

Independent school goes cashless

Why did Claremont Fan Court School go cashless?

Anthea Butler, Fees and Payroll Administrator at Claremont Fan Court School (3-18 years), explains the reason why the school initially decided to collect payments online:

'Cash coming into the school previously caused a number of headaches for staff and parents, money ended up stuck in teachers desk drawers and wouldn't make it to the office on time, sometimes creating problematic queries from parents.'

'ParentPay has made it so much easier to keep a consistent record of payments, all online. We no longer have any issues of money for trips or the tuck shop being lost or misplaced.'

What benefits have been realised?

Anthea reflects on how the school have benefitted since introducing ParentPay:

'It has been much easier for us to keep a detailed record in our Accounts office, and to track and trace payments being received more effectively. We also use a till system for our tuck shop and breakfast club, which ParentPay integrates with nicely.'

'Before, we had to manually list all of the cheques for our many trips and take them to the bank. This now means the office staff can concentrate on more demanding tasks.'

How have you encouraged parents to pay online?

Anthea states their actions once they decided they would implement ParentPay:

'Initially we informed parents via newsletter of the schools intention to become cashless. We explained what ParentPay was, and what introducing the facility would entail, as well as how it would benefit both the parents and the school.'

There were a few objections at first, but the vast majority came around to the idea making it a swift process. Now we tell parents this is the preferred way to pay.'

Any advice for schools thinking about going cashless?

Anthea outlines how ParentPay works for Claremont Fan Court School:

'There are a number of ways a school can make a success of becoming cashless.

We mainly use ParentPay for trips, but we realise it can be used to collect payments for everything, we would advise schools to make the most of what ParentPay has to offer. It makes the process a lot more efficient.'

Objective:

To reduce the volume of cash and cheque payments made to school.

Solution:

Introduce an online payment facility to suit school requirements and link with existing systems.

Outcomes:

Streamlined processes, reduced admin and time spent on associated tasks. Happy parents.



“Students no longer need to carry cash, and everything is recorded online. It's clear and easy.”