



Alder Community High School

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Biometric Information

The school's wishes to use information about your child as part of an automated (i.e. digitally-operated) recognition system. The purpose of this system is to facilitate catering transactions to be made using students' fingerprint instead of by using cash.

The information from your child that we wish to use is referred to as 'biometric information'.

Biometric information and how it will be used

Biometric information is information about a person's physical or behavioural characteristics that can be used to identify them, e.g. their fingerprint. The school would like to collect and use the following biometric information from your child:

- Fingerprint to use the cashless catering system.

The school would like to use this information for the purpose of providing your child with a school meal so the child can access their account using their fingerprint as identification.

The information will be used as part of an automated biometric recognition system. This system will take measurements of the biometric information specified above and convert these measurements into a template to be stored on the system.

An image of your child's biometric information is not stored. The template (i.e. the measurements taken from your child) will be used to permit your child to access services.

The law places specific requirements on schools when using personal information, such as biometric information, about pupils for the purposes of an automated biometric recognition system.

For example:

- The school will not use the information for any purpose other than those for which it was originally obtained and made known to the parent(s) (i.e. as stated above).
- The school will ensure that the information is stored securely.
- The school will tell you what it intends to do with the information.
- Unless the law allows it, the school will not disclose personal information to another person or body.

Providing your consent/objection to the use of biometric data

Under the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012, we are required to notify each parent of a child and obtain the consent of at least one parent before being able to use a child's biometric information for an automated system.

Consent given by one parent will be overridden if the other parent objects in writing to the use of their child's biometric information. Similarly, if your child objects to the use of their biometric information, the school cannot collect or use the information for inclusion on the automated recognition system.

You can also object to the proposed processing of your child's biometric information at any time or withdraw any consent you have previously given. Please note that you must make any consent, withdrawal of consent or objection in writing.

Even if you have given your consent, your child can object or refuse at any time to their biometric information being collected and used – their objection does not need to be in writing. We would appreciate it if you could discuss this with your child and explain to them that they can object if they want to.

We are happy to answer any questions you or your child may have, please contact the school office with any questions.

If you do not wish for your child’s biometric information to be used by the school, or your child objects to such processing, the school will provide reasonable alternative arrangements for students who are not going to use the automated system to pay for school meals.

Please note that, when your child leaves the school or ceases to use the biometric system, their biometric information will be securely erased in line with the school’s Data Retention Policy.

