

November 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Huntingdale Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Huntingdale Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2023.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support has allowed us to purchase more digital devices (iPads, lap tops), source and make bilingual educational materials, beautify the school grounds (new veggie garden beds, gardening shed, PE storage shed, regular maintenance of the school gardens), purchase furniture for the library and STEM Room.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see a one-page overview attached.

Yours sincerely,

*Ruth Biddle*

Principal

<b>Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<p><i>Classroom consumables, materials &amp; equipment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper (\$26)</li> <li>• Science – chemicals (\$21)</li> <li>• English – book boxes (\$11)</li> <li>• Sports – equipment (\$15)</li> <li>• Bilingual Resources- Hiragana, Katakana and Kanji charts, class libraries (\$25)</li> <li>• Stationery items – for example pens, pencils, exercise books (\$85)</li> <li>• Student <u>Diary</u> (\$10)</li> </ul>	\$193
<p><i>Online subscriptions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essential Assessment (\$15), Mathletics (\$24), See-Saw (\$10), PAT (\$5)</li> </ul>	\$54
<i>ICT devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets</i>	\$15
<i>Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials</i>	\$15
<b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b>	<b>\$282</b>

<b>Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<i>Bilingual Donation</i>	\$60
<i>Information Technology Donation</i>	\$60
<i>School grounds maintenance and improvements</i>	\$50
<i>STEM</i>	\$25
<b>Total Other Contributions</b>	<b>\$195</b>

<b>Tax deductible contributions</b>	
<b>Building fund.</b> A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure (suggested amounts)	\$100 or \$50 or \$20
<b>Library fund.</b> A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource (suggested amounts)	\$100 or \$50 or \$20

### **Extra-Curricular Items and Activities**

Huntingdale Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis. The cost of these will be advised during the school year to the relevant year levels. This includes activities such as 3-6 camp, excursions, incursions, interschool sport, graduation and swimming.

### **Financial Support for Families**

Huntingdale Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (contact the school)
- *State School Relief* (contact the school)
- *MoneySmart.gov.au* <https://moneysmart.gov.au/managing-debt/urgent-help-with-money>
- *Services Australia* <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/crisis-and-special-help>
- *Salvation Army Financial Assistance* <https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/need-help/financial-assistance/>

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact:

### **Refunds**

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and made on a case-by-case basis. Refunds will be provided where the school deems it is reasonable and fair to do so, taking into consideration whether a cost has been incurred, the Department's Parent Payments Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy, and our school Refund Policy.

# PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

## ONE PAGE OVERVIEW



### FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction and ensure students have free access to all items, activities and services that are used by the school to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements in Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.
- Schools may invite parents to make a financial contribution to support the school.



### PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

Schools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

#### Curriculum Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.

#### Other Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.

#### Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

- Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (e.g. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).



### FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

- Schools put in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child doesn't miss out.
- Schools have a nominated parent payment contact person(s) that parents can have a confidential discussion with regarding financial hardship arrangements.



### SCHOOL PROCESSES

- Schools must obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and publish all requests and communications for each year level on their school website for transparency.