



Pershore High School

Quality education
for all in a
challenging,
supportive and
safe environment



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Dear Parent/Carer

Biometric Cashless Catering System

Pershore High School uses a biometric recognition system. The system is used nationally with teaching and administration systems such as cashless catering, library management, printing, door access, lockers and e-registration systems in many schools extremely successfully.

The system links to ParentPay, which is where you will be able to credit your child's lunch account at your convenience. ParentPay is also the system for paying for trips, music lessons etc and allows you to see what your child has purchased from the dining room. Your child will be able to check their credit limit at the tills and at further machines that are installed in school. The staff in the dining room are not able to accept cash from students, so please do not send any in with your child.

Ordinarily we would be letting you have a username now and then providing you with your password at a New Intake evening. Due to the current situation this year we will be sending these to you later in the term.

The cashless system will provide a number of very significant benefits including:

- Parents being able to monitor purchases within the school canteen.
- 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
- Students do not have to remember to bring a card
- 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 in order for students to use the biometric system. **Please complete and return the attached consent form.**

If you would like more information or the chance to discuss this further, please contact finance@pershore.worcs.sch.uk

Thank-you

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR PARENTS

Background to the use of biometrics in school

For the sake of clarity, biometric information 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 a range of services. 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 not use the biometric information for any purpose other than that stated above. The school will store the biometric information collected securely in compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998. 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 and the GDPR 25.05.2018

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 if the school is to continue processing biometrics for their child.
- Allow children to choose an alternative way of being identified if they wish.
- Children under 18 who do not have permission will not be able to use existing or new biometrics when using services in the school.

If you do not wish your child to use the biometric system we will provide reasonable alternative arrangements that allow them to access current and future services.

Should you agree to your child continuing to use the biometric system, it is important that you return the signed consent form below as soon as possible. Please note that when he/she leaves the school, or if for some other reason he/she ceases to use the biometric system, his/her biometric data will be permanently deleted.

If you would like to discuss this in more detail, please contact a member of the finance department.

CONSENT FORM FOR THE USE OF BIOMETRIC INFORMATION IN SCHOOL

Please complete this form if you consent to your child using biometric systems at Pershore High School for current or future use of cashless catering, library management, printing, door access, lockers, and e-registration systems until he/she leaves the school.

Once your child ceases to use the biometric recognition system, his/her biometric information will be securely and permanently deleted by the school.

I give consent to the school for the biometrics of my child to be used by Pershore High School for use as part of a recognition system as described above.	
I understand that I can withdraw this consent at any time in writing.	
Child's name:	
Name of Parent:	
Signature:	
Date:	