

8th November 2023



Dear parent/carers,

Parkhill Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Parkhill's voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. However, your ongoing support and the payment of the contributions are vital and ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students.

Your contribution is critical. Continuing our vibrant school community relies on all families contributing to the cost of our programs. A decrease in parent contributions will negatively impact school programs.

The State Government supplies the basic operational requirements for our school. This is not sufficient funding to deliver the depth of curriculum currently offered and expected at Parkhill Primary School, nor the maintenance and enhancement of our buildings and grounds. The ongoing support from our families ensures our school can offer the best possible education for your children.

These valued financial contributions assist us with the purchase of equipment and resources for all our exceptional curriculum areas including:

- STEAM
- Performing Arts
- Physical Education
- LOTE
- Library
- Garden program

As well as enhancing digital learning opportunities for all students, contributions also support valued-added programs such as Social and Emotional Learning and other welfare programs.

Our preferred method of payment is through Compass. You will receive a notification on Compass. Please contact the school if you need assistance.

We want to thank you for all your support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time. Payment of the contributions adds to our school's capacity to deliver exceptional teaching and learning. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer your children.

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

Yours sincerely,

Joanne Jolly
Principal

Carmelo Conti
School Council President

PARKHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL 4a Parkhill Drive, Ashwood VIC 3147

Phone: 9807 2239 Email: Parkhill.ps@education.vic.gov.au Website: www.parkhillps.vic.edu.au

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<p><i>Classroom consumables, materials & equipment includes, but not limited to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom consumables – pens, pencils, textas, crayons, glue sticks, highlighters, scissors, sharpener, ruler, erasers, pencil case, scrapbooks, document wallets, grid books, exercise books, notepads (\$100) • Specialist consumables – includes coloured paper, cardboard, paint, glitter, clay, crayons, tape, exercise books, sport equipment, science consumables and robotic equipment for STEAM, LOTE, PA, PE (\$60) • Garden consumables – includes all cooking ingredients that students will consume (\$15) • Digital subscriptions – Mathseeds, Reading Eggs, Sunshine Online, Decodable Readers, Seesaw, Essential Assessment, Compass (\$60) • ICT devices – provision of device from the shared classroom sets (\$50) • Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials (\$15) 	\$300
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$300

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School Sports Victoria & SDSSA affiliation Year 5 & 6 only	\$10
Welfare (please nominate an amount)	\$
IT Resources (please nominate an amount)	\$
Total Other Contributions	\$

Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure (Suggested - \$50)	\$
Library fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource. (Suggested - \$50)	\$

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

Parkhill 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 and will be charged via Compass at the same time as a request for consent. These are provided on a user-pays basis. These activities include Excursions for all year levels, Year 3-6 Camps, Year 2 Sleepover, Year F-6 Swimming Program, Year F-6 Athletics Carnival and other events throughout the year. The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
School magazine/yearbook	\$15
Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$15

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans
- Second Hand Uniform Stalls

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact our Business Manager, Jo Ravida, by phone on 9807 2239 or by email at jo.ravida@education.vic.gov.au.

Total

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$300
Other Contributions	<i>(Non-tax deductible)</i> \$
	<i>(Tax-deductible)</i> \$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$15
Total	\$

Payment methods

The Curriculum Contributions, Other Contributions and Extra-Curricular Items and Activities can be paid via Compass Pay, BPay (contact the school office for your details) and in person via EFTPOS/Credit Card at the school 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.

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) including the VCE Vocational Major 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.