



HEDINGHAM SCHOOL  
AND SIXTH FORM  
ACHIEVEMENT & EXCELLENCE

Official

19 September 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Facial Biometric Recognition for Catering Services  
Commencing Thursday 21 September**

One of the improvements made by our new school catering contractors, Harrison Catering, is a cashless system which uses facial biometric recognition (instead of the current fingerprint recognition) making for a faster lunch service whilst removing any contact at the point of sale.

When your child looks at the camera, the software reads key features and compares this against the database of registered users. When it finds a match, it automatically opens their cashless catering account allowing the operator to complete the sale of their school meals.

Facial Recognition data is a unique string of characters known as a faceprint template. This data is encrypted using AES 256 and stored on a school server within the secure school network or hosted on a secure Azure server. The cashless system has always stored a user's photo, which is used as an added verification by the canteen staff.

We are delighted to offer this fast and secure identification technology to purchase our delicious and nutritious school meals.

If you wish to opt out, please email the following email address by **Thursday 21 September**, stating full name of student and their form/year group:

[catering@hedingham.essex.sch.uk](mailto:catering@hedingham.essex.sch.uk)

Yours sincerely

Miss C Clark  
Assistant Business Manager

Headteacher • Andrew Harvison BSc (Hons) PGCE NPQH  
Yeldham Road • Sible Hedingham • Essex • CO9 3QH • Telephone 01787 460470  
e-mail: enquiries@hedingham.essex.sch.uk • Website: www.hedingham.essex.sch.uk • Registered Company No. 8330173

