Theale Green's Business Manager used Parent Pay to implement a cashless system, reducing paperwork for staff and parents and saving time. It's also led to less stigmatisation of students on Free School Meals as it has created a level playing field.

Theale Green's Business Mana ger, Maria Tillett, joined the school four and a half years ago from a background in banking. Surprised by the amount of administrative time that was taken up by collecting money, Maria was certain that a cashless system was the best way forward. Providing a complete solution to the school's administrative headache, ParentPay stood out as a clear winner in the school's evaluation.

A successful approach to going cashless
Keen to start reducing the pressure on school administration staff, Maria worked hard to introduce ParentPay to parents whilst embedding the technology into the school's existing processes. She wanted to drive adoption without pressuring staff or parents to allow staff time to be focused on more important tasks. Maria said,"I focused my energies on targeting the incoming Year 7 students, presenting the system to parents as the preferred method of payment." This approach has proved successful.The school is seeing a continually increasing uptake and will soon have over 85% of parents paying online with ParentPay.

Reaping the benefits
Maria's first impression was that ParentPay had helped streamline the school processes and greatly reduced their paperwork. Many staff benefitted from the time savings, and when one person left for career progression, Maria was able to distribute her work to other members of the team. Coupled with the administrative efficiencies, the school has saved significant time and money using ParentPay.

Maria commented,"ParentPay is now used for everything, including collecting money for school trips, school meals and fundraising. With the advent of cashless catering, we have seen a tremendous increase in those students accessing Free School Meals (FSM) as they no longer feel stigmatised."