# DATA PROTECTION AND PARENTAL CONSENT



#### **Data and Consents**

You will be aware that new Data Protection Regulations are in place from May 2018. As part of this we have updated our Privacy Notices for both parents and students (included in this document) and our Data Protection Policy (available in full on our website).

It is vital that we maintain accurate information on you and your child.

All consents given are valid for the period of time during which your child attends the school, unless you choose to amend them in the meantime.

The vast majority of information that we request from you we do so for legal reasons in order to provide education to your child and to ensure they are kept safe whilst in our care.

The areas we seek your consent for are summarised as follows:

#### 1. Images

For all children, we will take their image through our approved school photographer in the Autumn term, and we will retain your child's image on our student database (in line with our published retention period) for purposes of identification.

Additional to this, we request your consent to take additional images and retain these for use in promotional materials both internal and external to the school, including celebrating student achievements.

If you choose to not give your consent your child will be excluded from any such photos or any photos taken with your child on will be deleted and not retained on our system. Please see Appendix A below (page 13) for full details.

#### 2. Administration of Paracetamol

We request consent to administer one dose of 1 x 500mg of **paracetamol** during the school day to your child if needed.

If you choose to not give your consent you will be contacted by telephone in the event this is needed, and none will be administered until we have obtained your verbal consent.

#### 3. General School Trips

We request consent for your child to attend any school trips arranged on a school day including as part of extra-curricular activities; these are generally integral to your child's learning experience and ensure they access the same range of experiences as their classmates. If you choose not to give consent you will be contacted to request your consent for each individual trip which results in a significant additional administrative burden for the school. Further specific consent would be sought for trips at weekend or in school holidays, plus residential or international trips.

Please see Appendix B below (page 15) for full details.

#### 4. Biometric Scanning

We request consent for us to take a biometric scan of your child's finger(s) and retain this on our system to enable your child to access both our catering system and our library system. If you choose not to give consent your child will be provided with a card to access these systems. If the card is lost or damaged you will be required to pay £2 for a replacement. Please see Appendix C below (page 16) for full details.

#### 5. Careers Services

We are legally required to pass on certain information about your child to Career Connect (Manchester Targeted Youth Support Services), as it has legal responsibilities regarding the education or training of 13-19 year-olds.

This information enables it to provide youth support services, post-16 education and training services, and careers advisers. We are legally required to provide, at minimum, your child's name, address and date of birth.

To assist with their analysis, when your child is in Year 11 we are required to seek your consent to provide further additional information as follows: name of college or apprenticeship your child has applied for, which college or apprenticeship your child has received an offer of a place at, and which college or apprenticeship your child decides to attend.

#### 6. Email newsletters

We issue a regular email newsletter to all parents communicating key information about forthcoming events and changes to the school. We also use the newsletter to celebrate achievements within the school.

We strongly encourage all parents to opt to receive this communication as otherwise it may result in you being unaware of key changes. You can amend your preference at any point ongoing either through Parent Lite or the unsubscribe option on the email.

#### 7. Student access to School Gateway

School Gateway is a web and app based communication system that we use primarily to communicate key information to parents including: attendance, achievement points and student reports. If we hold an email and mobile system on record for you, then as a parent you will be able to access the system and receive vital information about your child's learning experience with us.

We are keen to extend the use of the system to students, so that they can for example see live information on their own attendance and we can send them reminders about revision sessions, exam dates etc. We believe that, although not essential, this will help students to take responsibility for their own learning. To access the system, we need to obtain your child's email and mobile number. We are therefore seeking your consent for this. If you provide your consent, we will request this information from your child and in doing so, also obtain their consent. We will then support them to access the system and advise them how to get best use from it. If you choose not to give your consent, then we will not request this information from your child and they will therefore not access the system.

#### **CCTV System**

Within the school we operate a CCTV system. The system is used for the purpose of:

- The prevention, detection and investigation of criminal activity;
- The security of the premises;
- Safeguarding the safety of pupils, staff and visitors
- Identifying students engaged in significantly disruptive behaviour or vandalism to school facilities.

Images are stored on the system for 30 days before automatically deleted. On occasion images are saved whilst investigations are completed if the investigation will take longer than 30 days but are deleted once the investigation is complete or at a minimum termly.

Chorlton High School recognises the rights of staff, students and visitors to the school to make a subject access request for details of personal data held. Individuals whose images are recorded have a right to request to see and be issued with a copy of the images of themselves.

Requests for the above must be dealt with and the individual provided with a copy of any images within one month of the school receiving their request.

All requests to review or be issued with copies of images should, in the first instance, be made to the designated Data Protection Officer or his/her deputy. The individual requesting the image must, as part of their request, provide the school with details that identify themselves as the subject of the image.

More information can be found in our CCTV Policy which is accessible from our website.



#### **Privacy Notice for Parents / Carers**

Under data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how the School / Trust uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy notices' (sometimes called 'fair processing notices') to individuals where we are processing their personal data.

This privacy notice explains how we collect, store and use personal data about **pupils**.

We, the **PROSPERE LEARNING TRUST** are the 'data controller' for the purposes of data protection law.

Our Data Protection Officer is Andi Bryan (see 'Contact us' below).

#### The personal data we hold

Personal data that we may collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) about pupils includes, but is not restricted to:

- Contact details, contact preferences, date of birth, identification documents
- Results of internal assessments and externally set tests
- Pupil and curricular records
- Characteristics, such as ethnic background, eligibility for free school meals, or special educational needs
- Exclusion information
- Details of any medical conditions, including physical and mental health
- Attendance information
- Safeguarding information
- Details of any support received, including care packages, plans and support providers
- Photographs
- CCTV images captured in school

We may also hold data about pupils that we have received from other organisations, including other schools, local authorities and the Department for Education.

#### Why we use this data

We use this data to:

- Support pupil learning
- Monitor and report on pupil progress
- Provide appropriate pastoral care
- Protect pupil welfare
- Assess the quality of our services
- Administer admissions waiting lists
- Comply with the law regarding data sharing

#### Our legal basis for using this data

We only collect and use pupils' personal data when the law allows us to. Most commonly, we process it where:

We need to comply with a legal obligation

• We need it to perform an official task in the public interest

Less commonly, we may also process pupils' personal data in situations where:

- We have obtained consent to use it in a certain way
- We need to protect the individual's vital interests (or someone else's interests)

Where we have obtained consent to use pupils' personal data, this consent can be withdrawn at any time. We will make this clear when we ask for consent, and explain how consent can be withdrawn.

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using pupils' personal data overlap, and there may be several grounds which justify our use of this data.

#### **Collecting this information**

While the majority of information we collect about pupils is mandatory, there is some information that can be provided voluntarily.

Whenever we seek to collect information from you or your child, we make it clear whether providing it is mandatory or optional. If it is mandatory, we will explain the possible consequences of not complying.

#### How we store this data

We keep personal information about pupils while they are attending our school. We may also keep it beyond their attendance at our school if this is necessary in order to comply with our legal obligations. Our Data Protection Policy sets out how long we keep information about pupils.

#### **Data sharing**

We do not share information about pupils with any third party without consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

Where it is legally required, or necessary (and it complies with data protection law) we may share personal information about pupils with:

- Our local authority to meet our legal obligations to share certain information with it, such as safeguarding concerns and exclusions
- The Department for Education
- The pupil's family and representatives
- Educators and examining bodies
- Our regulator (Ofsted)
- Suppliers and service providers to enable them to provide the service we have contracted them for
- Financial organisations
- Central and local government
- Our auditors
- Survey and research organisations
- Health authorities
- Security organisations
- Health and social welfare organisations
- Professional advisers and consultants
- Charities and voluntary organisations
- Police forces, courts, tribunals
- Professional bodies

#### **National Pupil Database**

We are required to provide information about pupils to the Department for Education as part of statutory data collections such as the school census.

Some of this information is then stored in the <u>National Pupil Database</u> (NPD), which is owned and managed by the Department and provides evidence on school performance to inform research. The database is held electronically so it can easily be turned into statistics. The information is securely collected from a range of sources including schools, local authorities and exam boards.

The Department for Education may share information from the NPD with other organisations which promote children's education or wellbeing in England. Such organisations must agree to strict terms and conditions about how they will use the data.

For more information, see the Department's webpage on <u>how it collects and shares research data</u>. You can also <u>contact the Department for Education</u> with any further questions about the NPD.

#### Youth support services

Once our pupils reach the age of 13, we are legally required to pass on certain information about them to Career Connect (Manchester Targeted Youth Support Services), as it has legal responsibilities regarding the education or training of 13-19 year olds.

This information enables it to provide youth support services, post-16 education and training services, and careers advisers. We are legally required to provide, at minimum, your child's name, address and date or birth to Career Connect (Manchester Targeted Youth Support Services).

However, where a parent or guardian provides their consent, other information relevant to the provision of youth support services will be shared. This right is transferred to the child / pupil once they reach the age 16.

#### Transferring data internationally

Where we transfer personal data to a country or territory outside the European Economic Area, we will do so in accordance with data protection law.

#### Parents and pupils' rights regarding personal data

Individuals have a right to make a 'subject access request' to gain access to personal information that the school holds about them.

Parents/carers can make a request with respect to their child's data where the child is not considered mature enough to understand their rights over their own data (usually under the age of 12), or where the child has provided consent.

Parents also have the right to make a subject access request with respect to any personal data the school holds about them.

If you make a subject access request, and if we do hold information about you or your child, we will:

- Give you a description of it
- Tell you why we are holding and processing it, and how long we will keep it for
- Explain where we got it from, if not from you or your child
- Tell you who it has been, or will be, shared with

- Let you know whether any automated decision-making is being applied to the data, and any consequences of this
- Give you a copy of the information in an intelligible form

Individuals also have the right for their personal information to be transmitted electronically to another organisation in certain circumstances.

If you would like to make a request please contact our Data Protection Officer.

#### Other rights

Under data protection law, individuals have certain rights regarding how their personal data is used and kept safe, including the right to:

- Object to the use of personal data if it would cause, or is causing, damage or distress
- Prevent it being used to send direct marketing
- Object to decisions being taken by automated means (by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- In certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data corrected, deleted or destroyed, or restrict processing
- Claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the data protection regulations

To exercise any of these rights, please contact our Data Protection Officer (see Contact Us).

#### **Complaints**

We take any complaints about our collection and use of personal information very seriously.

If you think that our collection or use of personal information is unfair, misleading or inappropriate, or have any other concern about our data processing, please raise this with us in the first instance.

To make a complaint, please contact our data protection officer.

Alternatively, you can make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office:

- Report a concern online at <a href="https://ico.org.uk/concerns/">https://ico.org.uk/concerns/</a>
- Call 0303 123 1113
- Or write to: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

#### Contact us

If you have any questions, concerns or would like more information about anything mentioned in this privacy notice, please contact our **Data Protection Officer**:

Andrew Bryan – <a href="mailto:dpo@prospere.org.uk">dpo@prospere.org.uk</a> or 0161 436 3009. Prospere Learning Trust Piper Hill High School Firbank Road, Wythenshawe, Manchester, M23 2YS

This notice is based on the <u>Department for Education's model privacy notice</u> for pupils, amended for parents and to reflect the way we use data in this school.



#### **Privacy Notice for Pupils**

You have a legal right to be informed about how our school uses any personal information that we hold about you. To comply with this, we provide a 'privacy notice' to you where we are processing your personal data.

This privacy notice explains how we collect, store and use personal data about you.

We, the **PROSPERE LEARNING TRUST**, are the 'data controller' for the purposes of data protection law. Our data protection officer is Andi Bryan (see 'Contact us' below).

#### The personal data we hold

We hold some personal information about you to make sure we can help you learn and look after you at school.

For the same reasons, we get information about you from some other places too – like other schools, the local council and the government.

This information includes:

- · Your contact details
- Your test results
- Your attendance records
- Your characteristics, like your ethnic background or any special educational needs
- Any medical conditions you have
- Details of any behaviour issues or exclusions
- Photographs
- CCTV images

#### Why we use this data

We use this data to help run the school, including to:

- Get in touch with you and your parents when we need to
- Check how you're doing in exams and work out whether you or your teachers need any extra help
- Track how well the school as a whole is performing
- Look after your wellbeing

#### Our legal basis for using this data

We will only collect and use your information when the law allows us to. Most often, we will use your information where:

- We need to comply with the law
- We need to use it to carry out a task in the public interest (in order to provide you with an education)

Sometimes, we may also use your personal information where:

- You, or your parents/carers have given us permission to use it in a certain way
- We need to protect your interests (or someone else's interest)

Where we have got permission to use your data, you or your parents/carers may withdraw this at any time. We will make this clear when we ask for permission, and explain how to go about withdrawing consent.

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using your information overlap, and there may be several grounds which mean we can use your data.

#### **Collecting this information**

While in most cases you, or your parents/carers, must provide the personal information we need to collect, there are some occasions when you can choose whether or not to provide the data.

We will always tell you if it's optional. If you must provide the data, we will explain what might happen if you don't.

#### How we store this data

We will keep personal information about you while you are a pupil at our school. We may also keep it after you have left the school, where we are required to by law.

We have a [record retention schedule/records management policy] which sets out how long we must keep information about pupils.

#### **Data sharing**

We do not share personal information about you with anyone outside the school without permission from you or your parents/carers, unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

Where it is legally required, or necessary for another reason allowed under data protection law, we may share personal information about you with:

- Our local authority to meet our legal duties to share certain information with it, such as concerns about pupils' safety and exclusions
- The Department for Education (a government department)
- Your family and representatives
- Educators and examining bodies
- Our regulator Ofsted (the organisation or "watchdog" that supervises us)
- Suppliers and service providers so that they can provide the services we have contracted them for
- Financial organisations
- Central and local government
- Our auditors
- Survey and research organisations
- Health authorities
- Security organisations
- Health and social welfare organisations
- Professional advisers and consultants
- Charities and voluntary organisations
- Police forces, courts, tribunals
- Professional bodies

#### **National Pupil Database**

We are required to provide information about you to the Department for Education (a government department) as part of data collections such as the school census.

Some of this information is then stored in the <u>National Pupil Database</u>, which is managed by the Department for Education and provides evidence on how schools are performing. This, in turn, supports research.

The database is held electronically so it can easily be turned into statistics. The information it holds is collected securely from schools, local authorities, exam boards and others.

The Department for Education may share information from the database with other organisations which promote children's education or wellbeing in England. These organisations must agree to strict terms and conditions about how they will use your data.

You can find more information about this on the Department for Education's webpage on <a href="https://example.com/how/it/collects">how it collects</a> and shares research data.

You can also <u>contact the Department for Education</u> if you have any questions about the database.

#### Youth support services

Once you reach the age of 13, we are legally required to pass on certain information about you to Career Connect (Manchester Targeted Youth Support Services), as it has legal responsibilities regarding the education or training of 13-19 year olds.

This information enables it to provide youth support services, post-16 education and training services, and careers advisers. We are legally required to provide, at minimum, your name, address and date or birth to Career Connect (Manchester Targeted Youth Support Services).

However, where a parent or guardian provides their consent, other information relevant to the provision of youth support services will be shared. This right is transferred to the child / pupil once they reach the age 16.

#### **Transferring data internationally**

Where we share data with an organisation that is based outside the European Economic Area, we will protect your data by following data protection law.

#### Your rights

#### How to access personal information we hold about you

You can find out if we hold any personal information about you, and how we use it, by making a 'subject access request', as long as we judge that you can properly understand your rights and what they mean. If we do hold information about you, we will:

- Give you a description of it
- Tell you why we are holding and using it, and how long we will keep it for
- Explain where we got it from, if not from you or your parents
- Tell you who it has been, or will be, shared with
- Let you know if we are using your data to make any automated decisions (decisions being taken by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- Give you a copy of the information

You may also ask us to send your personal information to another organisation electronically in certain circumstances.

If you want to make a request please contact our Data Protection Officer (see Contact Us).

#### Your other rights over your data

You have other rights over how your personal data is used and kept safe, including the right to:

- Say that you don't want it to be used if this would cause, or is causing, harm or distress
- Stop it being used to send you marketing materials
- Say that you don't want it used to make automated decisions (decisions made by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- Have it corrected, deleted or destroyed if it is wrong, or restrict our use of it
- Claim compensation if the data protection rules are broken and this harms you in some way

#### **Complaints**

We take any complaints about how we collect and use your personal data very seriously, so please let us know if you think we've done something wrong.

You can make a complaint at any time by contacting our data protection officer.

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner's Office in one of the following ways:

- Report a concern online at https://ico.org.uk/concerns/
- Call 0303 123 1113
- Or write to: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

#### **Contact us**

If you have any questions, concerns or would like more information about anything mentioned in this privacy notice, please contact our **Data Protection Officer**:

Andrew Bryan – <a href="mailto:dpo@prospere.org.uk">dpo@prospere.org.uk</a> or 0161 436 3009. Prospere Learning Trust Piper Hill High School Firbank Road, Wythenshawe, Manchester, M23 2YS

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#### Appendix A - Use of Images / Media

The word images is used here to include photographs, digital photographs, webcam, mobile devices, film, sound, video and digital media recordings.

At Chorlton High School we believe that the responsible use of children's images can make a valuable contribution to the life and morale of the school. On a regular basis we use a wide range of images of the children in our school in our day to day work with children. These may be used within lessons and other learning activities, and in celebrating success through display, newsletters home and in specific activities such as assemblies or specific parents' events.

We regularly use a wide range of images in our regular communication with parents, newsletters, information sheets, the school's prospectus and parent handbook and in a range of other printed publications that we produce. We use a wide range of images /digital media on project display boards at our school, through our website, social media feeds and our Virtual Learning Environment. We may also make digital media recordings for school-to-school conferences, monitoring or other educational use. In addition we may also use a range of images to promote the good educational practice of the school to other teachers, e.g. at training events organised by the Local Education Authority or national education/government institutions.

From time to time, our school may be visited by the media who will take photographs or film footage of a visiting dignitary or other high profile event. Pupils will often appear in these images, which may appear in local or national newspapers, or on televised news programmes.

To comply with data protection regulations, we need your permission before we can photograph or make any recordings of your child for promotional purposes. This may include all or any of the following purposes:

- In our school prospectus and other printed materials that we produce for promotional purposes, both for our school and within the wider Prospere Learning Trust
- On internal school displays and internal materials used for supporting learning or other purposes
- On our website, internal intranet sites and social media feeds
- In external media / the media in general

Note we will seek additional consent should we send any images of your child to external media in which your child's name will be included directly linked to the image.

The school encourages children to take photographs and videos of each other as a way of recording events. This may take place in school, on school trips or on residential visits. In many instances use of cameras and portable media devices within school, on trips or visits is part of the learning experience. There is no reason why pupils should not be allowed to take images so long as anyone photographing/taking images respects the privacy of the person(s) being 'captured' and adheres to the school's acceptable use of digital technologies policy.

#### **Notes & Conditions:**

1. The consent you give is valid for the period of time your child attends this school unless you amend it during this period. The consent will automatically expire after this time.

- 2. We will not re-use any images after your child leaves this school unless we seek specific consent, for a specific purpose (e.g. for the development of the Chorlton High Alumni Network).
- 3. We will not use the personal details or full names (which means first name **and** surname) of any child or adult in an image in any of our printed publications or on our website, Virtual Learning Environment or Social Media Feeds without good reason and without seeking prior consent. For example, we may include the full name of a pupil in a newsletter to parents if the pupil has won an award.
- 4. If we name a pupil in the text, we will not use a photograph of that child to accompany the article without good reason. (See point 3 above.)
- 5. We will not include personal e-mail or postal addresses, or telephone or fax numbers in any of our printed publications or on our website, Virtual Learning Environment or Social Media Feeds.
- 6. We may use group or class images with very general labels, such as "a science lesson" or "Y9 Sports Day".
- 7. We will only use images of pupils who are suitably dressed, to reduce the risk of such images being used inappropriately.
- 8. **Please note** that the press are exempt from the Data Protection Act and may want to include the names and personal details of children and adults in the media.

#### **Appendix B - General Trips and Visits**

Chorlton High School believes that extra curricular activities, trips and visits are an essential part of providing a rich and varied school curriculum. As far as possible we strive to ensure that all students have access to a wide range of educational and extra curricular experiences during their time with us.

#### CONSENT FOR SCHOOL TRIPS AND OTHER OFF-SITE ACTIVITIES

Please provide your consent for trips and visits if you are happy for your child:

- a) To take part in school trips and other activities that take place off school premises; and
- b) To be given first aid or urgent medical treatment during any school trip or activity.

#### Please note the following important information before signing the consent:

- The trips and activities covered by this consent include;
  - o all visits (curricular or extra-curricular) which take place during normal school hours and out of school hours throughout the school year.
  - o off-site sporting fixtures during normal school hours and out of school hours throughout the school year.
- The school will send you information about each trip or activity before it takes place.
- You can, if you wish, tell the school that you do not want your child to take part in any particular school trip or activity.
- All off-site visits will be rigorously planned by a lead member of staff and each visit will have the appropriate staff supervision.

Written parental consent will not be requested from you for the majority of off-site activities offered by the school – for example, year-group/class visits to local amenities – as such activities are part of the school's curriculum and usually take place during the normal (or extended) school day.

Chorlton High School will ask parents to complete additional, detailed consent forms for certain activities such as:

- residential trips
- international visits
- visits which take place during the holidays or a weekend
- adventure activities at any time

Please ensure that you inform school of any changes to the health/medical needs of your son/daughter, or any other changes deemed relevant throughout the school year.

#### **Appendix C - Biometric Technology**

At Chorlton High School we currently use Biometric Technology to manage our Cashless Catering and Library Registration systems:

#### **Cashless Catering at Chorlton High School**

One of our aims is to improve the quality of the school meal service for our students and this system is central to having a first class catering provision.

The main advantages of such a system are that:

- It is a convenient way of paying for school meals. Students no longer need to carry money with them to school.
- It discourages the misuse of dinner money through spending in shops outside of the school grounds.
- It can alleviate many of the associated problems with the use of cash in schools (i.e. loss, theft and bullying).
- Specific food allergy ingredients can be barred automatically for individuals.
- Queuing times are reduced through increased speed of service at the till points.
- There is automatic meal allocation for those on free school meals removing the need to queue for tickets and allowing students to remain anonymous.

The system uses a digital code formed from a fingerprint to 'log on' individuals, at no point is an actual fingerprint stored on the system.

If you do not wish your son/daughter to have their fingers scanned (or they do not wish to) alternative access arrangements will be arranged. We will then issue a swipe card to enable them to access their account.

#### **Library Registration at Chorlton High School**

The library has a large range of Fiction and Non-fiction books, as well as magazines and newspapers. It is also equipped with the latest library automation software, which has the following benefits for students:

- 1. Students can search for books and resources via the library computer catalogue.
- 2. Students can borrow books at the touch of a button without having to carry around a library card.

The software used by the library to register students, uses fingerprint recognition instead of cards to allow students to take books out of the library. It works by using a small touch-pad that is able to recognise skin patterns from a student's thumb and translates these patterns into a series of numbers, which are unique to each student. The number is then encrypted and stored and becomes a student's membership identification number. It is important to emphasise that the fingerprint itself is not stored on the computer and it is not possible to reproduce on screen or print off any fingerprint. Any students who leave the school will have all their details deleted.

This software is common practice in schools around the country, which has been shown to increase borrowing from the library, particularly amongst boys.

If you do not wish your son/daughter to have their fingers scanned (or they do not wish to) alternative access arrangements will be arranged.

#### **Biometrics**

#### Bio - what?

Biometrics authentication is the automatic recognition of a living being using suitable body characteristics. By measuring an individual's physical features in an authentication inquiry and comparing this data with stored biometric reference data, the identity of a specific user is determined. There are many different biometric features that can be used for authentication purposes these include fingerprint, signature, iris, retina, DNA or any other unique characteristic. Once a characteristic has been chosen the next stage in the biometric process is authentication. A biometric feature is saved on to a database. Once the data has been stored, a new scanning of the biometric feature is taken. If the comparison is positive, access to the appropriate application is granted.



Make up of a fingerprint

#### A history of biometrics

Fingerprint technology is now being used at many locations around the country. Banks, supermarkets and now even schools and colleges are adopting this increasingly popular technology. Biometrics are not new, their roots have been traced back to ancient Egyptian times. The use of fingerprints as a security device started with Chinese officials using them to seal documents in the second century BC. Over the last few years the technology has begun to find favour commercially.

Whilst the use of Biometrics has been steadily growing over the last ten years, the past couple of years have seen an explosion in development, interest and vendor involvement.

### **Biometrics**



#### **Biometrics and Security**

Students, parents and staff can rest assured that the fingerprint images cannot be used by any other source for identification purposes. The system uses an image of the fingerprint to create a mathematical algorithm and then discards the fingerprint; only the numbers remain and these cannot be reinterpreted back into a fingerprint image.

Fingerprinting is purely voluntary and those not wishing to sign up will still be able to use a swipe card to access their account.

# The future is in your hands!



#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

# Why do you need to take my child's fingerprint?

By taking an image of your child's fingerprint we can turn this information into a digital signature.

# Can fingerprints be used by any other agency?

No, the software we use turns your child's fingerprint in to a mathematical algorithm. The image of the fingerprint is then discarded. The information that is stored cannot be used to recreate an image of the child's fingerprint.

## What happens when my child leaves the school?

When a student leaves school all data will be deleted.

#### How does it work?

When the child places his/her finger on the scanner, the software matches their finger print with the unique digital signature held in the database.

If you do not wish your son/daughter to have their fingers scanned (or they do not wish to) alternative access arrangements will be arranged.