# George Dixon Primary School in Birmingham Gets Started with Cityserve Pay

Cityserve Pay is a new cashless payment and pre-ordering system exclusively available from Birmingham City Council's catering service, designed to cut costs and administration time for schools. Powered by sQuid, the FCA-regulated online payment provider, Cityserve Pay is the fast and easy way to manage catering, attendance and online payments for all school services, such as school trips, as well as parent communications and school bookings. George Dixon Primary School in Birmingham has recently started using Cityserve Pay, and are already seeing the benefits...



#### **Choosing Cityserve Pay**

Charmaine Cole, Senior Office Manager at George Dixon Primary School first became aware of Cityserve Pay after searching the internet for an online payment solution, as the school was keen to become cashless and reduce their cash-handling costs, and minimise the associated office administration time that was being devoted to this, which could better be spent elsewhere. Charmaine was particularly focused on finding a system which would help them to eliminate the loss of time caused by incorrect input of lunch figures. Turning her search to Birmingham City Council's website, she found Cityserve Pay. The school would be able to partner with Cityserve without having to go through a formal tender process as the Council had already done the work for them, and furthermore, they would be able to take advantage of the benefits that the system provides free of charge.\*

"The whole process has been straightforward and pleasurable, and I would recommend this to other schools without fail."

Charmaine Cole, Senior Office Manager, George Dixon Primary School

#### **Getting started with Cityserve Pay**

Charmaine reports that the process of getting started with Cityserve Pay has been very straightforward. The school has a dedicated Account Manager, who has delivered a comprehensive training session, and who remains on hand to answer any queries. Additionally, the school has received an extensive set of materials to help them to promote the new system in school and to send to parents, to advise them of the changes in advance of their starting to use cashless payments. In all, she has found the set-up process to be very simple, and starting to use Cityserve Pay has been very smooth.



\*Excluding transaction fees and SMS broadcast charges.



cityserveinfo@birmingham.gov.uk or visit: birmingham.gov.uk/cityserve/cityservepay

# Benefits of using Cityserve Pay

Charmaine feels that using Cityserve Pay has allowed school office staff to manage their time more efficiently, and that as a direct result, not only is more time available to be redirected to other more important tasks, but there is an significant cost saving. Accuracy of lunch figures has been significantly enhanced, and she has no hesitation in recommending the dinner money (which includes SIMS Writeback) and trips systems to other schools who might be thinking about taking on an online payment provider, or switching from their current provider. She says: "The whole process has been straightforward and pleasurable, and I would recommend this to other schools without fail".



### Why you should get started with Cityserve Pay



#### Free for Cityserve schools

Cityserve Pay is free for schools\* and free for parents to use.



#### Hassle-proof switching

We handle the entire process if you currently use another payment system.



#### Innovative income management solution and parent app

Intuitive system to manage payments for school services, and mobile app for parents/carers to make fast and easy payments.



#### Interactive ordering

Whiteboard meal ordering in class increases meal take up and reduces queue times.



#### **Extensive reporting**

Run, access, download and export reports for income collected, dinner money debt, FSM management and much more.



#### Saves you time and money

Eliminates the need to count, reconcile and bank cash as all payments are made online. Cuts costs associated with cash-handling.



#### Good for the environment

Improves your school's environmental impact by significantly reducing food wastage.



#### **Unrivalled training and support**

On-site training for all school administrators, dedicated school support and first line customer support for parents.

\*Excluding transaction fees and SMS broadcast charges.



## For more information, please contact:

cityserveinfo@birmingham.gov.uk or visit: birmingham.gov.uk/cityserve/cityservepay