

## Biometric Identification Systems

The School uses a biometric fingerprint identification system in the canteen and the library. The software packages used turn the fingerprint into a number and it is the number itself, not the fingerprint, which is stored. The number is then encrypted for further security. This stored information **cannot** be used to recreate an image of the fingerprint.

Under new government legislation, we are required to have parental approval for your child to use these systems.

You can opt out of this should you prefer that your child does **not** use these systems, a membership card can be issued in the library and a swipe card can be provided for the canteen. (Replacement swipe cards will cost £10)

Please complete the permission slip below and return to Mrs Kirsty Smith who will arrange for these cards to be issued.



.....

**I do not wish my child to use biometric identification and require a canteen and a library swipe card to be issued. I am aware that if the canteen swipe card is lost there is a charge of £10 for any replacement.**

Name of student.....

Year and tutor group.....

Name of Parent or Guardian.....

Signed.....

Return to Mrs Kirsty Smith

# **Biometrics are Used at Bishop Stopford School**

We use a biometric identification system in the library. It allows secure issue of library books without the inconvenience of membership cards. We also use this in the canteen to support the cashless catering system. It has proved to be effective and easy to use in both venues.

## **Biometrics and Security**

Students, parents and staff can rest assured that the fingerprint images cannot be used by any other source for identification purposes. The system uses an image of the fingerprint to create a mathematical algorithm and then discards the fingerprint; only the numbers remain and these cannot be reinterpreted back into a fingerprint image. Fingerprinting is voluntary and those not wishing to sign up will still be able to use a library membership card or a swipe card for the canteen (replacement cost £10)

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Why do you need to take my child's fingerprint?**

By taking an image of your child's fingerprint we can turn this information into a digital signature

### **Can fingerprints be used by any other agency?**

No, the software we use turns your child's fingerprint in to a mathematical algorithm. The image of the finger print is then discarded. The information that is stored cannot be used to recreate an image of the child's fingerprint

### **What happens when my child leaves the School?**

When a student leaves school all data can be deleted very easily.

### **How does it work?**

When the child places his/her finger on the scanner, the software matches their finger print with the unique digital signature held in the database