



WITTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Old Coach Road, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire WR9 8BD

Telephone: (01905) 773362
E-mail: office@witton.worcs.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Cath Crossley

21st March 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Cashless Catering – Online e-payments for school meals

You will previously have received a letter regarding cashless catering, for your child to be permitted to use biometric 'fingerprint' technology in the canteen. Thank you for returning your consent form if you have already done so.

As outlined in the original letter, this is a fantastic new system that provides a range of benefits:

- No child will need to bring any cash into school to purchase food, whether they join us for breakfast at 8 am, enjoy a tasty treat at break time or have a lunch with us.
- More and more schools are finding that a finger print purchase system is much quicker, safer and more manageable.
- Parents and carers love the fact that they don't need to keep providing cash and can top up their child's account whenever it is convenient to do so.
- It reduces queuing time so children can get through much more quickly.

This new Cashless Catering System is **being implemented on Monday 29th April 2019** and, at the moment, applies only to school meals. Each pupil, for whom we have received consent, will have their **fingerprint taken on Tuesday 9th April 2019**. Your child will be asked to place their finger on a fingerprint scanner. The fingerprint is then converted to an encrypted unique code and stored on the school's database, rather than the actual fingerprint being stored. Your child will then bring home details of how to register with iPay. Once you register, you will receive an email to activate your account and set up your login credentials. You will then be able to make a payment to your child's account. You will receive an email receipt to confirm your payment.

Should your child be entitled to free school meals, their account will be automatically credited with £2.30 per day, therefore we will require your consent to take your child's fingerprint. If you wish to 'top-up' this amount, you can 'credit' their account.

From Monday 29th April 2019, the canteen will no longer be accepting cash payments for any food. All purchases will be made through the fingerprint system. If your child is not a regular school meal user and perhaps only purchases breakfast or food at break time on an occasional basis, we will still require your consent to fingerprint them. **If we do not receive your consent for fingerprinting, your child will be unable to purchase any food from the canteen after Friday 12th April 2019.**

Unless your child is entitled to free school meals you will need to credit your child's account after Friday 12th April so that they can purchase food from Monday 29th April onwards.

To ensure your child can continue to purchase food from the canteen, if you have not already done so, please complete and return the attached consent form by Monday 1st April 2019.

Yours sincerely



Cath Crossley
Headteacher

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To: School Office, Witton Middle School

BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION CONSENT FORM

Please return no later than Monday 1st April 2019

I am aware that Witton Middle School is using biometric finger scan technology for school catering services.

I give/do not give my consent for my child to participate in the scheme.

If you do not sign your child up to this system, we will be unable to sell or provide them with any food from the date of implementation, planned for Monday 29th April 2019.

Print pupil name _____ Class _____

Print name of parent/carer _____ Date _____

Signature of parent/carer _____