

Facial Recognition FAQs

What are biometrics?

Biometrics authenticates people based on their unique characteristics and identifies possible matches to ensure accurate and secure identification. Facial Recognition is a type of biometrics that we use in various aspects of life, including:

- **Security:** unlocking phones, accessing secure buildings, and logging into accounts
- **Identification:** faster check-ins at airports and hospitals
- **Convenience:** logging into computers and making payments for school meals

What pupil data is stored and where?

Biometric recognition operates on a closed-loop system, which means pupil data is stored on our secure database.

Can any other agency or 3rd party use the facial images?

No, the information is never shared, and the face template representing the pupils' faces is meaningless to anyone else. The software turns your child's image into a mathematical algorithm, and the stored information cannot be used to recreate the face image.

What happens when my child leaves the school?

All biometric data can be deleted; the school, as the data controller, can delete the data from its databases. You can opt out at any time, meaning the school will delete the biometric data.

What if I object to my child using Facial Recognition? Can my child still purchase school meals?

Parents and pupils reserve the right to object to the use of facial recognition. Any pupil who does not wish to opt in will be issued an alternative identification method, such as a PIN.

Is this technology 'live'?

No, catering staff must activate the process at the point of sale for pupils who have consented to use Facial Recognition. The system is not live; the cameras only capture pupils' images for the transaction process when the PoS staff activates the software.