



Dear Parent/carer

We are pleased to announce Aspens will be our new school caterers from September 2018. They already supply two other secondary schools in the borough and we feel they will bring both better quality food and value to the school, as well as providing a wider range and cost effective choices for you son/daughter to choose from whilst at school.

One of the first steps Aspens is taking is the installation of a new and improved cashless catering system. This system is already in use in other local schools and will allow us to continue to develop the school meal service and will enable us to provide a more efficient, streamlined and better quality service.

The new system incorporates the latest technology and is *biometric* (similar to the technology on smartphones), students will not need to have their Streetbase card as the system will recognise their thumb print. We believe that this system will be more secure and will reduce errors at the till.

Please note:

- there are no images taken of the thumb print, it generates an individual 256 bit number;
- an individual must be present to make a purchase;
- this system is compliant with the new Department for Education guidance on the protection of biometric information.

The new system will begin operating on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> of September** and Streetbase Cards will not be accepted at the till points after the end of the term on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

The process for topping up students accounts via ParentPay remains unchanged. If you had a daily 'spend limit' this will transfer this over to the new system. Limits can be increased or decreased for an individual student either by a written request, email or phone call to the School Office.

In line with current legislation we will be operating an 'Opt In' policy and therefore require you to complete the attached form. If you choose not to have your child registered on the biometric system a 4 digit PIN code will be allocated. However, there will be limited availability to use the PIN codes at the till points. Please also note that PIN codes do not have the same level of security as biometric and it will be your son/daughter's responsibility to remember the code and keep it secure at all times.

The attached form should be returned to the School Office before the end of term on Thursday. **All students who return their by the end of term will receive a free meal on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September.**

Any forms not returned by 12.30pm on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July** can be returned during the summer break, no later than **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> August**. Forms can be posted marked for the attention of the Mrs Stone or alternatively can be placed in the box that will be available at the Castle Green Reception throughout the 6 weeks holiday.

There is information available on the school website. If you have any questions regarding this process there will be a parents' information evening in the school dining area on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> of September** between 4pm – 5pm where you will be able to have any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely

Mr. Donovan  
Assistant Head Teacher

Student name \_\_\_\_\_

Form group in September 2018 \_\_\_\_\_

I/We confirm that we give permission for the student named above to be registered on JRCS Biometric Cashless Catering System with immediate effect.

I understand that I/we may withdraw my permission at any time by contacting the school either in writing or by emailing [office@jorichardson.org.uk](mailto:office@jorichardson.org.uk).

Relationship to child: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent/carer: \_\_\_\_\_

The individual templates are encrypted using a 256 bit AES key that is built into the scanners hardware. Also the persisted file is encrypted using a different 256 bit AES key built into the matching algorithm supplied by Secugen and generated by a unique license purchased for each site. This is more secure than the ANSI and ISO standards that government department's use as the Secugen Template is encrypted and the ANSI and ISO standards are not. The template data is useless and cannot be interpreted back into a usable fingerprint image. If this was not the case then there would be no world standards and performance measures for such technologies. The data is stored in an array in the RAM of the Biometric Controller and is also permanently stored on the hard drive of the Bio Controller to be restored in the event of a reboot.

Below is an example of a template code for an individual finger.

```
0X417741414142514141414445415141414151415341414D415A41414141414174774541414C714777346C5869656  
D6C574945494A764A6B42466D6837616C4E764D704F517874517A706A4A395A31784935686C4177395366726E7776  
45576357386C4573314B426F47443166694170675559704C763168423642682A7043
```

The solution is secure because the matching can only be done by the individual's consent as the finger has to be presented to the device for matching. We do not hold images of fingerprints in our system.

The technology provided for this method of identification meets with BECTA guidelines and also allows students the option to opt out of the scheme and use a PIN number instead.

Also under the data protection act the school or caterer (the originator of the data) cannot allow access to this data by anyone for any other means than for the purpose the data was collected and that is to identify an individual within the solution we supply. Any biometric data that belongs to an individual that leaves the school is purged which also is in line with the BECTA guidelines.