



**The South Wolds  
Academy  
and Sixth Form**

April 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Cashless Catering Upgrade – Facial Recognition**

I am delighted to report that we are upgrading our cashless catering system here at The South Wolds Academy & Sixth Form. We have utilised the existing cashless system for nearly 20 years, using the fingerprint recognition. We recognise that with the addition of facial recognition technology we can, amongst other benefits, cut our queuing times at break times and lunch times during the school day.

Along with this letter you will receive another letter explaining all about our new facial recognition technology system and a consent form to fill in and to return to the main office, alternatively it can be emailed to [office@southwolds.uk](mailto:office@southwolds.uk)

The purpose behind this investment is to reduce student queuing time and to release catering staff time to food production and restocking mid-service at busier times.

We have recently recruited an additional term time catering staff member with lots of experience, the outcome of which we have seen a significant decrease in the incidents of stocking out. This has created a calmer environment for students at peak service times.

This cashless catering upgrade will also provide a far greater reporting insight on sales and will help our catering manager best plan our menus and bundled offers into next Academic year. All of the above ultimately helps The South Wolds Academy keep our prices as low as we possibly can, noting the significant upward pressure on catering costs.

Yours sincerely,

Pete Griffiths  
Business & Operations Manager

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