

PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS – 2023 SCHOOL YEAR

1st December 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

South Street Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our 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. We are committed to minimising the cost of education whilst ensuring students at South Street have access to the curriculum items and activities needed to ensure they are successful.

Your contributions and financial support assist your child's learning and our school programs and makes a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer. Your support:

- Provides stationery items your child uses throughout the year, such as pens, pencils, books, whiteboard markers, glue sticks, etc.
- Provides materials and supplies used in Visual Arts – such as paint and clay, for art projects throughout the year
- Provides for materials and supplies used in our Digitech program – such as filament for our 3D printers
- Provides digital and online subscriptions used for learning, such as Wushka – a digital reading program
- Provides for student affiliation, allowing them to compete at local district, division, and state sports competition

Our Booklist Information pack contains a detailed overview of all the items, materials and supplies your contribution supports. These are broken into three categories detailed on the one-page overview attached to this letter.

In 2023, we ask that parents make a one-off contribution of \$100, which provides for all student items and activities listed in the information pack. Please note that it doesn't provide for the optional items that occur throughout the year, such as camps and excursions.

Providing a broad range of opportunities and experiences for students is our goal, and we are extremely thankful for your support in assisting your child's learning.

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

Kind Regards



Brendan Dawson

PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS – CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION

Your 2023 contribution of \$100 can be made on Thursday, the 19th of January, from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

All contributions made on this date will receive 2 tickets to win an Apple iPad. Contributions made after the 19th of January and before Friday, the 10th of February, will receive 1 ticket to win an Apple iPad.

Contributions after this date can be made but they will not go into the draw for the iPad.

Please note that stationery items will be delivered directly to their classrooms and managed by their teacher. Paying your contribution on this day provides you with two tickets to win an Apple iPad valued at \$549.

As an incentive, if you have already signed up or sign up to Compass on this day, you will receive another bonus ticket!

PAYMENT METHODS

Payment can be made on the day by cash, card or using your unique BPAY details. Please ask at the office for your BPAY code.

FAMILY SUPPORT OPTIONS

South Street 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) for uniform needs*
- *Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities*

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

Monica Bethune, Business Manager

Ph: 03 5127 1512 | Email: Monica.Bethune@education.vic.gov.au

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.

Our approach to Parent Payment Arrangements provides you with greater transparency and flexibility regarding our parent payments to ensure that your child has all the necessary essential items needed to participate fully in their education at South Street Primary School.

Please see a one-page overview for further information on the Department's Parent Payments 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.