

# St Crispin's School

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**DB/HT**

20<sup>th</sup> January 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Re. Cashless Card System**

I am delighted to share that the final part of our new catering arrangements will come into place on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015 when we launch a cashless system. The system will be in the form of a named card.

Parents are able to upload funds via our established Tucasi system and can monitor the amount spent and indeed a list of food purchased by their son or daughter each day. Tucasi is the system that we currently use for payment of schools trips, equipment and special events. For those of you familiar with Tucasi you will see an additional line saying "Restaurant" where you can top-up funds. If you are not familiar with Tucasi or would like to register with the system then I hope you will find the attached fact sheet helpful, alternatively you can click on the following hyperlink - [Information for Parents/Tucasi](#) to see the fact sheet on our school website. Money can be placed on the system from Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

Many parents have been keen for some time to see such a system in place and so I am very pleased that we are able to deliver a system that has a significant number of advantages as detailed below:

1. There will be no need for students to carry cash on site which can go astray
2. Parents/Carers have the convenience of advance payment avoiding the need to regularly find change!
3. Parents/Carers minds can be at rest that students are actually purchasing a healthy school meal rather than buying sweets or other contraband
4. Parents/Carers can log on the system to see and monitor the food that has been purchased and can set a daily limit spend if they so wish. If you would like to enforce a daily limit spend please contact the school office, we would recommend a limit of £6 -£8 for the days when students might take breakfast, lunch or have an after school extracurricular purchase
5. A faster serving time for students

6. Specific allergy information is entered onto the system for each student, the till will automatically alert the Cashier if the student has a known food allergy or intolerance
7. Free school meal allowances are credited automatically to a student's card. However parents/carers may wish to supplement this allowance if they so wish the difference between monies is indistinguishable. We are confident that our new system will give dignity to all students when purchasing their meals
8. Finally we also hope the system will help students understand how to work within and manage a fixed budget.

The cashless system cards will be issued to students on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015, should students lose their cards they can be replaced at a cost of £3.50. Each card is named so if it is lost in school we will be able to reunite it with its owner. A feature of the card is that your son or daughter's photograph is seen by the Cashier at each purchase to prevent students swapping cards. The system also allows your son or daughter to see the balance of their accounts on the tills at each purchase; equally you may see the balance on line when logged onto the system. As with now students occasionally arrive at school having forgotten a packed lunch or money to purchase food, we will continue to ring parents if this is the case and request a packed lunch is brought in or money might be uploaded onto the payment system. If a card is forgotten we are able to issue a temporary daily card. Naturally we want students to take responsibility for their cards and take measure to ensure they are kept safely.

Overtime we intend to extend the purpose of the card to become your son or daughter's library card and even in time consider its use as part of a registration system. If you have any queries, concerns or comments please do not hesitate to contact me.

Ginny Rhodes  
Headteacher