

1st March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Biometric (Fingertip) Cashless Catering System supplied by Vericool for Schools

As part of your child's enrolment at GPUTC they will be having two of their fingertips scanned in order to capture the digital signatures so all future purchases can be made by fingerprint recognition. The scanning process is very simple: Vericool's scanner lights up the fingerprint and effectively takes a photograph (which is termed as capturing the image). A normal camera's data image is stored as one entire image so that it can be reproduced many times. The fingerprint scanner's data image is slightly different. Most of the data is discarded and only a limited number (approximately 120) of random points on the fingerprint are retained. The random points are not stored as an image but are converted, using a mathematical process, into what is essentially a string of numbers. Owing to the fact that the fingerprint's image has not been captured it is impossible to 'recover' the total image. The individual strings can only be used by GPUTC and will only be stored on our database whilst your child remains on roll.

The system has a number of advantages:

- Students won't forget or lose the method of payment
- Lending/borrowing is not an issue

ParentPay Online Payment System

GPUTC use ParentPay as we are cash free school. The online payment system is used to pay for school meals, trips and any other item that requires payment in the school.

You will receive details of your secure online account before your child starts at GPUTC, which can be activated using a unique username and password. As soon as your account has been activated you will be asked to change the issued login details to ones which are secure and easy to remember. If you have more than one child at GPUTC you will be able to merge all of your children's accounts in one single account.

Making a payment is straightforward and you will be able to start making online payments as soon as your account has been successfully activated. All of your online payment details will be held by ParentPay and you will be able to refer to your payment history at any time. Payments into the account can be made using debit or credit card(s).

PayPoint

If you do not have access to the internet, payment can be made via one of the local PayPoint outlets.

PayPoint payments are recorded by Parent Pay and can be seen by logging into your online Parent Pay account and viewing your payment history. Please note that payments may take up to three working days to appear on your account. PayPoint Outlets can often be found in Spar, Coop, Martins and NISA stores. Please click this link which will assist you in finding your local PayPoint store [Local PayPoint Stores](#).

Please notify GPUTC's Finance Department at finance@gputc.org if you wish to use the PayPoint facility. A plastic card will be issued to you to make cash payments for school meals at local PayPoint Stores. The first card is free of charge; however, any lost or damaged cards will be charged at £2.50 each.

Trip and activity information letters will carry a unique barcode which will enable you to make cash payments at your local PayPoint store.

If you wish to speak to a member of staff regarding either of the above arrangements, or to discuss alternative methods, please contact one of the following:

Finance Department – 01733 715950

Mr L Taylor (CMAT Customer Services Manager) – 01733 368300

I will write to you again shortly in order to provide further details regarding your Parent Pay log in details and how to activate your account.

Kind regards



Mandy Nightingale
Administration Office Manager