

PARENT AND PUPIL CONSENT FOR USE OF BIOMETRIC INFORMATION IN SCHOOL (required)

Note: during the pandemic alternative arrangements have been in place to avoid the use of fingerprints but we intend to return to the use of this system when appropriate.

We would like to use 'biometric information' about your son as part of an automated (i.e. electronically operated) recognition system. Biometric information is information about a person's physical or behavioural characteristics that can be used to identify them. We would like to take and use information from your son's fingerprint for the purpose of providing your son with access to the school premises and specific areas, cashless catering, library and other resource loans and the sixth form daily registration system.

The system will take measurements of your son's fingerprint and convert these measurements into a template to be stored securely on the system. An image of your son's fingerprint is not stored. It is not possible to create an image from the data held and the data is not usable in other systems (such as police databases) for the purpose of comparison of images. The template (i.e. measurements taken from your son's fingerprint) is what will be used to permit your son to access services. The data is accurate enough to use within a school with up to a few thousand users, but the information stored becomes unreliable when used against a larger population.

In order to be able to use your son's biometric information, the written consent of at least one parent is required. Consent given by one parent will be overridden if the other parent objects in writing to the use of their son's biometric information. Similarly, if your son objects to this now or at any time in the future, the school cannot collect or use his biometric information for inclusion on the automated recognition system.

You can also withdraw any consent you have previously given by writing to the Data Protection Officer at the school address.

We would appreciate it if you could discuss this with your son and explain to him that he can object to this if he wishes. The school is also happy to answer any questions you or your son may have. If you do not wish your son's biometric information to be processed by the school, or your son objects to such processing, the law says that we must provide reasonable alternative arrangements to give access to the things the automated system provides.

Further information and guidance can be found via the following links:
Department for Education's "Protection of Biometric Information of Children in Schools – Advice for proprietors, governing bodies, head teachers, principals and school staff":
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protection-of-biometric-information-of-children-in-schools>

Please answer the questions in the online registration form to let us know if you, and your son, consent to us taking and using information from your son's fingerprint as part of our automated biometric recognition system until he either leaves the school or ceases to use the system. Once your son ceases to use the biometric recognition system, his biometric information will be securely deleted by the school.