



CRBCunninghams

education solutions

The only UK provider with their own identity management, cashless catering, and online payment solutions, supported by a national service and support team.

FAQ Sheet - Biometrics

Who are CRB Cunninghams?

We are the only UK provider with our own identity management, cashless catering, and online payment solutions, supported by a national service and support team.

Are you based across the entire UK?

Our education solutions are used in over 2,400 schools across England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland to help them run efficient and effective meal and nutritional programs as well as providing cashless catering solutions, identity management, online payment provisions, access control, electronic registration, visitor management and much more, offering completely integrated solutions to UK schools.

What is Biometrics?

All of our solutions use some methods of user identification. We use magnetic stripe cards, PINs, proximity cards or fingerprint biometrics. Our biometrics identification is simply another way of quickly and uniquely recognising our users in a way that can't be forgotten or lost. It only needs the user to register once for all systems across the entire school.

What happens to the fingerprint?

When a pupil registers to the biometric system, their finger is placed on to a fingerprint scanner. The fingerprint is then converted into a collection of data points via a mathematical algorithm. This data is then encrypted and stored on the pupil's account to be used as their unique identifier.

So the fingerprint is never stored?

Exactly! The fingerprint is only used to generate a collection of data points which is then encrypted. The fingerprint reader looks for specific patterns and unique identifiers on the finger, assigning specific data to each point - the fingerprint is never actually recorded.

t: 01564 829 999

www.crbcunninghams.co.uk

Can the secure data be reversed to produce a fingerprint?

Not at all. The data points produced by the algorithm can't be reversed to produce a full fingerprint. The data is fully encrypted to military grade standards and even if this was to be broken, trying to reproduce a fingerprint from the data points could never produce anything usable.

Is my child's data secure?

Our database is stored within the school on a secure server system. The database is fully password protected and cannot be accessed by the copying of the physical data files. The fingerprint data itself is encrypted within this database.

Can the police use the fingerprint data?

Our solutions only store encrypted data points from a fingerprint. Even if we were to decrypt and reverse the algorithm for the police, the image produced would not be accurate enough for forensic matching and would not be admissible in court. The police also would not be able to use the data points for their databases as the algorithms don't match.

I have identical twins, won't they have the same fingerprint?

Identical twins share many physical similarities but will have different fingerprints, so there would not be any mistakes made when the CRB Cunningham system identifies them.

What about cuts, or other injuries?

Unless the injury resulted in a severe disfigurement to the finger, then our biometric solution will have no problem identifying the user. Alternatively, we can register a pupils alternate finger for identification.

I don't want my child to be entered in to the biometric database, what alternatives are there?

Not a problem. Any pupil who wishes to opt out of our biometric database can utilise one of our alternative identification methods, which includes PIN numbers, smartcards, and passwords.