



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Melton South Primary School is looking forward to a great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. The ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for your child/children and all of our students. Together we can make a difference. We want to thank you for your support. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school the \$100 voluntary Curriculum Contribution allows us to:

- Provide students with the use of well-maintained digital devices and specialist subject equipment
- Enhance our WIFI and internet services
- Provide quality teaching and hands-on learning and digital resources
- Special curriculum experiences
- Improve playgrounds

Book Packs

As per the new DET policy, in 2024 the school is no longer able to sell book packs and must go through a third party. This means parents will need to supply stationery for their child/children to individually own and use. Attached is a list of items that the school recommends you purchase from Paperchase Office National. We have shown individual item prices so you can compare if you choose to source the book pack yourself.

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

Yours sincerely,

Marilyn Costigan

Principal

Daniel Musial

School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<i>Classroom consumables, materials & equipment</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom – coloured paper for projects and activities • Art – paint, crayons, canvas, modelling clay, coloured paper • STEAM – robotics, electronics • Performing Arts – musical instruments, classroom resources • Mathematics – hands on numeracy equipment • English – Take home readers • Sports – equipment 	
<i>Online Subscriptions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathletics • Reading Eggs 	
<i>ICT Devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets</i>	
<i>Printing and photocopying of learning materials</i>	
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<i>First aid equipment</i>	
<i>Student wellbeing programs</i>	
<i>School Sports Victoria membership</i>	
<i>School grounds maintenance and playground improvements</i>	
Total Amount	\$100.00
PLEASE NOTE THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE A BOOK PACK. BOOK PACK TO BE PURCHASED SEPARATELY FOR STUDENTS TO OWN & USE.	

Educational items for students to own

Attached is a list of items that the school recommends you purchase from Paperchase Office National for your child to individually own and use. We have shown individual item prices so you can compare if you choose to source the book pack yourself.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Melton South 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. This includes incursions, excursions, camps, Grade 6 Graduation and Grade 6 polo shirt for example. Please note there will be additional costs for these. Every endeavour will be made to allow for sufficient time for payment of these extra activities. We will send out separate information about these throughout the year.

Financial Support for Families

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

- Eligible families may also apply for assistance of \$125 (CSEF: Camp, Schools and Excursion Funds) per child to assist with the costs of school camp, sporting events and school excursions.
- Payment plan for Curriculum Contribution: Pay by as many instalments, which suits your budget. This can be \$5, \$10, \$20, every week or fortnight until paid in full. We encourage you to commence progressive payments early.

Contact the School Office for more information.

Payment methods

The Curriculum Contribution can be paid via COMPASS PAY/CASH / EFTPOS / BPAY at the general office. You also have the option to pay it online with your book list with Paperchase Office National. We understand that this could quickly add up for families with more than one child at school, therefore we strongly encourage you to start making progressive payments as soon as possible.

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 Payment Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy and any other relevant information.

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.