

Cashless Catering - Parental Consent Required

The cashless catering system that we operate here at Marlborough incorporates the latest biometric fingerprint technology (this stores numerical values derived from fingerprints and not the actual image of a fingerprint), with the following advantages:

- Increased speed of service reducing queuing times in the canteen
- We have a Pre-Order machine available for students to order and pay for their food at break time, it will print a receipt they will use to collect their food at lunchtime – bypassing the queues.
- Facility to pay On-Line through School Gateway
- Ensures that dinner money is spent in the school canteen and not in shops on the way to school
- Removes potential issues associated with students having money in school, such as loss
- Allows parents to view online details of the purchases their son/daughter has made
- Assists students in learning about money management – students can view their balance each time that they make a purchase
- Complete anonymity for students that qualify for a free school meal. Their daily allowance is credited to their account automatically. The free meal allowance can only be used at **lunchtime**. Parents can still top up the account to allow for extra purchases. Enclosed is a leaflet outlining the eligibility criteria and application details should you feel you might qualify.

As per current legislation we are required to obtain written permission from parents to use fingerprint recognition technology. Without your written consent we cannot register your child and we would therefore be grateful if you could complete the enclosed Biometric Consent Form and return it to the school office as soon as possible.

If you prefer your child to opt out of the biometric fingerprinting system we will issue a 4 digit PIN for them to access the catering and library systems. Your child will need to come the main school office to receive their PIN. *It will be the responsibility of your child to remember their PIN and keep it secure at all times.*

If you would like further information regarding cashless catering, please refer to the school website. We will write to you separately with instructions on how to create an on line catering account through a system called School Gateway which will allow you to top up your child's catering account on line.

If you have any queries regarding cashless catering please contact the school office via email catering@marlborough.herts.sch.uk or by phoning 01727 731321 and we will be happy to help.