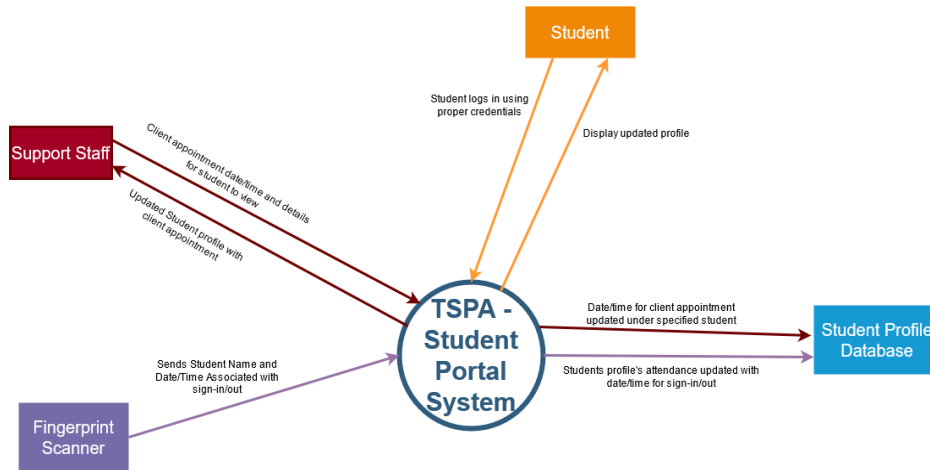


Data Flow / Software Context Model



A context diagram is a level 0 Data Flow Diagram. At this level, it involves one process node which interacts with external entities. This can go up in levels by including other process nodes which interact with each other and the external entities. This abstraction is useful to follow the flow of data, which helps better understand the overall processes taking place within the system. Starting with level 0 is a great way to understand or illustrate to clients or development teams the general structure of the system being created.

The process I took was determining what process to focus on. At the core of the system, there is one main processing system taking place, and that is tracking and updating student information. From there, I determined what interactions take place (logging attendance, and client appointments). These describe the daily activities for a student and for each of these activities, I started from the beginning, chronologically and worked my way to the system, through it and to the database, where all profiles are stored.