

# Impact Biometrics coming to Clevedon School

## Bio – what ?

Biometrics authentication is the automatic recognition of a living being using suitable body characteristics. By measuring an individual's physical features in an authentication inquiry and comparing this data with stored biometric reference data, the identity of a specific user is determined. There are many different biometric features that can be used for authentication purposes these include fingerprint, signature, Iris, Retina, DNA or any other unique Characteristic. Once a characteristic has been chosen the next stage in the Biometric process is authentication. A biometric feature is saved on to a database. Once the data has been stored a new scanning of the Biometric feature is taken, if the comparison is positive, access to the appropriate application is granted.

## Biometrics and Security

Students, parents and staff can rest assured that the fingerprint images can not be used by any other source for identification purposes. The system uses an image of the fingerprint to create a mathematical algorithm and then discards the fingerprint, only the numbers remain and these cannot be reinterpreted back into a fingerprint image.

## Your Future in your Hands

### A History of Biometrics

Once the domain of the local constabulary, finger print technology is now being used at many locations around the country.

Banks ,supermarkets and now even schools and colleges are adopting this increasingly popular technology. Biometrics are not new, their roots have been traced back to

ancient Egyptian times, and the use of fingerprints as a security device started with Chinese officials using them to seal documents in the second century BC. Over the last few years the technology has begun to find favour commercially. Whilst the use of Biometrics has been steadily growing over the last ten years, the past couple of years has seen an explosion in development, interest and vendor involvement.

Within the next year mobile telephones and personal computers will have fingerprint scanners as optional equipment. In the long term, Biometrics will replace credit cards and passports, thereby becoming a major part of everyone's life.



### Frequently Asked Questions

- *Can fingerprints be used by any other agency?* No, the software we use turns your child's fingerprint in to a mathematical algorithm. The image of the finger print is then discarded. The information that is stored can not be used to recreate an image of the child's fingerprint
- *What happens when my child leaves school?* when a student leaves school all data will be deleted.
- *How does it work?* when the child places his/her finger on the scanner the software matches their finger print with the unique digital signature held in the database