

8 July 2010

Dear Parents/Carers

BIOMETRICS AT KINETON HIGH SCHOOL

Biometrics is being introduced at Kineton High School in order to improve and modernise our cashless catering system. It will be used instead of the swipe cards and will go live before the end of this term.

Attached is some information which will answer your questions.

If you do not wish your child to be included please complete and return the opt-out form below by Thursday 15th July. In this case your child will be able to continue using their swipe card.

Yours sincerely

Fiona Hawkins
School Business Manager

Impact Biometrics Opt-out Form

I do not wish my child to be included in the Impact Biometric registration process.

Name of student: Form:

Name of Parent/Carer:

Signed: Date:

Bio – what??

Biometrics authentication is the automatic recognition of a living being using suitable body characteristics. By measuring an individual's physical features in an authentication inquiry and comparing this data with stored biometric reference data, the identity of a specific user is determined. There are many different biometric features that can be used for authentication purposes these include fingerprint, signature, iris, retina, DNA or any other unique characteristic. Once a characteristic has been chosen the next stage in the Biometric process is authentication. A biometric feature is saved on to a database. Once the data has been stored, a new scanning of the biometric feature is taken. If the comparison is positive, access to the appropriate application is granted.



Biometrics and Security

Students, parents and staff can rest assure 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 purely voluntary and those not wishing to sign up will still be able to use a pin number.

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. This unique image will then be used to replace their current swipe card.

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.