



CANSFIELD

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

06 October 2022

Dear Parent /Carer

We shall shortly be introducing a facial recognition biometric method which students will use to make purchases from the canteen. We have previously used a fingerprint biometric method but are now moving into a new phase of technology and will be using a facial recognition system. To enable the process to take place we require you to complete an [online form](#). I have set out below some frequently asked questions and a link to the opt-in form which you are required to complete.

Why are you using biometric recognition?

Biometric recognition converts physical characteristics into a unique digital signature that can be used to quickly and securely locate your child's cashless catering account. This helps speed up service and eliminates the requirement to carry cash or an alternative method of access, such as a card that can be lost or stolen.

How does it work?

When the child looks at a camera, the software reads key features (distance between facial features for facial recognition) and compares this against the database of registered users. When it finds a match it automatically opens their cashless catering account allowing the operator to complete the sale of their school meals.

Can these biometrics registrations be used by any other agency?

No, the software turns your child's physical characteristics into an encrypted string of characters known as a template. Even if someone were to be able to gain access to the data and

break the encryption, this template does not contain enough information to reverse engineer into anything which is usable.

What happens when my child leaves the School?

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

I don't wish to give permission for my child to participate with biometric recognition, can my child still purchase school meals?

Yes, an alternative method of authentication will be available.

What if I change my mind?

If you initially opt-in for your child to use biometric recognition but later change your mind, contact the school and we will remove the permission from the system which will automatically remove any biometric data associated with your child and provide your child with an alternative method of authentication.

Biometrics opt-in form: Please complete the [OPT-IN form](#) as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

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