



Parent Payments

Rationale:

The quality and variety of educational programs offered by our school are enhanced if departmental funds are supplemented by voluntary contributions. Parent Payments cover Essential Education Items, Optional Extras and Voluntary Financial Contributions.

Essential Education Items:

- This payment covers the provision of consumable classroom items for your child. The school also purchases items from this payment to resource programs such as Library, Visual and Performing Arts, Physical and Sport Education, Environmental Program and the provision of IT equipment and support for staff and students. This allows us to provide the depth of programs, and quality facilities, beyond basic funds provided by the Department, and which contribute overall to the outstanding reputation enjoyed by the school.

Technology Levy:

- Cheltenham Primary School has been at the forefront of delivering education to our students through a state-of-the-art technological learning environment. All areas of the curriculum taught here feature extensive use of equipment such as notebook computers, iPads, iPods, television monitors, interactive whiteboards, an ICT lab and data projectors. To continue to provide these learning tools for students, School Council has resolved that a technology levy is essential in order to maintain, update, improve and provide a modern technological environment for the benefit of all students.

Optional Extras:

- These are offered to students on a user-pays basis which parents and guardians give consent to their child/ren to participate in (eg. excursions, extracurricular programs, Kitchen and Garden consumables, Instrumental Program, school productions etc.) Optional extras will be invoiced each term, with details of each item.

Voluntary Financial Contributions

- Parents and guardians are invited to contribute to the school Building Fund and Library Fund.

Aims:

- To provide high quality learning opportunities that will cater for the needs of all students.

Implementation:

- Parents are to be provided with early notice of requests of parent payments.
- School council will make clear distinctions between payment of essential education items and voluntary contributions.
- School Council will provide all parents with information detailing the purposes for which payments are being collected.
- School Council seeks to supplement DEECD funds by seeking voluntary contributions from parents and guardians.
- School Council requests for voluntary contributions will be kept to a reasonable level and within expectations of the school community.
- Voluntary contributions are not compulsory, and students whose parents have not paid voluntary contributions will have access to the standard curriculum program.
- The status and details of any payments or non-payments by parents and guardians are confidential.
- As with all parent payments to the school, School Council will provide opportunities for all parents experiencing financial difficulties to enter into alternative and confidential payment arrangements with the Principal.
- Reminders for unpaid essential education items and optional items will be prepared and distributed via statements, to families, outlining their payment status, no more than twice per term.
- The school will offer payment options to all families – Credit Card, BPay, EMA assignment, Cheque, Cash as outlined on the Parent Payment Charges.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle. School Council will review the level and purpose of parent payments annually.