



March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Payment for school meals, potential future registration and printer access**

### **Notification of Intention to process biometric information**

The school wishes to use information about your child as part of an automated (i.e. electronically-operated) recognition system - this is for the purpose of paying for food in the canteen. We may introduce this for registration of students and for accessing printers in the future and would like to also request your permission for this if we do decide to introduce it to save you completing another form. The information from your child that we wish to use is referred to as 'biometric information' (see next paragraph). Under the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 (sections 26 to 28), we are required to notify each parent of a child and obtain the consent of at least one parent before being able to use a child's biometric information for an automated system.

If your child has a parent that does not live with them, can you please ensure that they are aware of this letter or advise us of their contact details so that we may send a copy to them.

### **Biometric information and how it will be used**

*Biometric information* is information about a person's physical or behavioural characteristics that can be used to identify them, for example, information from their fingerprint. The school would like to take and use information from your child's fingerprint and use this information for the purpose of paying for food in the canteen.

The information will be used as part of an automated biometric recognition system. This system will take measurements of your child's fingerprint and convert these measurements into a template to be stored on the system. An image of your child's fingerprint is not stored. The template (i.e. measurements taken from your child's fingerprint) is what will be used to permit your child to access services.

You should note that the law places specific requirements on schools when using personal information, such as biometric information, about pupils for the purposes of an automated biometric recognition system.

For example:

- a) the school cannot use the information for any purpose other than those for which it was originally obtained and made known to the parent(s) (i.e. as stated above);
- b) the school must ensure that the information is stored securely;
- c) the school must tell you what it intends to do with the information;
- d) unless the law allows it, the school cannot disclose personal information to another person/body.

**- Grow and Succeed -**

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### **Providing your consent/objecting**

As stated above, in order to be able to use your child's biometric information, the consent of at least one parent is required. However, consent given by one parent will be overridden if the other parent objects in writing to the use of their child's biometric information. Similarly, if your child objects to this, the school cannot collect or use his/her biometric information for inclusion on the automated recognition system.

You can also object to the proposed processing of your child's biometric information at a later stage or withdraw any consent you have previously given. This means that, if you give consent but later change your mind, you can withdraw this consent.

Even if you have consented, your child can object or refuse at any time to their biometric information being taken/used. Their objection does not need to be in writing. We would appreciate it if you could discuss this with your child and explain to them that they can object to this if they wish.

The school is also happy to answer any questions you or your child may have.

If you do not wish your child's biometric information to be processed by the school, or your child objects to such processing, the law says that we must provide reasonable alternative arrangements for children who are not going to use the automated system.

To give consent to the processing of your child's biometric information, please ensure you complete the consent section on the electronic admission form.

Please note that when your child leaves the school, or if for some other reason he/she ceases to use the biometric system, his/her biometric data will be securely deleted.

Yours faithfully



Mrs M John  
Headteacher

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