



Sherburn High School

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Dear Parent/Carer

USE OF BIOMETRICS – LIBRARY SERVICE AND CASHLESS CATERING

The school uses Biometric technology in the Library and at the tills in our Food Hall which has undoubtedly improved the services we provide at the school. We are a **cashless school** and payment for all trips, meals and resources during the school year is done via Parentpay, a 24 hour online payment service where parents can pay by debit or credit card.

We are sure you will appreciate the advantages of using technology of this type which will be in the form of an image of your child's finger turned into a series of numbers which forms a digital signature. The software we use turns an image into a mathematical algorithm, the original image is not retained, and the information stored cannot be used to recreate an image of the child's finger. When the child places his/her finger in the scanner, this matches their finger with the unique digital signature held in the database. You can also be assured that we will not share any biometric information with any other individual or agency including the police and will delete the information when your child leaves the school.

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic we are unable to use the biometric system at this time. We are in the process of investigating a safe way to use our cashless catering system that does not involve contact with reading devices. We would however appreciate you giving consent to biometrically register your child now, in readiness for registration once it is possible to do so.

LIBRARY SERVICE

The Library Management System incorporates biometrics in order for students to borrow items from the library.

CASHLESS CATERING AND PARENTPAY

You will be issued with an activation letter for Parentpay at a future date. If you do not receive an activation letter to log onto Parentpay prior to your child starting with us, please contact the school as soon as possible and we can arrange to send one out to you. **Although you may have access to Parentpay via your child's current Primary School you will still need an activation letter so you can 'add a child' in order for you to pay for the resources and services available at Sherburn High School.**

Money can be paid into your child's school meal account (min £5.00 per transaction) via the Parentpay website, money spent on food will be taken out of the system and you can check at any time how much money your child has left. Parentpay is also able to provide you with a report detailing each item of food served to your child, each payment made to the system for any time period and also shows a current balance. We suggest using the 'Balance Alert' which sends you a text/email when your balance falls below a level you can set. This is a great reminder so that your child's balance never reaches zero.

The school has set a daily 'spend limit' programmed into the system of **£6.50**, this can be increased or decreased for an individual student by emailing finance@shs.starmat.co.uk. **Students will not be able to buy food directly at the dinner counters or top-up their school meal account using cash.**

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the catering or finance staff who will be able to assist you.

SWIPE CARDS

If you do not wish to register your child biometrically we can issue cards for the Food Hall, which your child will be responsible for, replacement cards are charged at £5.00 per card.

Please tick the appropriate box on the electronic admission form indicating that you have read and understood the information contained in this letter and you consent to your child's biometric registration.

