

# Parent Pay and the Cashless Catering System

The School is a cashless society through the implementation of the 'Parent Pay' and 'Cashless Catering' systems. By removing cash from the school it reduces the social risk to students, makes vast administration savings and gives parents a more convenient and flexible way to make payments for educational visits, learning resources, equipment and school lunches. Parent Pay gives peace of mind to parents that money is reaching the school safely and promptly and that lunch funds can be spent within the school on healthy meals.

## Parent Pay

Parent Pay offers parents access, through the school website, the ability to top-up or purchase items assigned to their child's account quickly and easily with a debit or a credit card. All parents will be provided with a secure online account which is accessed with a unique user ID and password. An electronic record of all payments can be viewed online at any time.

To enable an accurate operation some personal information will have to be transferred from the School to Parent Pay. This data will be held securely by Parent Pay under the strict guidelines of the Data Protection Act and, therefore is only used by parties directly involved with the system (Parent Pay & Cunninghams). The data that will be transferred will be name, date of birth, address and Free School Meals (FSM) entitlement. Parents will be responsible for adding their own account details to ensure the transfer of funds.

## Cashless Catering system (Cunninghams)

The cashless system allows us to recognise each individual student. We can hold balances, record spend and receipts, identifying what food and drink is consumed on any specific date and time of day. The cashless system is based on 'Biometric Finger patterns' which follow Government and BECTA guidelines. Each student has their finger pattern registered which is then translated into an alphanumeric number which identifies an individual. No images of 'fingerprints' are ever recorded.

## How do students obtain food and drink?

The student simply collects the food and drink items they wish to consume and then places their finger on a scanner at the point of sale. Café staff are able to see the balance on the account and any allergy or food restrictions which may have been notified to the school. The ability to make cashless transactions reduces the need for any student to carry money within school.

This also allows students claiming Free School Meals (FSM) to purchase food and drink in the café by placing their finger on a scanner at the point of sale. No other students will be aware of Free School Meals eligibility.

It is the students/parents responsibility to make sure that their School Lunch account is in credit.

#### **What are the limits to the amount that can be spent each day?**

If you wish to set a daily spend limit please contact the Finance Officer at Wallington County Grammar School, via the email system on the Parent Pay website or by emailing [accounts@wcgs.foliotrust.uk](mailto:accounts@wcgs.foliotrust.uk) and marking your email for the attention of the Finance Officer.

#### **What do I do if I have unreliable internet access at home?**

Parents who have unreliable internet access or who encounter difficulty in using their Parent Pay account are encouraged to contact the Finance Officer at Wallington County Grammar School, to discuss alternative arrangements.