

Biometrics FAQs

Q What is a Biometric System?

A A Biometric System is a solution which is purpose designed to meet the ever evolving needs and demands by today's schools. We have two biometric systems at Rossett:

- a cashless catering system – which means that students do not need to carry money around school with them, and
- in the Resource Centre to enable students to take out and return library books.

Q What is Biometric?

A Biometric is simply a method of identifying an individual person. We will be using an algorithm based scan, which reads between 50 and 130 points on the finger/thumb. It is not a fingerprint in any way, shape or form and is of use only in the school's biometric system.

Q How does a Biometric System work?

A The information of a student or member of staff who has been biometrically registered, is stored on a secure Biometric Controller within the school. Once an account is credited the student or member of staff places their finger/thumb on the EPOS Terminal, which looks up their account details and allows them to purchase food and drink and/or access library facilities using only this method of identification.

Q How does my child register on the Biometric System?

A Provision will be made for new students to Rossett to register on the biometric system, once we have received permission from parents.

Q What methods of payment can be used to credit the cashless catering account?

A Any amount can be credited to an account by the following methods.

- Electronic secure online payment system – this allows parents/carers to make secure online payments using either a debit or credit card which will be credited to your child's cashless catering account the following day. Information regarding the online payment system will be sent to you separately.
- Cash at the Revaluation Machines – A revaluation machine is sited in the blue dining hall. This can be used to top up accounts by the student placing their finger/thumb on the sensor and paying money into the machine. It will accept the following:
£20, £10, £5 notes £2, £1, 50p, 20p, 10p, 5p coins (Please note – copper coins are not accepted)
- Parents or students can pay by cash or cheque direct to the Finance Office during the school day.

Q How can I check the credit on an account?

A Once registered for online payments parents will have full access to all transactions. Students can also check their credit at the revaluation machine – the current balance is displayed when your child places their finger/thumb on to the machine.

Q Can I set a daily 'spend limit'?

A Yes – The daily 'spend limit' may be changed by written request by the parent/carer to the Finance Office.

Q How does 'free school meal' entitlement work?

A All 'free school meal' entitlements will be entered on to the cashless catering system which automatically allocates the appropriate accounts with the 'free school meal' amount on a daily basis. Students entitled to receive 'free school meals' will remain anonymous at all times as all account types are accessed in exactly the same way regardless as to whether paid for or not. Please note that any monies not spent from the daily 'free school meal' allocation will not be carried over to the next day. Parents may also add additional credit to these accounts if necessary.

Q Can anyone else use my child's account?

A No – due to the extensive security on biometric templates no other student will be able to access your child's account.

Q Can I view a report of my child's meal intake?

A Yes – once registered for online payments, parents will have full access to all transactions including dietary habits.

Q What happens to my child's biometric information when they leave Rossett?

A When a student leaves Rossett their fingerprint algorithm is permanently deleted from the biometric systems.

Consent for processing of biometric information

Name of child: _____ Date of Birth: _____

I confirm that I have read the literature relating to the processing of biometric information at Rossett School and give permission for the biometric data for my child to be collected for the purposes detailed.

Name of Parent/Carer: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____