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| Moe (South Street) Primary SchoolP.O. Box 612, MOE, 3825Telephone: (03) 5127 1512 Fax: (03) 5126 1149Email: moe.ps.south@education.vic.gov.au*‘Be SAFE Be RESPECTFUL Be a LEARNER’* |

**PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS – 2024 SCHOOL YEAR**

11th December 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

South Street Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and we would like to advise you of our voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

We are writing to share some positive news that will undoubtedly be of interest to our parent community. After careful consideration and strategic planning, and following consultation with our School Council, we are pleased to announce that there will be no charge for parent payments for the 2024 school year. This decision reflects our commitment to providing accessible education and a supportive environment for all students, regardless of family circumstances.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian Curriculum, and at South Street Primary School 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 can achieve personal growth and academic success.

We understand that educational expenses can sometimes place a burden on families, and we believe that by eliminating these traditional ‘booklist’ charges, we can contribute to a more inclusive and supportive community.

In 2024, we remained committed to achieving excellence in education to ensure your child’s personal growth and academic success. In pursuit of this, we will continue to invest in resources, programs, and facilities that contribute to their academic and personal growth.

The decision to not seek any voluntary contributions will not impact your child’s education experience at South Street and they will continue to have access to the same stationary items, educational software and experiences as they always have.

I am incredibly pleased to be able to promote this substantial relief for our families. As a school, we are committed to providing excellence in education and working with our families in partnership. The change in our approach is one of many benefits of South Street.

Kind Regards



Brendan Dawson

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| Logo  Description automatically generatedMoe (South Street) Primary SchoolP.O. Box 612, MOE, 3825Telephone: (03) 5127 1512 Fax: (03) 5126 1149Email: moe.ps.south@education.vic.gov.au*‘Be SAFE Be RESPECTFUL Be a LEARNER’* |

**PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS – CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION**

Whilst we have made the decision to not seek any financial contributions, we recognsie that some families may still wish to make a donation and contribution to the cost of their child’s learning and school programs.

Please note, that if you would like to make a donation, all contributions are voluntary.

Any support and contribution will go towards the cost of

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

If you would like to make a voluntary contribution, we have provided the following suggestion for you:

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| **Category** | **Totals** |
| Curriculum Contributions and Other Contributions  | $100 |
| **Parental Contribution:** |  **$100 per student** |

Any 2024 contribution of $100 can be made at the office at any time throughout the year.

**Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – Provided On A User-Pays Basis**

Moe (South Street) 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.

For the cost of extra-curricular items and activities, families will pay for these as they use them. Events will be published via Compass and the associated costs will be communicated at the time of the event along with a payment deadline.

Examples of extra-curriular items and activities include camps, school photos and excursions. An approximation of the costs of these events for our school are included in the table below.

Remember, participation in these events is on a user pays basis.

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| **Extra-Curricular Items and Activities****Approx. costs – to be paid during the year by the due date provided when the event occurs** | **Amount** |
| *School photos – Term 1* | Approx. $*20-45* |
| *School Excursion – Approx 1 per year* | Approx. $25  |
| *Mother’s and Father’s Day Stalls* | Approx. Range $1 - $10 |
| *Optional Grade 3/4 camp – 2025*  | Approx. $250.00 |
| *Optional Grade 5/6 Camp – Term 3 2024* | Approx. $300.00 |
| *Optional Grade 2 Sleepover – early Term 4* | Approx. $10.00 |
| *Optional Grade 6 Graduation Ceremony – late Term 4* | Approx. $52.00 |
| *Optional Grade 6 Merchandise – Term 4*  | Approx. $85  |

**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 substantial relief for families, whilst still ensuring 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**

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|  | 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.
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|  | PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTSSchools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

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| Curriculum ContributionsVoluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum. | Other ContributionsVoluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school’s functions and objectives. | Extra-Curricular Items and ActivitiesItems 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).
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|  | 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.
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|  | 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.
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