Headteacher Mr R Warburton BA (Hons), PGCE

Dear Parent/Carer

At the County High School, Leftwich, we operate a cashless catering system which we believe is advantageous to parents and students in many ways, the most significant being as follows:-

- security for students, alleviating the need to bring money into school on a daily basis;
- a deterrent to those students who may be tempted to spend lunch money on sweets etc. on the way to school;
- easily accessible information for parents to see the menu choices which their children are making daily;
- anonymity for those students in receipt of free school meals;

Meals are paid for by a dedicated school meals internet payment system (Parentpay) for your convenience.

Cashless Catering

This system incorporates the latest technology and eliminates the need for students to carry cash throughout the day, as it is also biometric. Therefore, there is no need for students to carry a card as the system will recognise a partial fingerprint of your child at the pay machine and the tills. Please be assured that **we do not hold images of fingerprints on our system**. All students will be given training how to use the system.

Any amount of money can be paid into a student's account, and any money spent on food and drinks will be deducted on a daily basis. A daily upper spend limit of £6 is programmed into the system. This can be increased or decreased for an individual student by a written request to the Academy's finance office.

We offer three options available to parents/carers:-

A) Online payments via Parentpay- www.parentpay.com
B) Via local Paypoint stores
C) Coin and notes payments at a pay machine located within school which will be programmed to recognise your child's fingerprint.

Please let us know if you wish to use the Paypoint facility as we will need to issue the relevant documents to enable you to do this.

If you choose not to have your child registered on the Biometric System, a 4 digit PIN code will be allocated. Please note that this option does not have the same level of security and it will be your child's responsibility to remember the code.

<u>Internet Payments</u>

The cashless catering system means that to top-up your child's school meals account, you will make an online payment to their account via the Parentpay link on the school's website or via Parentpay.com. The Parentpay set-up codes will be provided by post.

Please note that for all other internet payments i.e. trips, music lessons etc. the link to Scopay from the Academy website should be used.

If you have any questions or concerns, follow the link www.parentpay.com or contact the central finance team.