(Back row, from left) Perera, SK Sungai Pelong PTA chairman Jamal Abdul Wahab, Siti Khairon, Abu Hassan and Syed Norulzaman with pupils who received the smartcards.

A pupil demonstrating how to use the preloaded MyKasih smartcard at SK Sungai Pelong book shop.

Smart way to disburse aid to needy pupils

Foundations collaborate on cashless transaction scheme to benefit three Sungai Buloh schools

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PUPILS can now receive cashless bursaries through a smartcard thanks to a collaboration between Mah Sing Foundation and MyKasih Foundation.

Mah Sing Foundation's flagship School+ and MyKasih Foundation's Love My School were jointly launched at SK Sungai Pelong, Sungai Buloh.

A total of 48 underprivileged pupils from the school will receive an allowance of RM30 deposited into their smartcard twice a month.

They can use it to purchase books, stationery as well as food from the school.

Mah Sing Foundation chairman Datuk Syed Norulzaman Syed Kamarulzaman said three schools will benefit from the programme – SK Kampung Batu, SJK (T) RRI Sungai Buloh and SK Sungai Pelong.

"Mah Sing Foundation has contributed RM144,000 for the three schools to help lessen the financial burden of the pupils' parents.

"We hope the smartcard will help address the issue of school dropouts and high absenteeism that may have risen before."

SK Sungai Pelong headmaster Abu Hassan Abdul Majid, expressed his gratitude to both foundations.

"Most of the parents of the 1,680 pupils here are from the B40 group with about 70% of them earning RM3,000 or less a month.

"We hope initiatives like this will continue as it would be difficult for the Parent-Teacher Association to raise the funds," said Abu Hassan.

After the mock cheque presentation, the recipients headed to the school's book shop to learn how to make a cashless transaction. All they need to do is tap the preloaded card on a machine or provide a password for purchases over RM5.

Also present were MyKasih Foundation trustee Siti Khairon Shariff and deputy chairman Jeffrey Perera.