Enterprise Foundations

Lab Guide

Revision 1.1

Contents

Revision notes

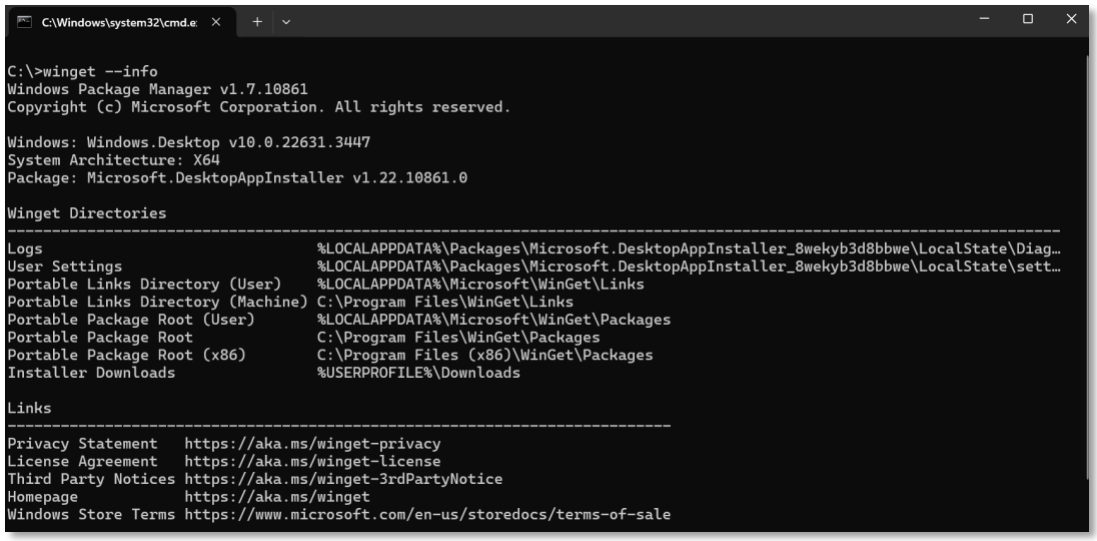
Revision date	Author	What has changed
August 2025	Mehdi Sebbane	• Styled according to new guidelines.
December 2025	Travis Roberts	• Add Azure Files section.

1 WinGet commands basics

WinGet provides simple command-line tools to search, install, and manage applications on Windows.

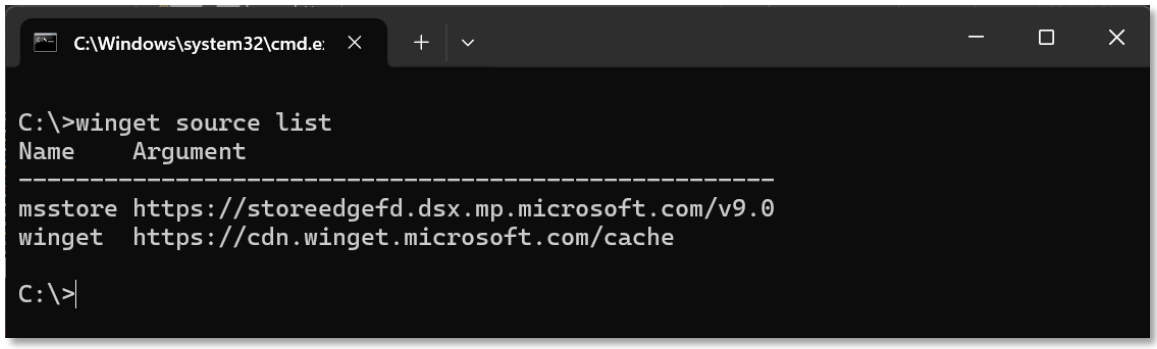
1.1 Get WinGet info: winget --info

Use the `winget -info` command to view the version of WinGet, the default locations of install folders, and other details.



1.2 View WinGet sources: winget source list

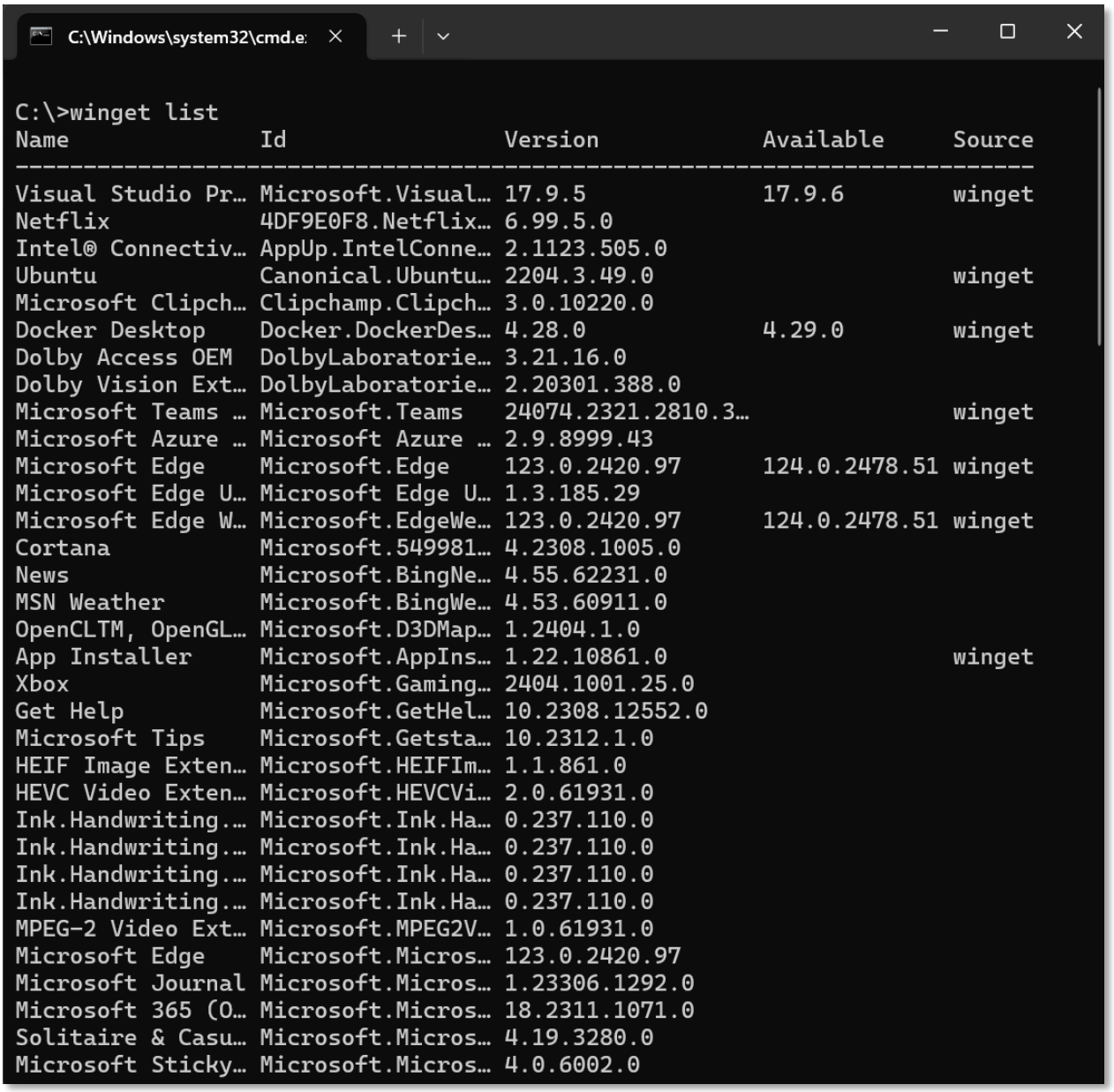
Use the `winget source list` command to list and manage sources for Windows Package Manager. You can add, remove, update, reset, and export repositories.



1.3 List installed applications: winget list

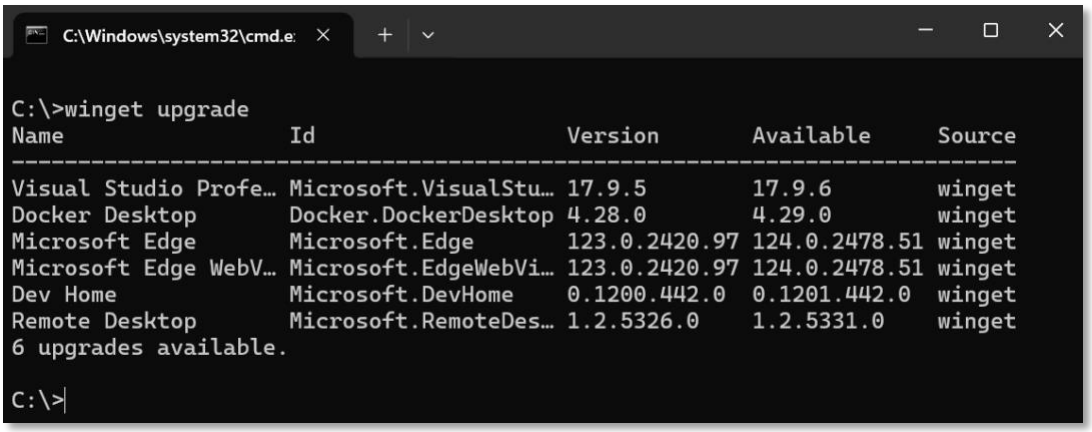
Use the `winget list` command to lists all the applications on your computer and their versions. The command also shows if there is an available update from the WinGet sources.

All applications can be managed regardless of how they were first installed, using WinGet or not.



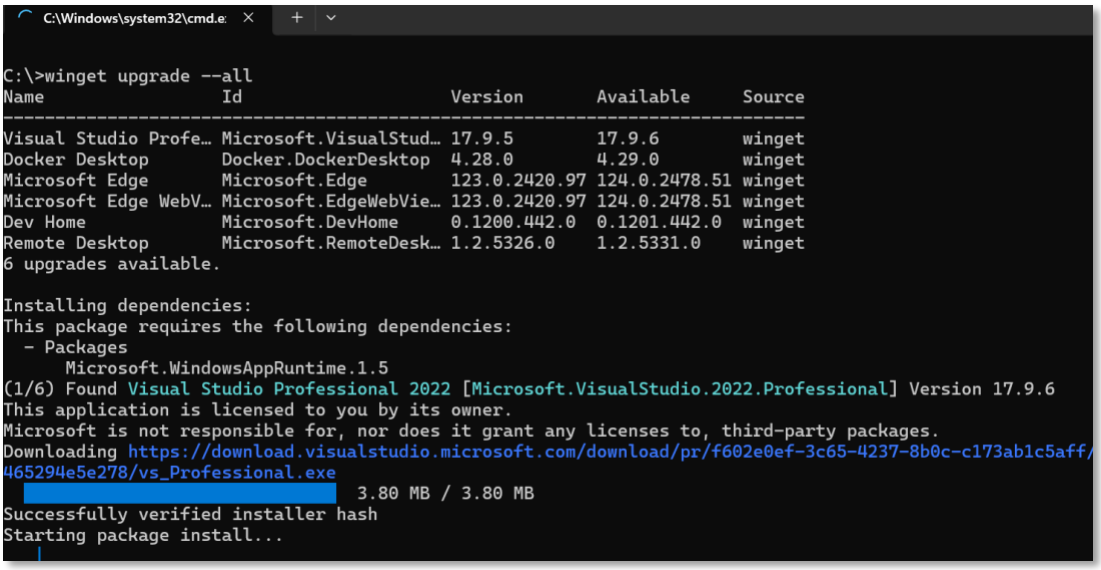
1.4 List applications where an upgrade is available: winget upgrade

The `winget upgrade` command returns a list of installed applications with a newer version available for upgrade.



1.5 Upgrade applications: winget upgrade --all

Use the `winget upgrade --all` command to upgrade all applications to the latest version shown.



Lab complete.

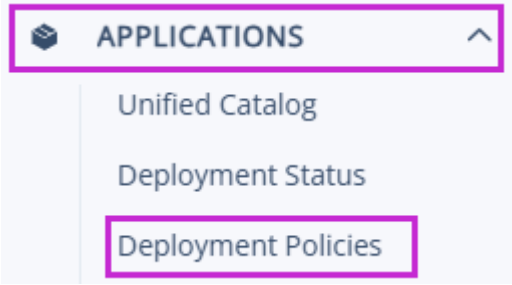
2 Application deployment policies

To add an application deployment policy:

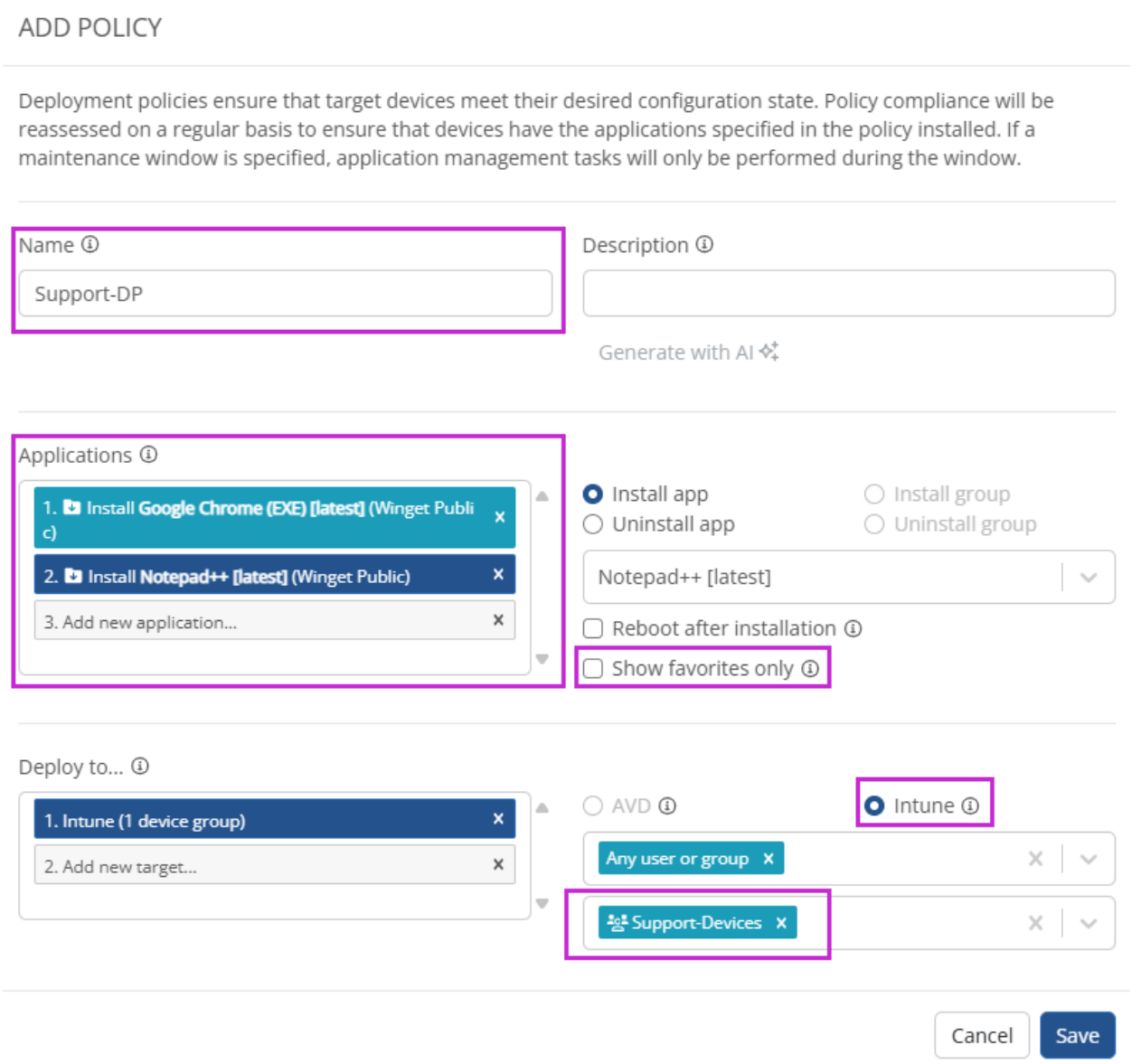
1. Sign in to the sandbox environment.

   You can find the connection details in your email.

2. Navigate to **Applications** > **Deployment Policies**.



3. Select **Add**.
4. In the **Add Policy** dialog box, set the configuration as follows:
   - **Name**: Enter a unique name.
   - **Show favorites only**: Unselect this option.
   - **Applications**: Select **Google Chrome** and **Notepad++**.
   - **Deploy to…**: Select **Intune**.
   - **Target**: Select **Support Devices**.



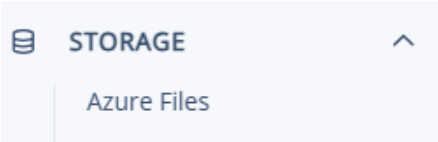
5. Select **Save.**

Lab complete.

3 Create an Azure Files share for AVD

To create a new share:

1. Navigate to **Storage** > **Azure Files**.

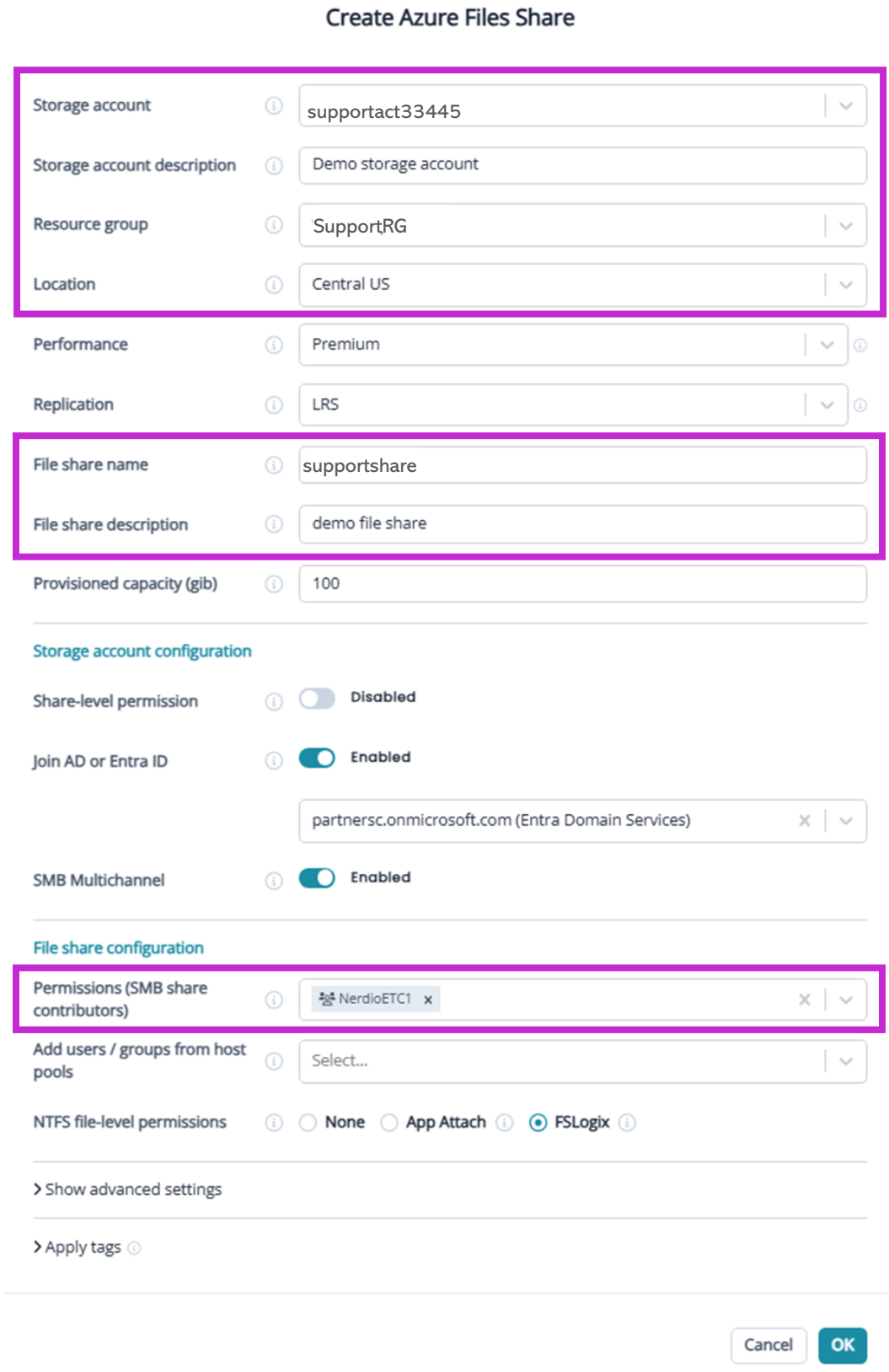


2. Select **Add Azure Files**.

3. In the **Create Azure Files Share** dialog box, set the configuration as follows:

   - **Storage account**: Enter a unique name.

     Requirement: 3–24 characters, including only lowercase letters and numbers.
   - **Storage account description**: Enter a description for the storage account.
   - **Resource group**: Select the lab resource group.
   - **Location**: Select the lab location.
   - **File share name**: Enter a name that you can identify later.
   - **File share description**: Enter a description for the file share.
   - **Permissions (SMB share contributors)**: Search and select the **NerdioETC1** group.
   - **Assign NTFS file-level permissions**: Select this option, and then select FSLogix.



4 End user experience

Review the following end user experience FAQs.

4.1 FSLogix overview and best practices

1. What is FSLogix?
    - A user profile container technology.
    - Allows user profiles to roam without losing their customizations.
2. How does it work?
    - **Requires a storage service for profile containers**: For example, Azure Files / Azure NetApp Files / File Server.
    - **Installation**: Nerdio Manager automatically installs the FSLogix application by default when a new session host is created.
    - **Create FSLogix configuration profiles in Nerdio Manager**: Assign these profiles to host pools for centralized management.
3. What Azure Files tier to choose?
    - Microsoft recommends Premium storage in Azure Files.
    - Azure Files Premium storage is compatible with Nerdio Manager's Auto-scaling.
    - Nerdio Manager's Auto-scaling ensures there is always enough storage available.
    - Lower tiers of storage may cause errors in daily operations.
4. What storage options are available?
    - Universal naming convention (UNC) path (file server)
    - Azure Files (Premium)
    - Azure NetApp Files (1 TiB minimum is required)

4.2 RDP profile settings overview and best practices

Review the following RDP Profile settings FAQs.

1. What is an RDP profile?
    - A configuration created in Nerdio that defines the RDP experience for users.
2. How do RDP profiles work?
    - Create RDP profiles in the **Settings** blade, and then assign them to host pools.
    - You can also create them on a per-host pool basis.
    - This allows you to centralize management and make changes from one location.

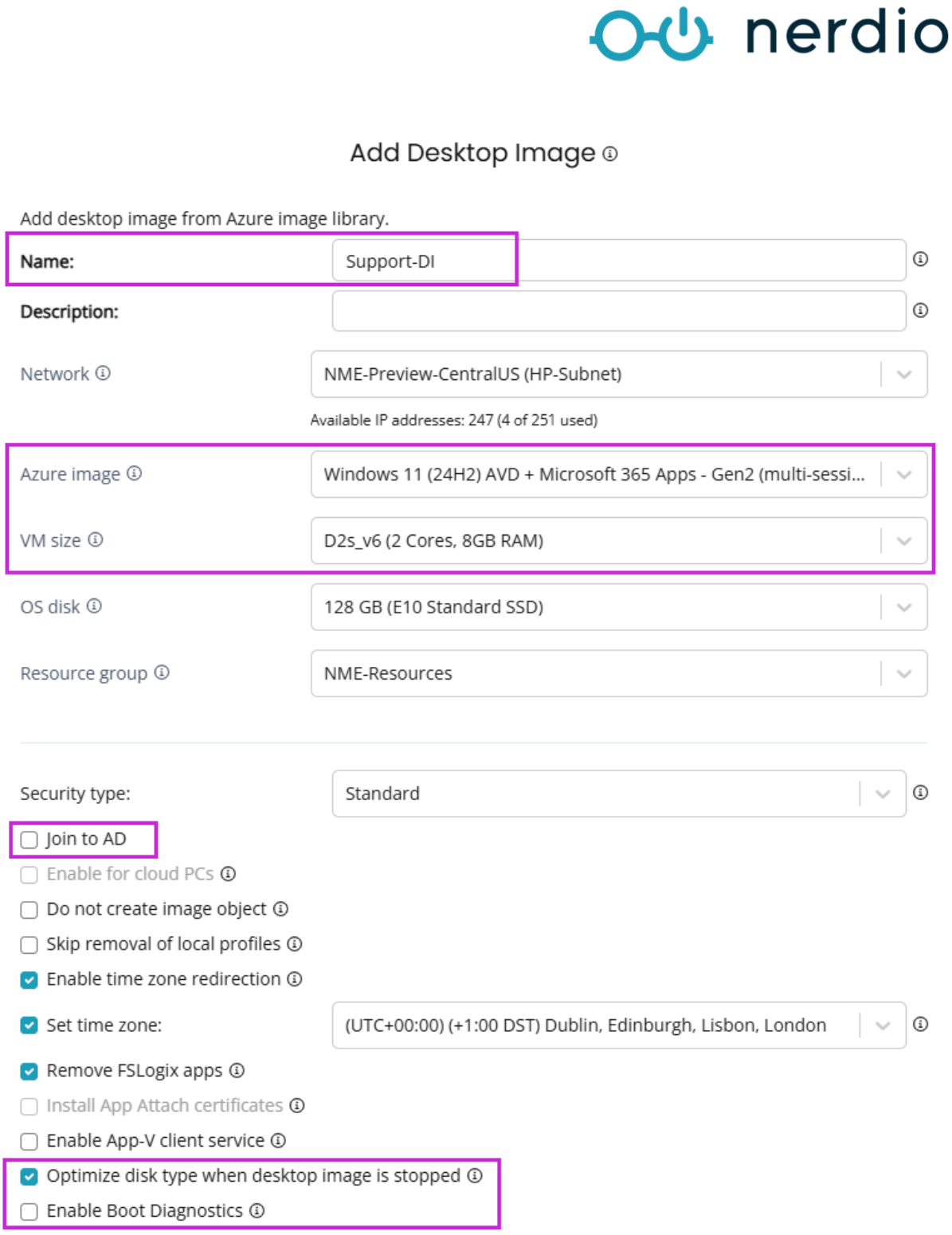
The following settings are available:

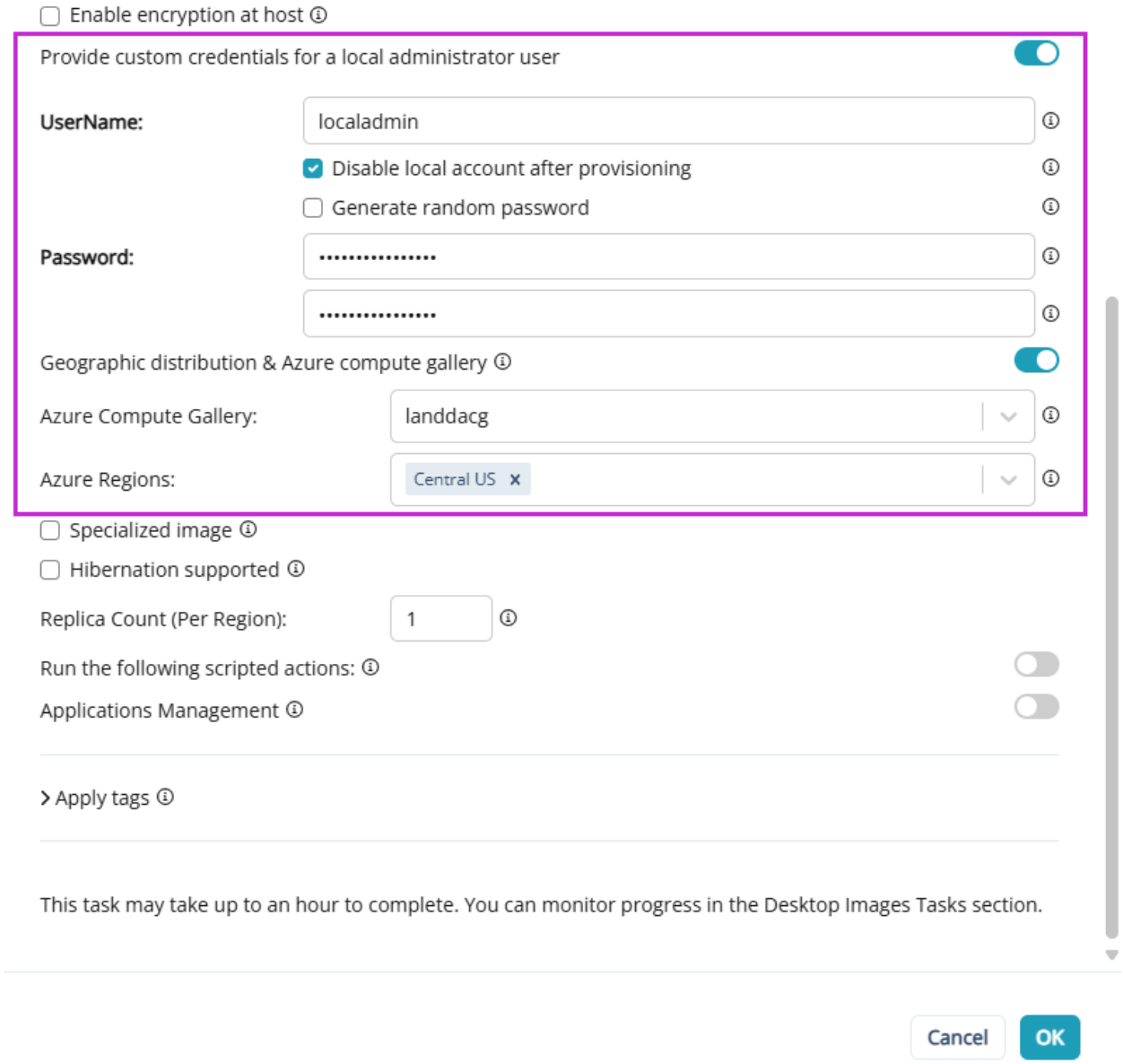
- **Audiocapturemode**: Determines whether input can be redirected from the local device to the session.
- **Camerastoredirect**: Makes local webcam / camera available in the session.
- **Devicestoredirect**: Allows plug in devices to appear in the session. E.g., Flash Drives.
- **Drivestoredirect**: Redirects drives from the local machine to the session.
- **Redirectprinters**: Allows local printers to be made available in the session.
- **Redirectclipboard**: Allows clipboard sharing between the local device and the session.

5 Create an image source virtual machine (VM)

To create an image source VM:

1. Navigate to the **Desktop Images** blade.
2. Select **New from Azure library**.
3. In the **Add Desktop Image** dialog box, set the configuration as follows:
    - **Name**: Enter a unique name.
    - **Azure image**: Select **Windows 11 (24H2) AVD + Microsoft 365 Apps – Gen2 (multi-session)**.
    - **VM size**: Select **D2s_v6**.
    - **Join to AD**: Unselect this option.
    - **Optimize disk type when desktop image is stopped**: Select this option.
    - **Enable Boot Diagnostics**: Unselect this option.
    - **Provide custom credentials for a local administrator user**: Toggle this option on.
        - **Username**: Enter the local administrator's username.
        - **Password**: Enter the local administrator's password.
    - **Geographic distribution & Azure compute gallery**: Toggle his option on.
        - **Azure Compute Gallery**: From the dropdown, select an Azure Compute Gallery.
        - **Azure region**: Select the required region.





4. Select **OK.**

Lab complete.

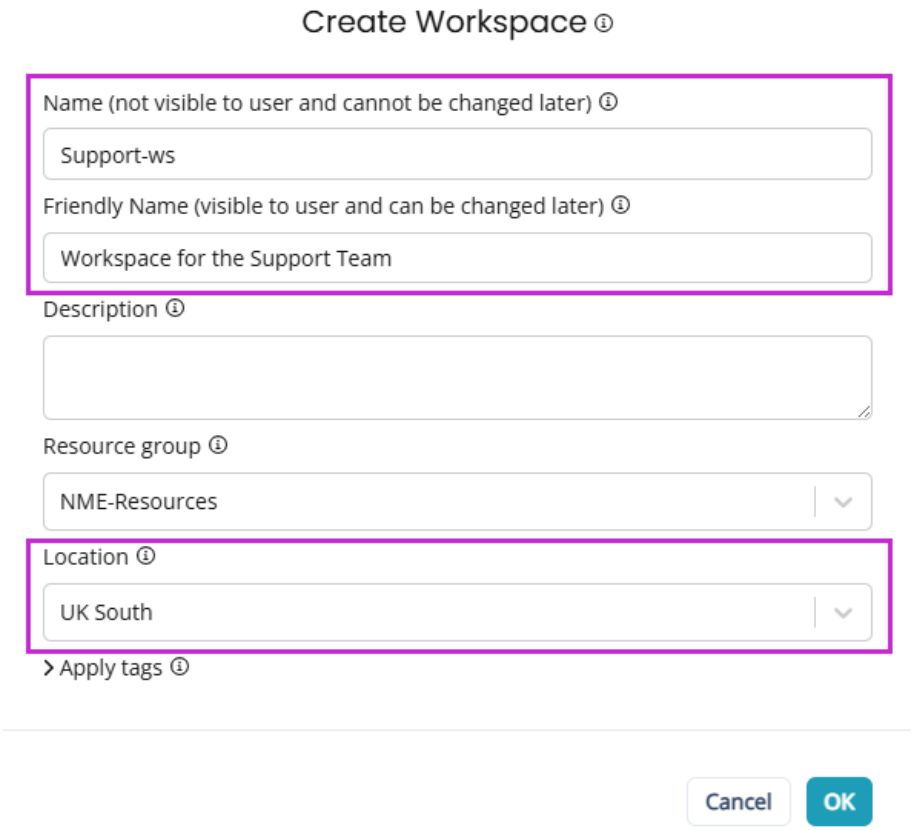
6 Create workspaces, host pools, and session hosts

Complete the following steps to create a new Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) workspace, a dynamic host pool, and a session host.

6.1 Create an AVD workspace

To create a workspace:

1. Navigate to the **Workspaces** blade.
2. Select **New Workspace**.
3. In the **Create Workspace** dialog box, set the configuration as follows:
    - **Name**: Enter a unique name.
    - **Friendly Name**: Enter a unique friendly name.
    - **Location**: Select a region that is close to you.



4. Select **OK**.

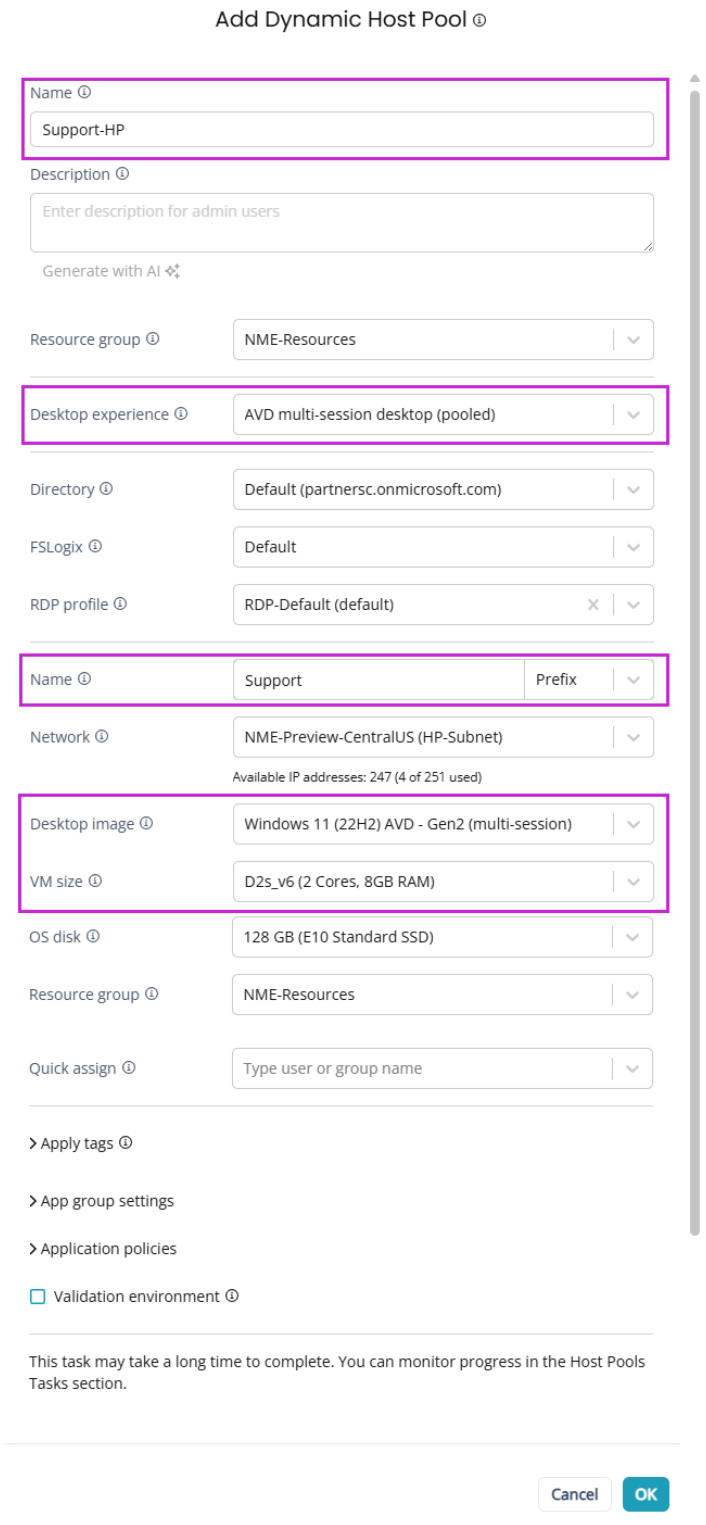
Section complete.

6.2 Create a dynamic host pool

To create a dynamic host pool:

1. In the **Workspaces** blade, find and select the workspace you just created**.**
2. Select **New Host Pool**.
3. In the **Add Dynamic Host Pool** dialog box, set the configuration as follows:
   - **Name**: Enter a unique name for this host pool.
   - **Desktop Experience**: Select **AVD multi-session desktop (pooled)**.
   - **Location**: Select a region that is close to you.

- **Name**: Enter a unique name for a host on this host pool.
- **Desktop image**: Select **Windows 11 (24H2) AVD + Microsoft 365 Apps – Gen2 (multi-session)**.
- **VM size**: Select **D2s_v6**.



4. Select **OK**.

5. The **Manage auto-scale configuration** page is opens.

Important! Do not enable auto-scale.

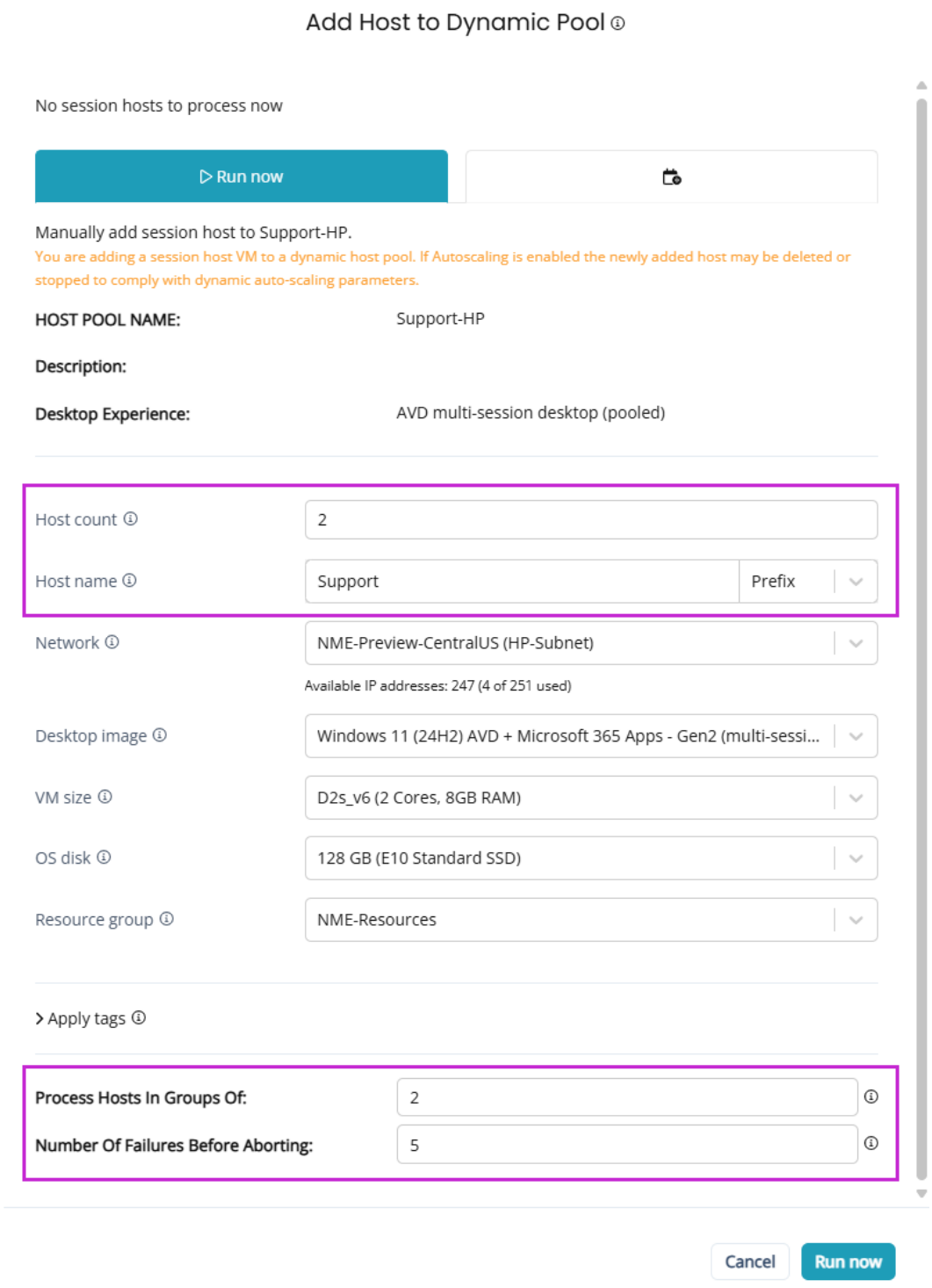
6. Select **Save & Close**.

Section complete.

6.3 Create session hosts

To create a session host:

1. Navigate to **Workspaces** > **Dynamic Host Pools**.
2. Find and select the host pool you just created**.**
3. Click **New Host.**
4. In the **Add Host to Dynamic Pool** dialog box, set the configuration as follows:
    - **Host count**: Set to **2**.
    - **Host name**: Enter a name.
    - **Process Hosts In Groups Of**: Set to **2**.
    - **Number Of Failures Before Aborting**: Set to **5**.



5. Select **OK.**

Lab complete.

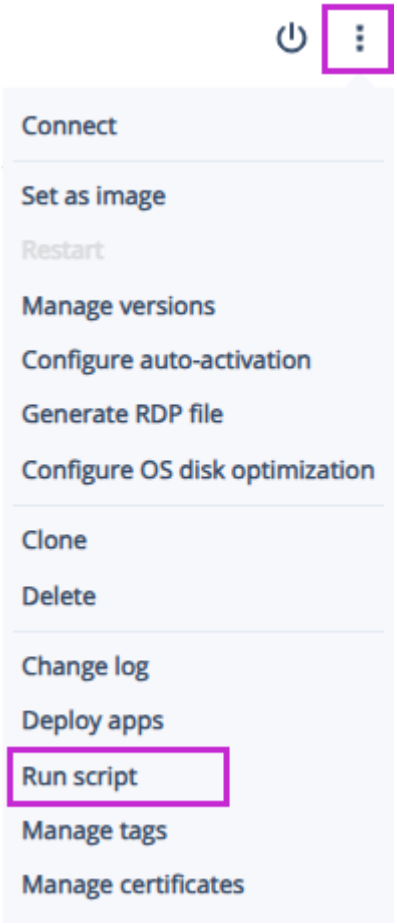
7 Update the desktop image

Complete the following steps to update the desktop image.

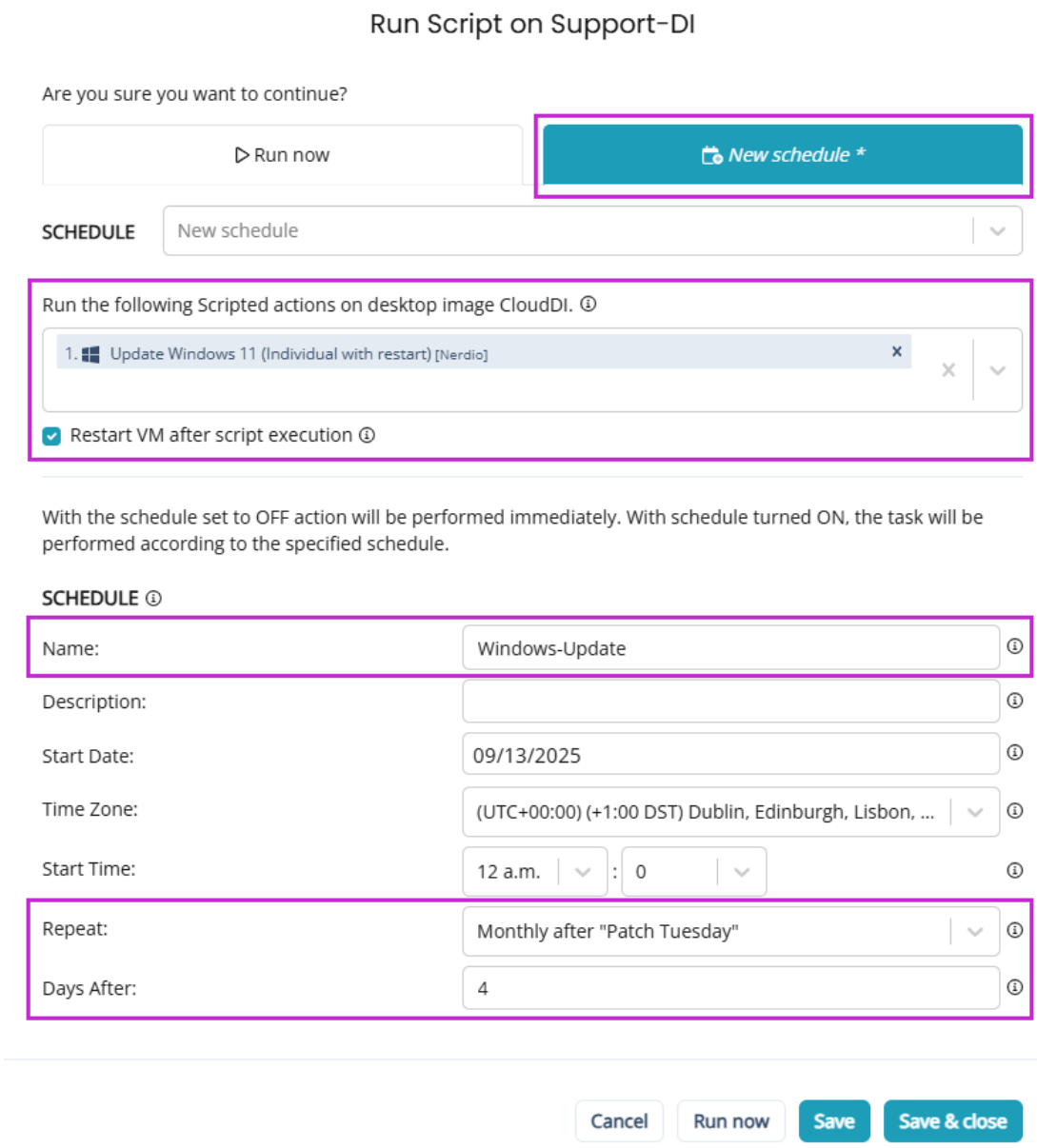
7.1 Schedule Windows update

To schedule Windows update on your desktop image:

1. Navigate to **Desktop Images**.
2. Find and select the image source VM you created in the lab: Create an image source virtual machine (VM).
3. From the more options menu, select **Run script**.



4. In the **Run Script** dialog box, select **New schedule**, and then set the configuration as follows:
    - **Run the following Scripted actions on desktop image**: Select **Update Windows 11 (individual with restart)** [Nerdio].
    - **Restart VM after script execution**: Select this option.
    - **Name**: Enter a name for the schedule.
    - **Start Date**: Select the current date.
    - **Repeat**: Select **Monthly after "Patch Tuesday"**.
    - **Days After**: Select **4**.



5. Select **Save & Close**.

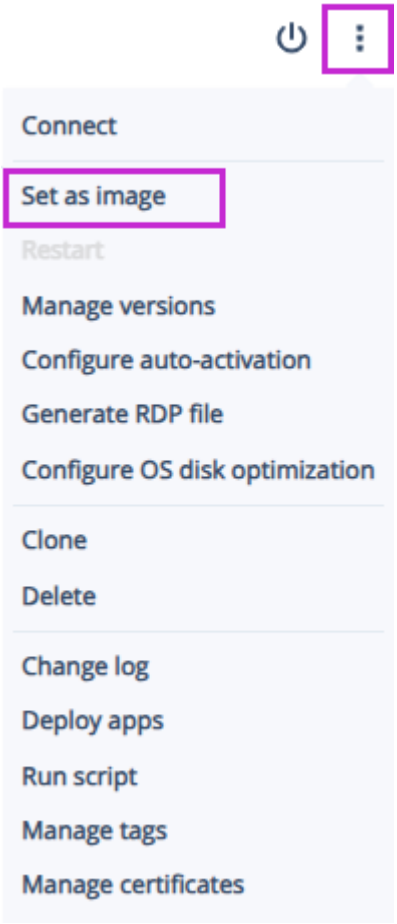
Section complete.

7.2 Stage desktop image

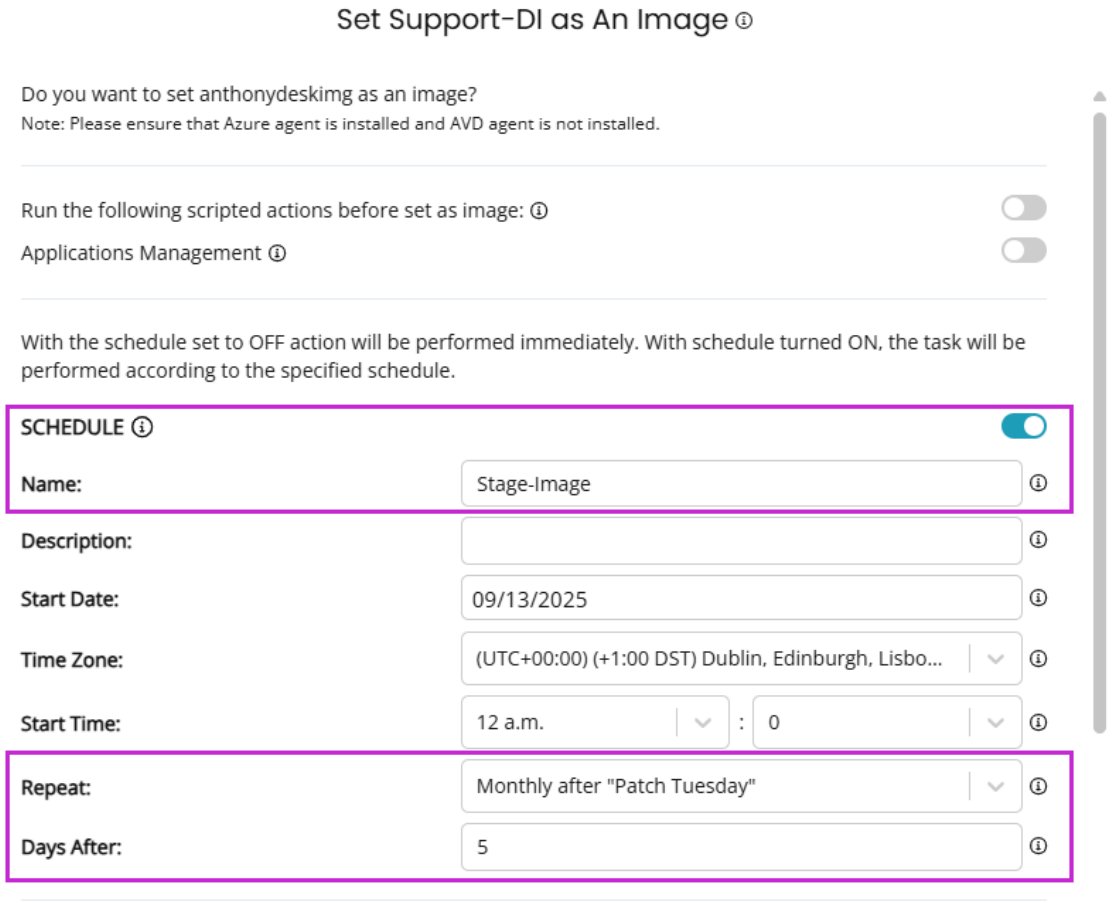
To stage the desktop image:

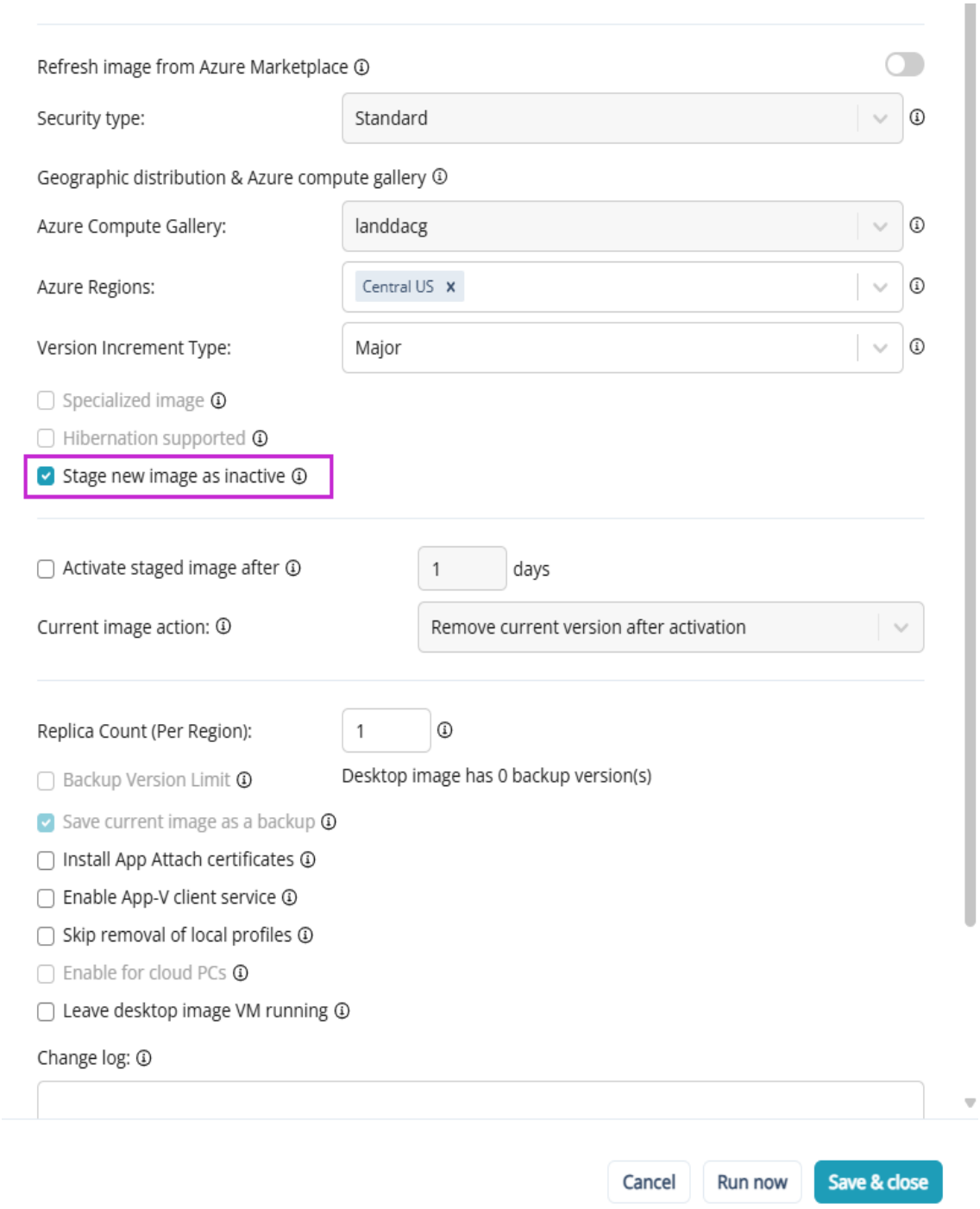
1. Navigate to **Desktop Images**.

2. Find and select the image source VM that you created in the lab: Create an image source virtual machine (VM).
3. From the more options menu, select **Set as image**.



4. In the **Set [your image name] as An Image** dialog box, set the configuration as follows:
   - **Schedule**: Toggle this option on.
   - **Name**: Enter a name for the schedule.
   - **Repeat**: Select Monthly after “Patch Tuesday”.
   - **Days After**: Select **5**.
   - **Stage new image as inactive**: Select this option.





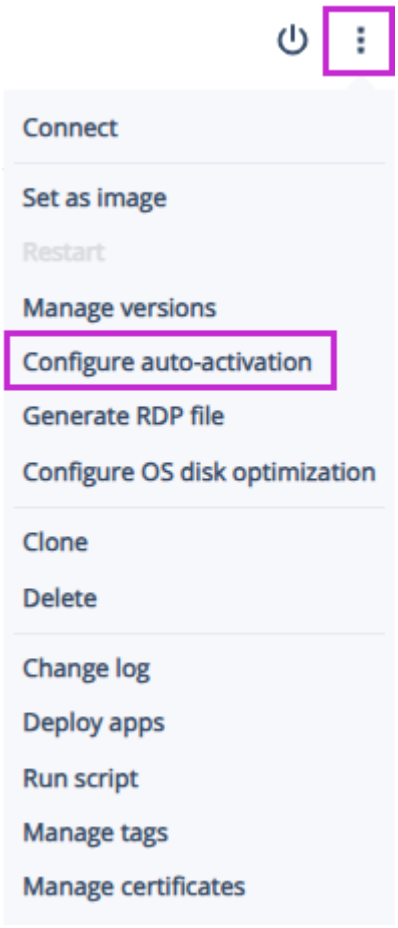
5. Select **Save & Close**.

Section complete.

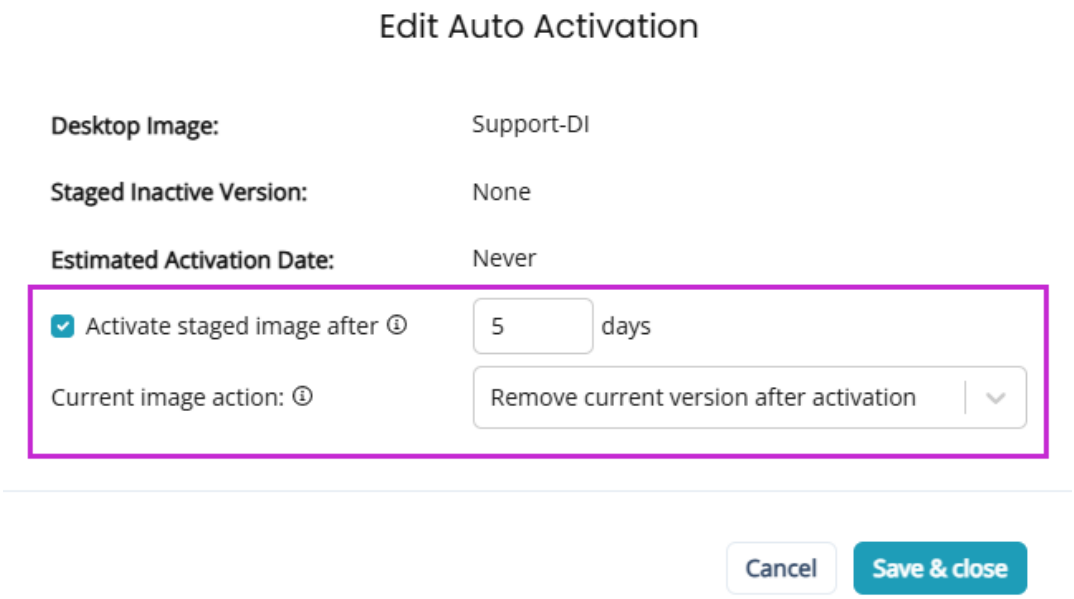
7.3 Configure staged image automatic activation

To configure staged image auto activation:

1. Navigate to **Desktop Images**.
2. Find and select the image source VM you created in the lab: Create an image source virtual machine (VM).
3. From the more options menu, select **Configure auto-activation**.

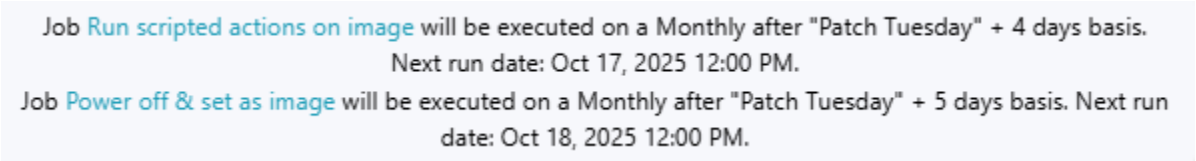


4. In the **Set as An Image** dialog box, set the configuration as follows:
   - **Activate staged image after**: Select this option.
   - **Days**: Select **5**.
   - **Current image action**: Select **Remove current version after activation**.



5. Select **Save & Close.**
6. Return to the **Desktop Images** page and find your image source VM.

   Under the **Last Updated** column, next to the date and time, you will see the **alarm clock** icon.
7. Select the alarm clock icon, and then review the details about what scheduled actions you have set on this image.

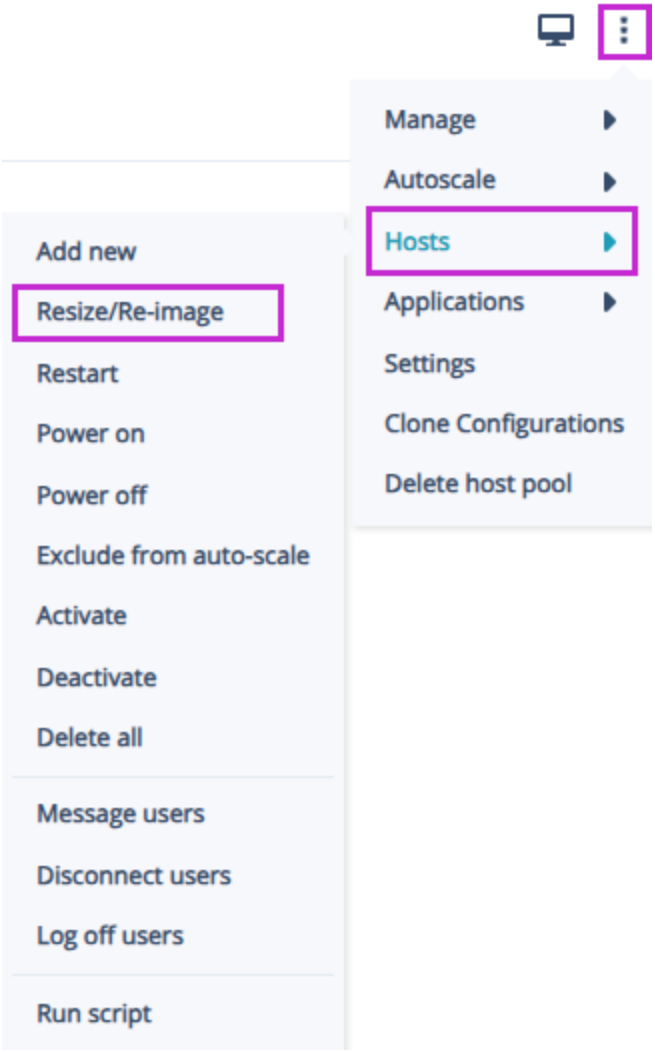


Lab complete.

8 Update the host pool

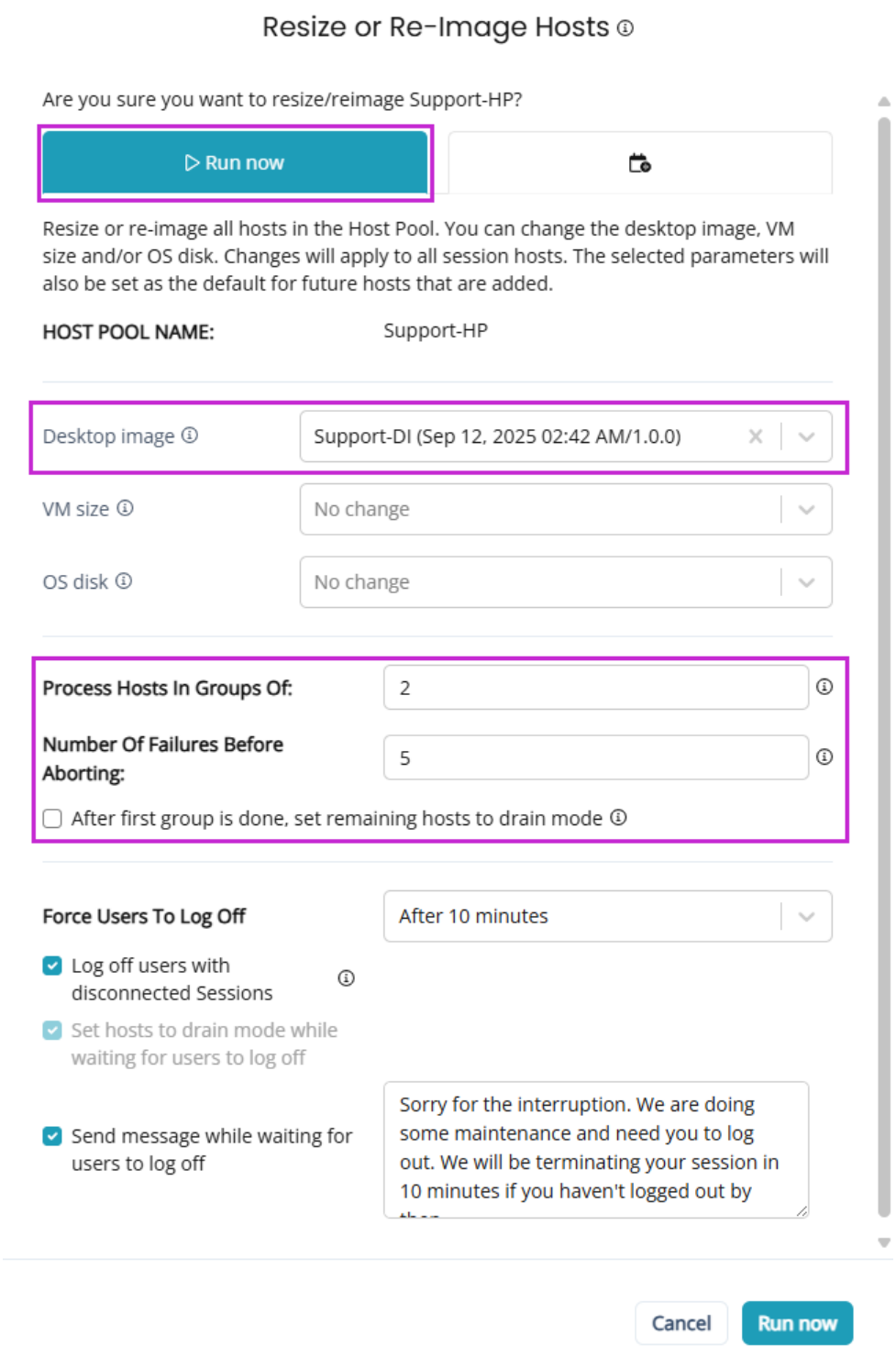
To update the host pool:

1. Navigate to **Workspaces** > **Dynamic Host Pools**.
2. Find the host pool you created in Lab 6.2: Create a dynamic host pool.
3. From the more options menu, select **Hosts** > **Resize/Re-image**.



4. In the **Resize or Re-Image Hosts** dialog box, set the configuration as follows:
   - **Desktop image**: From the dropdown, select the image you created.
   - **Process hosts in groups of**: Set to **2**.

- **Number of failures before aborting**: Set to 5.



5. Select **Run now**.

Lab complete.