

## CASHLESS DINING FOR STUDENTS

We operate a cashless Biometric system at our school. A finger-tip reading is taken for each student; this then enables students to purchase food and drinks without using cash. This is linked to Scopay which is a platform where you can pay for lunches (and also school trips etc.)

### How the system operates

- Each student has an individual meal account which is secure and private.
- Monies are added to the account by parent/guardian or student; the account should be kept in credit.
- *Students* make their selection and take their food to the tills. The cashier uses a scanner to identify the student through their finger-tip reading, the student's photograph is displayed for verification. A record is kept of purchases and spends each day; this is available to view on-line via Scopay.
- For students entitled to free school meals, the value of their entitlement is credited daily just before lunchtime. Students won't see this if they check their balance on the "Top-up" machine. (This money cannot be carried over). Additional cash can also be added to their account if wished.

### Benefits to parents signing up to Scopay

- The hassle of finding change each day is removed.
- Information on what your child is eating is easily accessible to you.
- Balance statements are available on request.
- Money on your child's account can only be spent in the Dining Room.
- There is less chance of money being lost or stolen.



## CREDITING YOUR CHILD'S ACCOUNT

We encourage use of the online payment facility Scopay using Tucasi Schools Cash Office; you may be familiar with this system as some primary schools already use the service. Details on how to set up a new account will be issued during the first week in school.

**In order for your child to have funds available on their first day, please ensure that cash or a cheque (made payable to Cheshire West & Chester Council) is brought into school on the first day in a sealed envelope with your child's name, form and lunch money written on it.**

Whilst we are trying to move away from cash being brought in for lunches, students will be shown how to add money to their account themselves and check their balance at the "Top-up" machine situated in the Dining Room. Please note that the smallest coin accepted is 10p, the machines also accept notes. School has no provision to change money so please send your child in with correct money.

Cheques can be deposited in a secure Grey post box located by the register folders, cheques received by 11.30am will be credited to their account before lunch.

A daily spend limit is set at £5.00. If you wish to change this, please speak to Miss Moore in Finance.

Please ensure that your child has credit on their account, as the school does not have the facility to loan money.

# Cateringservices@epchs





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## Packed Lunch V School Lunch

Choosing a school lunch can save you time and money.

Did you know that the average cost of a packed lunch from home is about £1.92 and how many times do you have to re-shop as the packed lunch favourites have been eaten at home time.

We guarantee that a school lunch contains all the nutrients your child / young adult needs each day.

Our menus are prepared based on delicious home style cooking, with prime locally sourced ingredients.

Contact us to discuss your child's dietary or allergen needs.

Lorraine.  
McDougall@epchs.co.uk

## Food allergies / Intolerances

From December 2014 the Food Information Regulations (FIR) came into force meaning it is a mandatory legal responsibility of caterers to provide correct allergen information about the ingredients in the food served to customers.

The information can be provided in written form or verbally. If verbally it must be evidenced or demonstrated.

Please be advised that information is available upon request.

Before ordering, please speak with one of our catering team about your requirements.

At least half a million children in the UK arrive at school each day too hungry to learn. Research has shown a direct link between the breakfast habits of children and their educational attainment, with children in primary schools where breakfast is provided achieving on average up to two months' additional academic progress over the course of a year.

Our exciting National School Breakfast Programme, in partnership with Magic Breakfast and funded by the Department for Education, is working to support 1775 schools in disadvantaged communities across the country to improve access to healthy breakfasts and learning.

The service aims to:

- Ensure more children receive a healthy breakfast at the start of their day.
- Improve educational outcomes of disadvantaged young people.
  - Share best practices across schools and encourage innovative approaches to school breakfast provision.

We here at EPCHS are lucky enough to be part of this incredible scheme and are delighted to provide a FREE breakfast to ALL our students, staff, parents and visitors.

Available Monday to Friday 07.40 – 08.40, we serve, healthy bagels, cereals and porridge. Your young adult can help themselves to as much or as little as they would like. The Dining Room is open during those times, to meet friends, chat to others from different years and to prepare for a day of learning with a full stomach.

We look forward to seeing you.