

Privacy Notice – Use of Biometric Data

Use of Biometric Data

Discovery Educational Trust (DET) and its Schools use biometric data to provide cashless payment for school meals.

DET and its Schools do this to enable pupils to easily and quickly purchase and consume their lunch within the available lunchtime period. There are clear benefits to the pupil of this approach, which include them being unable to mislay their biometric data, and them being no longer required to bring cash into school, which could be lost.

All pupils and parents/carers are provided with a factsheet to explain how the biometric process works to enable them to provide informed consent. If a parent/carer or pupil withdraws consent, or does not consent initially, DET/its Schools do not collect and use their biometric data for this purpose. They ensure that there is an alternative method for pupils to purchase a school lunch, who prefer that DET/School does not process their biometric data.

The software that DET/its Schools use turns physical characteristics (fingerprint) into an encrypted code of characters known as a template (no fingerprint is ever stored).

Even if someone were to gain access to the data and break the encryption, this template does not contain enough information to reverse engineer into a usable fingerprint.

These scans are checked against available funds in the payment account to enable the purchase of school meals, and a deduction is then made from payment accounts.

This information is shared with the DET/School system provider, who works for DET and its Schools under contract. Each DET School is the Data Controller.

The legal basis for using personal data for this purpose is Explicit Consent. As reliance is placed on the consent of the parent/carer and the pupil, either can withdraw consent at any time by contacting the relevant School Office. If consent is withdrawn by any party, the processing ceases and the biometric data is securely deleted.

This information is deleted when the pupil leaves the School, or when consent to use it is withdrawn.

No personal information is routinely available outside of the UK. Should a transfer of personal information be necessary, DET/its Schools only do so where it is permitted by law, and where appropriate safeguards are in place.

For information about your rights in relation to this use of your personal information, please see Section 5 of the DET overarching Privacy Notice.