

Cashless Catering using Impact Biometrics is coming to The Westleigh School

The Westleigh School is delighted to be working in partnership with CRBCunninghams Education Solutions to introduce Cashless Catering, using Biometric Registration, for our students and staff from Tuesday 7th May 2019

Cashless Catering is something the school has been considering for some time and our move to an Academy under The Shaw Education Trust has provided a perfect opportunity to make the change, which is commonplace across schools both in the local area and nationwide.

There are many benefits of a cashless system using biometric registration for all parties including:

Students

- Convenience – no need to carry money
- No card to carry or pin number to remember
- Efficiency – quicker movement through queues
- Ability to split free meals allowance between break and lunch

Parents

- Confidence that school dinner money is spent on school meals
- Supports our cashless society – no need to give child money
- Easy to put funds into students account online
- Removes perceived stigma of free meals passes

School

- No cash handling – reduces risk and cost
- Access to reports to support healthy eating ethos
- Encourages parents to access free meals entitlement, ensuring critical funding can be accessed

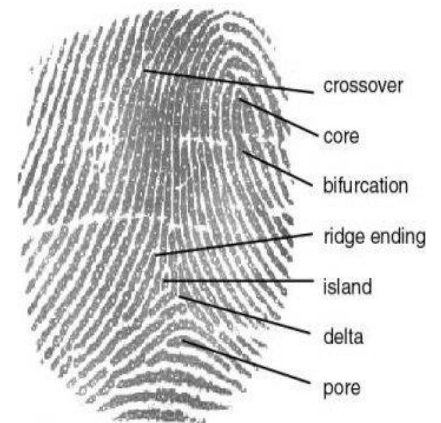
The cashless system will be set up using ParentPay, a system widely used across schools and which you may already be familiar with if you have a child in another school using this method of payment.

ParentPay will ultimately replace Wisepay as our online payment provider of choice, and will help us to move forward with our vision to become a completely cashless school by the end of the 2018/2019 School Year.

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What Are Biometrics?

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 finger image, 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.



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 finger to create a mathematical algorithm and then

discards the finger image; only the numbers remain and these cannot be reinterpreted back into a finger image

Frequently Asked Questions

Why do you need to take my child's finger image?

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

Can finger images be used by any other agency?

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

What happens when my child leaves the School?

When a student leaves school all data can be deleted very easily.

How does it work?

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

What if I do not want you to take my child's finger image?

We would ask you to contact school to discuss so we can reassure you, however here is an option to issue a PIN number to your child should you prefer this option