

Dear Families,

Monbulk Primary School is looking forward to another great year of learning and teaching and would like to advise you of our parent payments for 2024.

We provide students with free tuition to fulfil the curriculum requirements. 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. We recognise that families are facing increased costs and we have worked hard to minimise any increases for 2024. The contributions for P-2 have increased by only 1% and grades 3-6 have been reduced by 5%.

Within our school, parent contributions have allowed us to:

- Provide the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program
- Equip the STEM Program - purchasing 3D printers, robotics and other equipment
- Equip the Music and Visual Arts Program - provide instruments and equipment
- Maintain up-to-date sets of Readers and books for Class libraries
- Purchase and upkeep of our computer devices to enhance learning opportunities, including purchase and repair of iPads of students in Prep-Gr 2 and 1:1 Netbooks in Gr 3 – Gr 6
- Provide hands-on maths learning equipment
- Facilitate Literacy and Numeracy digital online subscriptions
- Equip PE and Sports Programs to deliver a range of well-maintained sporting equipment
- Maintain and upgrade our grounds, playgrounds, and facilities, including our historical building
- Maintain and purchase Library Books

These contributions are explained overleaf and are voluntary.

The **Building Fund** (tax deductible) is used maintain our heritage features. In 2022 our Building Fund was used to restore our Bell Tower.

If you require any support or advice or have queries regarding voluntary contributions, please contact Estelle Alder or Michelle Bearup on 9756 6481 or email [michelle.bearup@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:michelle.bearup@education.vic.gov.au). Please note that we can also assist families experiencing financial hardship. We can help you with access to **State Schools Relief** (for uniforms), **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund**, **second-hand uniforms**, and **alternative payment arrangements for Extra-Curricular costs**. All conversations are kept strictly confidential.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payment Policy please refer to the attached policy.

Yours sincerely,



Estelle Alder  
Principal



Daniel Jansen  
School Council President

# 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.