

The **Smart** school scheme

Intelligent, affordable solutions for schools that can:

- increase pupil security
- tackle truancy
- enhance parental involvement
- create and manage a cashless school
- empower under-privileged students
- assist in streamlining information and school management
- make existing systems more efficient and user-friendly
- manage access rights to school pc's, networks and the internet

...all from a single smart card



FortressGB

The leading smart card solution provider for the education market



The **Smart** school scheme

The Smart School Scheme uses highly secure microchip technology to provide simple but extremely effective school management information, through the medium of the pupil smart card.

Why?

Each card is loaded with the applications that your school requires. These could include:

- attendance monitoring
- meal payment
- access allocation and registration
- equipment and facilities usage

... among many others

(up to 15 applications can be loaded onto a single card).

The Smart School Scheme is designed to interface seamlessly with your existing systems and databases, so you won't have to learn a whole new way of working. Once installed, it can be easily self-managed. Indeed, you'll find that the system streamlines many of your current management processes by providing detailed information, more quickly and accurately than ever before.

How?

Every school is different, so we tailor our smart card solutions to the specific requirements of each academic institution. And each system, once installed, has unlimited growth potential. The modular nature of our smart card technology means you can start with a single application and build up your ideal system over time. You work within your budgetary requirements, adding applications on a system-wide or card-by-card basis; there's no limit to the number of cards the system can handle.

This brochure outlines the most common applications for the Smart School Scheme. However, every school that takes up the scheme benefits from its own unique solution. If you like what we've got to say, why not call us for a no-obligation discussion of the implications for your own school?



Advantages of the Smart school scheme

Improved pupil safety

Every school has a unique layout, with its own patterns of movement from area to area throughout the day. The Smart School Scheme provides a flexible card access control system that allows you to keep those traffic flows under control and prevent access for unauthorised visitors. Each pupil can have different access rights – to laboratories, classrooms, sports facilities and other areas. Our access control systems can be on-line or off-line, and can be integrated into existing security arrangements, providing an effective low-cost solution that delivers the priceless benefit of enhanced pupil security.

Increased parental involvement

Many schools recognise that parental involvement and support is a crucial component of any successful academic institution. The Smart School Scheme's smart card system enables schools to share responsibility for pupils with parents. Through SMS text messaging to mobile phones, and through password-controlled access to a designated secure website for the school, parents can monitor their child's attendance at school, spending on school meals and smart card balance. Parents can also communicate with the school through the website, notifying the school, for example, when a child is absent through illness.

The cashless cafeteria

About one fifth of the children who are entitled to free meals in the UK do not claim them. A major reason is that they are easily identified because they don't pay, and can therefore be subject to bullying. The Smart School Scheme's e-Purse for the school cafeteria eliminates this problem very simply. Pupils who pay for their meals load their cards with e-money. Those entitled to free meals have their cards loaded with free meal tokens. All pupils present their cards in the cafeteria, making it impossible to tell how each pupil pays for their meal. The smart card also has other advantages in the cafeteria:

- Shorter queues
- Cash-handling costs eliminated
- Theft and fraud dramatically reduced
- Recognising VAT-free meals for teachers

Reducing truancy

Manual registration systems can take hours to identify pupils who are absent without leave. The Smart School Scheme's innovative Time & Attendance application provides nominated staff with up-to-the-minute information on pupil attendance. Schools can choose from a range of fixed and portable card-readers (such as cafeteria cash registers and wall-mounted readers) to transfer attendance information throughout the school day to a central database for analysis. Hourly, daily, weekly or monthly reports detailing a pupil's attendance can be produced. Staff and parents can be alerted to an unauthorised absence quickly and discreetly.



Extending the use of your smart card system

- Equipment usage and management: our smart card can be used to grant both staff and pupils access and 'borrowing' rights to expensive items of school equipment such as camcorders and musical instruments. Individuals then use the same card to register their hire of an item.
- Extended e-Purse functions: Outside the cafeteria there may be further opportunities to introduce streamlined cashless transactions. For example, photocopiers and vending machines can easily be adapted to debit small amounts from our smart cards through the e-Purse application.



The Smart School Scheme is much more than an intelligent purse. In a world where the credit card format is universally familiar, our smart card can encourage the sensible and practical use of such technology, early in life. It contributes to the safety of your pupils, as well as making all kinds of on-site transaction quicker and more easily managed. It actively encourages parental interaction with the school, sharing vital information with both parties. And alongside all this, we've gone to great lengths to ensure that the system is:

- compatible with existing systems and software
- simple to learn and maintain
- future-proof, modular and expandable
- tailored to your budgetary requirements

Call us to discuss how the Smart School Scheme could benefit your school.



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