

Parent Payment Policy

PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS 2022

Dear parent/guardian,

Merrijig Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Merrijig Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2022. Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, 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's through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support has allowed us to organise and coordinate the best possible programs outside of the traditional teaching and learning classroom structure. These financial contributions assist us with the purchasing of art, music and physical education equipment and resources, which in turn, supports them to be exemplary programs coinciding with our elite classroom teaching of the established subjects such as Reading, Writing and Maths. Other programs which we offer because of your contributions include Bicycle Education, the Skiing Program, and a variety of Welfare Programs. We are also able to subsidise our swimming program and our celebration days such as Harmony Day, or the Footy Day. These programs running alongside the traditional classroom teaching and learning programs are imperative to provide an effectively balanced and rigorous overall education for your children.

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

Under the Department of Education and Training's [Parent Payments Policy](#), Victorian government schools are required to provide transparent information to their school community on voluntary parent/carer contributions. The following document outlines the voluntary parent/carer contributions at our school: [..\Curriculum Contributions letter.docx](#)

Yours sincerely,

Carole McCluskey
Principal

Kimberly Harwood
School Council President

| Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum | Amount |
|---|---------------|
| <p><i>Classroom consumables, materials & equipment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, glue, card, wool, material, wood, beading</i> • <i>Science – ingredients, books, shared classroom materials</i> • <i>Mathematics – numeracy blocks, calculators, textbooks, maths kits</i> • <i>English – book boxes, class sets, novels, readers, textbook</i> • <i>Classroom - highlighters, post-it notes, folders, display books</i> • <i>Sports – equipment, ribbons, materials</i> • <i>Music – instruments, books, pens and folders</i> • <i>Library – books, subscriptions</i> • <i>LOTE program resources</i> | \$50 |
| <p><i>Online Subscriptions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Reading Eggs makes learning to read fun through online games and activities</i> • <i>Maths Seeds</i> • <i>Essential Assessment</i> • <i>uEducateUs to support Report Writing and absences</i> • <i>Mathletics is an engaging app that supports your child's learning of maths</i> | \$50 |
| <p><i>ICT & STEM –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Software and equipment need to sustain and enhance our ICT program.</i> | \$10 |
| <i>Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials</i> | \$5 |
| <p><i>Whole school events:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Athletics carnival</i> • <i>Harmony Day</i> • <i>Swimming carnival -</i> | \$5 |
| Headset: New in prep and replaced as required | \$10 |
| <p><i>SWIMMING LESSONS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bus travel for swimming lessons (all students)</i> • <i>Entry for swimming lessons (6-week program)</i> | \$60 |
| <p><i>MARC (Mobile Area Resource Centre)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Annual fee for library access</i> | \$35 |
| Total Amount | \$225 |
| Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities | Amount |
| <i>Student wellbeing programs: We support individual wellbeing; this includes the engagement of external professionals on a need's basis. Your contribution supports us in developing our knowledge of the many different student needs and the best approach to assist them and the families</i> | \$ |
| <i>School grounds mowing, maintenance and repairs: (please nominate an amount)</i> | \$ |
| Total Amount | \$ |

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Merrijig 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 to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

| Extra-Curricular Items and Activities | Amount | Purchase (Please tick) |
|--|--------|------------------------|
| <i>Optional school camp for years 3 - 6</i> | \$TBA | |
| <i>Optional school camp for years F-2</i> | \$TBA | |
| <i>Optional Interschool Sports, cross country, and athletics</i> | \$TBA | |
| <i>Optional snow sports program</i> | \$TBA | |
| <i>Other optional incursions and excursions to be scheduled</i> | \$TBA | |
| Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities | | \$ |

Financial Support for Families

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

- *the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund to eligible Health Care Card holders*
- *State Schools Relief*

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact:

Sheena Daykin

Ph: 03 57775559 Email: merrijig.ps@education.vic.gov.au

| Your details: | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Student's name: | Year level | \$ |
| | | |
| | | |
| Curriculum Contributions | | \$ |
| Other Contributions | | \$ |
| Extra-Curricular Items and Activities | | \$ |
| TOTAL | | \$ |

Payment methods

- *Cash*
- *EFTPOS*
- *Direct deposit to the school's bank account. Commonwealth Bank: 063 711/ 10026554*

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 | Other Contributions | Extra-Curricular Items and Activities |
|--|---|--|
| Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum. | Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives. | 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 (eg. 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.