, you need to get moving. From your next renewal, Microsoft's pooled model will apply, and you will be billed for any capacity above your allocation. With ingress and egress capped at 400GB per hour, per tenant, shifting a full petabyte at top speed will take about 105 days.

M365 data is unmanaged and unknown. Chances are, you don't know what you have. Your teaching and learning materials, research data, datasets and outputs are valuable and irreplaceable knowledge that shouldn't be deleted or moved offline under pressure.

**There's a better way to manage data.
It's time to leverage the power of
Mediaflux Connect 365.**

