



Monbulk Primary School

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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 2025.

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. Thanks to your generosity, whether through fundraising, volunteering, or other contribution, we can deliver a rich and diverse curriculum that includes essential programs and resources.

We recognise the rising costs many families are facing, and we have worked diligently to keep any increases for 2025 to a minimum. Your continued support is crucial in helping us maintain and expand our educational offerings.

Here's how your contributions have made a significant difference:

- **Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program:** Enriching students' understanding of food, nutrition, and sustainability.
- **STEM Program:** Equipping students with 3D printers, robotics, and other advanced technology.
- **Music and Visual Arts Program:** Providing instruments and equipment to foster creativity and artistic expression.
- **Class Libraries:** Keeping our collection of readers and books current and engaging.
- **Technology:** Maintaining and upgrading iPads for early learners and Netbooks for older students to enhance digital learning.
- **Maths Learning Equipment:** Offering hands-on tools for a more interactive learning experience.
- **Literacy and Numeracy Subscriptions:** Providing access to essential digital resources for enhanced learning.
- **PE and Sports Programs:** Supplying well-maintained sporting equipment for a diverse range of physical activities.
- **Facilities:** Upgrading and maintaining our grounds, playgrounds, and historical building to ensure a safe and stimulating environment.
- **Library Books:** Continuously expanding our library to support student reading and research.
- The **Building Fund** (tax deductible) is used maintain our heritage features, with the next project focusing on painting the exterior of our beautiful Heritage Building.

Your voluntary contributions directly support these valuable programs and resources. However, we've seen a decline in collection rates over the past few years—falling from 62% in 2022 to 45% this year. Your continued support is vital for sustaining the quality and scope of our specialist programs.

We kindly ask for your renewed commitment to help us continue providing an outstanding education. Every contribution makes a difference and ensures that we can keep delivering exceptional programs and resources for your children.

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. 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.

Thank you for being an integral part of our school community and for helping us make a lasting impact on our students' education.

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

Expect more Achieve more

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.