

Dear parent/guardian,

Strathaird Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Strathaird Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements 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.

The environment and resources that we enjoy today represent the contributions made by our parent/carer community over many years. Parent/carers contributions make a significant difference to the quality of our programs. This financial support ensures that we can continue to provide the excellent range of facilities and resources for your children. Your support in 2025 allowed us to:

- provide high quality programs and specific subject materials and equipment for English, Mathematics, Science and Technology, Art, Music, Inquiry, Sustainability, Language, Kitchen Garden and PE
- maintain and develop the school grounds
- ensure the upkeep of our computer and iPad devices to enhance learning opportunities in lieu of a bring your own device program
- maintain sufficient class sets of books for students to develop their reading skills
- provide hands on maths equipment i.e.: measuring materials for teaching purposes
- facilitate Literacy and Mathematics online digital subscriptions
- deliver a range of sporting equipment
- arrange for individual student supplies and class bulk supplies
- offer effective first aid for all students.

The student stationery supplies will be ordered in bulk class lots and **delivered directly to classrooms** for the beginning of the school year. **There will be no book collection day held in 2026.**

We have decided to purchase stationery in bulk to take advantage of the cost savings for our families. Bulk buying supplies allows us to supply all students with the correct materials to complete the curriculum and saves families the hassle of sourcing supplies themselves. We welcome all contributions towards the cost of these materials.

If you are unable or choose not to make financial contributions, your child will not be disadvantaged or denied access to the resources required to deliver the curriculum.

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

Yours sincerely,

Julie Kennedy  
Principal

Sarah McKenzie  
School Council President

<b>Curriculum Contributions</b> - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	<b>Amount</b>
<i>Year 3 stationery supplies</i> <i>A bulk pack of stationery delivered directly to the classroom for student use including Prep Communication Satchel (\$8.18)</i>	\$27.40
<i>Year 3 classroom consumables, materials &amp; equipment</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, clay (\$10)</li> <li>• Inquiry – food materials, construction materials (\$5)</li> <li>• Mathematics – maths equipment (\$3)</li> <li>• English – book boxes, classroom book sets (\$10)</li> <li>• Sports – equipment (\$3)</li> </ul>	\$31.00
<i>Year 3 Online Subscriptions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletics P-6 (\$12.85)</li> <li>• Typing Club (\$6.15)</li> <li>• Reading Eggs P-2 (\$13.80)</li> <li>• Sunshine Online P-6 (\$1.90)</li> </ul>	\$34.70  (Different each year level)
<i>ICT devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets</i>	\$5.00
<i>Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials</i>	\$20.00
<b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b>	<b>\$118.10</b>

<b>Other Contributions</b> - for non-curriculum items and activities	<b>Amount</b>
<i>School Sports Victoria student membership</i>	\$1.00
<i>Student wellbeing program</i>	\$5.00
<i>First aid equipment</i>	\$3.00
<i>School grounds maintenance and improvements contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure</i>	\$20.00
<b>Total Other Contributions</b>	<b>\$31.00</b>

### Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Strathaird Primary School offers a range of optional items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
<i>Optional Year 6 school camp/ Year 5 school camp</i>	\$TBA
<i>Prep – 2 Swimming Program</i>	\$TBA
<i>Optional Year 6 District Sports program (includes Swimming, Athletics, Cross Country, Lightning Premierships)</i>	\$TBA
<i>Other optional incursions and excursions to be scheduled</i> eg. Hooptime competitions, House Sports	\$TBA
<b>Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities</b>	<b>\$TBA</b>

### Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
- Second hand uniform, if available

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

Julie Kennedy

Ph: 03 9705 3800 | Email: [strathaird.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:strathaird.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

### Total

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$
Other Contributions <i>(Non-tax deductible)</i>	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>

### **Payment methods**

All parent payments and contributions can be made on the QKR app or debit/credit card at the school's office.

### **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 any other relevant information.

If a camp or excursion is cancelled or altered by the school, or a student is no longer able to attend part or all of the camp or excursion, the school will consider requests for partial or full refunds of payments made by parents/carers on a case-by-case basis taking into account the individual circumstances. Generally, the school will not be able to refund payments made for costs that have already been paid where those funds have already been transferred or committed to a third party and no refund is available to the school. Where possible, the school will provide information about refunds to parents/carers at the time of payment.

### **Method of reimbursement**

Reimbursements will be processed by way of a credit being applied to the family account unless alternative arrangements are made, which can be used for future activities. If the original payment was made with CSEF Credit, this credit will be reapplied to the family account as CSEF credit.

# 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 requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- 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.