



Parent Payments 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Inverleigh Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our school's voluntary financial contributions for **2022**.

The ongoing financial contribution from 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. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer. The contributions of families in the past have allowed us to update our Literacy and Numeracy resources, and to purchase additional sporting equipment, art supplies and digital technology resources.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. The commitment from parents to contribute enables us to provide an enriched learning and teaching program for every student and ensures that all students have access to equipment and creative materials to develop healthy bodies and minds. This benefits all students and results in improved achievement outcomes, wellbeing, and engagement in learning. At Inverleigh Primary School, we design and develop learning and teaching programs drawing on the best educational knowledge and practices. We strive to offer broad and enriched opportunities to students that are above and beyond what is required in the standard curriculum and what is provided for by Government funding.

The Department of Education and Training reviewed parent contribution practices across a significant number of schools last year and found some inconsistency in the way contributions were being requested and managed. In recognition of this, the Department has now made changes to how schools seek contributions to align practices across the system and ensure consistency. The intent is to ensure parents and schools use common terminology and have a shared understanding around parent payment arrangements.

What is different?

The categories under which contributions will be requested have been changed to align with the purpose of the payment:

- **Curriculum Contributions** (previously known as Essential Student Learning Items) support items and activities that help deliver fundamental curriculum or subject learning eg: General classroom materials and equipment.

- **Other Contributions** (previously known as Voluntary Contributions) support the school's operation and function more generally eg: parent communication tools such as Sentral, and school building enhancements.
- Payments for **Extra-Curricular Items and Activities** (previously known as Optional Items) provide for items and activities over and above what is needed to deliver fundamental curriculum learning. These *user pays* contributions enhance the schooling experience for students eg: Optional camps, excursions, and events.

The changes to the Department of Education and Training's Parent Payment Policy mean that we will need to make some changes to the arrangements that we currently have in place for the purchasing of school supplies and the provision of technology devices. For some educational items, (eg: devices, stationary) it makes sense for parents to purchase them from a third-party provider. These changes have been discussed and approved by our School Council. The school considers the necessity of these items, the cost, and the preferred supplier.

At Inverleigh Primary School we have been able to negotiate discounted prices for devices and stationary items through JB HiFi Education Solutions and Kookaburra Educational Resources. More information (attached) will be provided to you about the process for making these third-party purchases.

Our School Council is proud of the traditions of excellence that we have established at Inverleigh Primary School. The quality of the resources and teaching programs available for our students to enjoy as they learn and thrive is outstanding due to the parent contributions that we receive. We thank you again for your continued support!

Our School Council would like to reiterate that the new approach is not aimed at seeking higher financial contributions, but rather to continue the level of contributions and curriculum materials that have been working so well for our children to date. As always, for families undergoing financial hardship, there are various ways the school can help ease the burden so please don't hesitate to ask Anne or Sharon about this.

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

Yours Sincerely,

Sharon Baker
Principal

Matthew Barnett
School Council President

Other Contributions

Other Contributions (previously known as Voluntary Contributions) support the school's operation and function more generally eg: parent communication tools such as Sentral, and school building enhancements.

We will be asking families at the start of Term 1 to please consider contributing to the school with a payment of \$120.00 per student to cover the items outlined below.

The contributions will allow us to continue to update our Literacy and Numeracy resources, supply art and digital technology resources. The payment enables us to provide an enriched learning and teaching program for every student and ensures that all students have access to equipment and creative materials to develop healthy bodies and minds.

Year 3 –6

Item	Cost \$	x No. of students	Sub Total \$
Online resources / iPad apps	70.00		
School diary	10.00		
Life Ed	15.00		
Single use shared classroom supplies –e.g. coloured paper /cover paper / items for projects	10.00		
Art / Science / French shared supplies	15.00		
	<u>120.00</u>	TOTAL \$	

Year Foundation –2

Item	Cost \$	x No. of students	Sub Total \$
Online resources	60.00		
School diary	10.00		
Life Ed	15.00		
Bravehearts	10.00		
Single use shared classroom supplies –e.g. coloured paper /cover paper / items for projects	10.00		
Art / Science / French shared supplies	15.00		
	<u>120.00</u>	TOTAL \$	

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.