

5 Mar 2024

2024-085

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Implementation of POSB Smart Buddy e-payment for School Canteen and Bookshop

Our school has been working closely with POSB for the past couple of months and we are pleased to finally announce that we have successfully implemented POSB Smart Buddy as an e-payment option in our school canteen and bookshop. This is in support of the [MOU](#) that MOE has partnered with POSB to extend Smart Buddy to all schools in Singapore. With this implementation in Cantonment Primary School, all our students can now opt to use e-payments for their in-school purchases from 1 April 2024 onwards.

The POSB Smart Buddy Programme is the **World’s first in-school wearable tech programme** to enable a contactless payment ecosystem that helps cultivate sensible saving and spending habits among children. Paired with the Smart Buddy mobile app, all parents, like yourself, would be able to remotely manage your child’s daily allowances, track their spending and savings, and even set saving goals in a digital and interactive way. You can learn more about POSB Smart Buddy and choose to apply online [here](#) or watch this [video](#) to learn more about its features. You may refer to the attached Digital Registration Letter.

Kindly note that your child will be able to make purchases with the cards/ watch shown below. You can also download the POSB Smart Buddy mobile app and link these cards/ watch to track your child’s payments and savings.

Modes of Payment - Tap to pay

Smart Buddy Mobile App 

Smart Buddy Watch / Card



Download the Smart Buddy App and link your cards to enjoy the following features:



- Manage child’s allowance
- Monitor spending/savings
- Set saving goals, stamp savings
- Monitor health/steps/calories
- View in and out-of-school transactions

School Smart Card / Ez-link Card



*To enjoy all the features of the Smart Buddy App, parents are encouraged to apply for a Smart Buddy Card / Watch.

Other Accepted Cards (But cannot be linked on the Smart Buddy mobile app)	
POSB ATM Card* 	DBS ATM Card* 
POSB PAssion Card* 	Home Team NS PAssion POSB Debit Card* 
NETS Pre-Paid Card (NPC) 	NETS FlashPay 

*Must have NETS Contactless logo

For Students under School Meal Subsidy Programme

If your child is on School Meal Subsidy programme (i.e. MOE FAS/ SB FAS), your child's School Smart Card (or EZ-Link Card) must be registered under the new school meal subsidy system. The General Office will inform you about card registration. Once registered, your child can use it to tap and pay for the food and drinks at the school canteen. Amount will be debited from school meal subsidy allocated to your child. If you would like to change to Smart Buddy Watch / Card, please apply online [here](#). Upon successful application, please bring down your child's card/ watch to the school's General Office for a one-time registration. Do note if your child were to use the School Meal Subsidy registered card/ watch at places not enabled for School Meal Subsidy programme (i.e. school bookshop, out of school purchases and public transport), amount will be debited from stored value or allowances allocated by the parent in card/ watch. In addition, the Smart Buddy App features are only applicable at places not enabled for School Meal Subsidy for the card/ watch registered under School Meal Subsidy Programme. Top FAQs are attached at the back of this letter for your reference.

Places Enabled for School Meal Subsidy	Places Not Enabled for School Meal Subsidy
Food & drinks at school canteen	Purchases at school bookshop
	Public Transport and Out of School purchases

We hope that in support of this national initiative, our students will be able to experience digital payments in a safe and secured environment.

Thank you.

Best regards



Mrs Manokara S
Principal
Cantonment Primary School

Top FAQs for students on School Meal Subsidy programme

- 1. What happens if my child wants to buy a meal at the school canteen that costs more than the allocated school meal subsidy (e.g., child only has S\$1 left in his school meal subsidy balance but wants to buy a S\$2.50 bowl of noodles)?**

Answer: Your child can first use the registered card/ watch to tap and pay the S\$1 using his school meal subsidy balance. Afterwards, he has two options to pay the remaining amount of S\$1.50:

- a) Use Cash, or
- b) Tap and pay using another card that is not registered under School Meal Subsidy (i.e., Smart Buddy watch/ card, School Smartcard or EZ-Link card)

- 2. What happens if my child forgets to bring the registered card/ watch under School Meal Subsidy?**

Answer: You can ask your child to approach our school's General Office and we will issue a temporary card for your child to use on the day. Please ask your child to bring his/ her registered card/ watch together with the temporary card to our school's General Office the next day so we can register again in our system.

- 3. Can I view how much my child has spent for meals at school canteen using School Meal Subsidy in the Smart Buddy App?**

Answer: No. Currently, transactions made on School Meal Subsidy registered cards/ watch at school canteens will not be reflected on Smart Buddy App. However, we are working to enhance our app to reflect such transactions in future.