



9<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Reintroducing biometric readers into the restaurant as a payment method**

The school restaurant operates using a cashless system which eliminates the need for students to carry cash throughout the day. During the Covid-19 pandemic we used ID cards to process transactions at the tills. These are very fast and efficient; however, when they are left at home, forgotten or lost, then the system is very slow and open to errors.

As a result, we have taken the decision to reintroduce the biometric reader, as a backup to the card reader. This means that we can use the biometric reader if the student does not have their card with them.

Between now and the Easter holidays we will be capturing the necessary biometric data for those students who have not yet been registered on the system. Please be reassured that we will only capture the biometric data if you have already given consent. The biometric information taken is only an algorithm and not an actual thumb print.

As using the card readers is quicker than using the biometric readers, we would encourage those students who still have cards, which will remain valid, to use them in the restaurant. However, due to the additional cost to parents of the cards and the administration required in school to process the cards, we will stop issuing new or replacement cards after the Easter holidays.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Abbott  
Headteacher