



Dear Parent/Carer



Biometric System – Cashless Catering

Parklands High School uses a cashless catering system which allows the use of a pupils' fingerprint to make purchases from the canteen.

We believe this provides the school with a number of very significant benefits including:

- Reduction in administration time and cost dealing with lost or forgotten cards/passwords/PINs
- Reduction in opportunities for bullying as there is nothing that can be stolen for use by another student
- Reduction in the need for cash handling
- Reduction in queuing time

In order to comply with the provisions of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 we need written permission from a parent/carer.

If you do not wish for your child to use the Biometric System, they can be issued with a unique PIN number instead. If this is the case, you do not need to complete the form.

If you would like more information or the chance to discuss this further, please feel free to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Mr A Dowsing
Network Manager



IMPORTANT NOTES FOR PARENTS

Background to the use of biometrics in school

For the sake of clarity, biometric data is information about someone's physical or behavioural characteristics that can be used to identify them. There are many possible biometrics, including for example, a digital photograph, fingerprint, or hand shapes. As part of our identity management systems, we currently record a biometric measurement taken from a finger, but not a fingerprint image. The information is stored in a highly secure database and is only used by the school to confirm who is using a range of services. In future we may use other biometric services where appropriate.

Our chosen solution allows us to use a secure database holding biometric data for use with the cashless catering system in our canteen. This means we store the least amount of data possible. This reduces the risk of loss of data.

The data that is held cannot be used by any other agency for any other purpose. The school will store the biometric information collected securely in compliance with the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The school will not share this information with anyone else and will not unlawfully disclose it to any other person.

Current Legislation – The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012

This legislation requires schools to:

- Inform parents about the use of the biometric systems in the school and explain what applications use biometrics.
- Receive written permission from one parent/carer if the school is to process biometrics for their child.
- Allow children to choose an alternative way of being identified if they wish.

Should you agree to your child using the biometric system, is it important that you return the signed consent form. Please note that when he/she leaves the school, or if for some reason they cease to use the biometric system, their biometric data will be permanently deleted.



CONSENT FORM FOR THE USE OF BIOMETRIC INFORMATION IN SCHOOL

Please complete this form if you consent to your child using biometric systems at Parklands High School for use with the cashless catering system until he/she leaves the school.

I give consent to the school for biometrics of my child to be used by Parklands High School.

Name of pupil:

Form:

Name of parent/carer:

Signature of parent/carer:

Date:

