

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM NORTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL CATERING SERVICES:

Dear Parent

As part of our work to make school catering Covid-Secure, from the start of the new term in September, your school will operate a cashless system for payment of school meals. This system will ensure all students are able to pay for school meals safely without the risks associated with handling cash. Cash will no longer be taken to pay for school meals, but the new cashless system will offer you and your child a range of ways to pay onsite or online.

Online for September

To ensure our catering services are ready for the reopening of schools in September we'll need to enrol all students onto this new cashless system. This will give you the ability to pay online, if required. We'll be creating accounts with ParentPay. This online payment system is quick and easy to set up. It'll keep you informed about your child's purchases, the balance on their account, and when to top-up.

Free school meals students

Our new cashless system is designed to work the same for all students regardless of free school meal entitlement. Students who are entitled to free school meals will not be highlighted at the till. All student accounts are accessed at the tills using exactly the same manner regardless of their entitlement.

Card and mobile contactless payments

We want to make paying electronically for school meals as easy as possible. Students who want the facility to pay onsite for snacks and school meals will be able to do this contactlessly at a till in the dining facility, using a debit card or mobile payment device. All transactions will be reported back to your ParentPay account so you'll be able to review spending habits.

What data will we hold?

If you choose to pay through ParentPay, they will hold details of your email address and your child's name, year group and class. The system will also record if a student is eligible for free school meals. All your data will be handled according to the General Data Protection Regulations and North Tyneside Council's rigorous standards for data handling.

Next Steps

You will receive a ParentPay activation letter in the next couple of weeks. Please follow the instructions and activate your account before the **1st September**. Both the school and the council appreciate your cooperation on this matter to ensure the continuation of staff and student safety.

For further information please go to:

<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/131/school-meals>

Thank you