

Cashless Catering System

As parents/carers of returning returns will be aware, in order for students to pay for meals at the UTC, we run a cashless payment system using smart cards.

New students will have their photograph taken during the first week at the UTC and will then be issued with a photo smart card. You will receive details of how to top up the card, which can be done online. There is also a cash loading machine outside the school office where students can top up their accounts, and also check their balance.

Until the photo smart cards are ready, we will operate a cash payment system, with students using the cash loading machine to top up their account. **Your child will therefore require money to purchase drinks, food etc. at break and lunchtime for the first week at least** – we will notify you when the smart cards have been issued. We would strongly advise that enough money is credited to the account for the first week at least on the first day of term.

Returning students should continue to use the ID card and lanyard already issued and will be charged a replacement fee if they require new items.

Menus are available on our website. A meal deal lunch currently costs £2.86 and there are three meal deal options:

- A filled baguette with a hot pudding or cake/fruit, served with a cup of cordial
- A jacket potato with one filling, a hot pudding or cake/fruit, served with a carton of apple or orange juice
- Any main meal with a hot pudding/cake or fruit, served with a cup of squash

Lanyards

The smart cards mentioned above also serve as ID cards and students will also use them to sign in and out on our electronic system. Students are expected to wear their ID cards and lanyards every day in line with our safeguarding policy. As ID cards and lanyards are classed as equipment, students will be given a 'no equipment' log if they do not wear theirs, or forget them.

New students will be issued with a lanyard and plastic holder to keep their ID card in and their ID cards will be issued after school photographs have been taken. **Returning students** should continue to use the ID card and lanyard already issued and will be charged a replacement fee if they require new items.

Each year group has its own lanyard colour, which this year is:

Year 10	Green
Year 11	Orange
Year 12	Dark Blue
Year 13	Grey

The cost for a replacement (available from Student Reception) is below:

Lanyard	£3.00
Plastic holder	£1.00
ID card	£1.00

Free School Meals

If you are a new student and qualify for free school meals we ask that you please bring in your qualifying letter/email from the Local Authority to ensure a smooth transition.

Necessary arrangements will be made for students in receipt of free school meals until the cashless catering system is implemented.

If you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please check the Local Authority's website for further details:

<https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/freeschoolmeals.asp>

Lockers

A limited number of lockers are available, which will be issued on a first come, first served basis. For a deposit of £5.00 your child will be issued with a locker key. At the end of the academic year the key is to be returned and the deposit will be refunded. However, if a key is lost this £5.00 goes towards buying a new key.

If your child would like a locker, please bring the £5.00 deposit with you on the Parent/Tutor Day, in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name. We will issue keys on the first day of term.

Transport

Local coach company, Hobans, operate the contract to provide student transport to and from the UTC. Hobans will arrange the pick-up locations and payments directly with parents and carers so please contact Hobans directly if you need transport for the coming school year.

Contact details are as follows: info@hobans.co.uk or 01900 512050