

Monday 14 November 2022

Dear parent/carer/s of students in Foundation, Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 5 and Grade 6 (2023 school year),

Seaholme Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the voluntary financial contributions for 2023.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements 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 is 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 have a wider offering of subjects, special curriculum experiences and enhanced digital learning opportunities.

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

Collection of Book Packs

In 2023, each student in Grades Foundation to 6 will receive their own Stationery and Book Pack. Parents of students in all year levels are NOT required to collect the Stationery and Book Packs as they will be delivered directly to the classrooms.

We look forward to another year of 'success for all' at Seaholme Primary School!

Yours sincerely,

James Barger Acting Principal

Andrea Kehoe School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<p>Stationery and Book Pack</p> <p>Each child will receive their own Stationery and Book Pack that will contain some of the classroom materials required for the year. The Stationery and Book Pack will include items such as pencils, pens, glue sticks, scissors, exercise books, folders, document wallets, etc. An itemised list will be provided with the pack.</p>	\$50.00
<p>Visual Arts</p> <p>Visual Arts materials, folios, workbooks, coloured paper, textiles, modelling and creative art materials including clay and glazes.</p>	\$25.00
<p>STEM</p> <p>Workbooks and STEM consumable supplies and digital subscriptions.</p>	\$10.00
<p>Performing Arts</p> <p>Workbooks and Performing Arts consumable supplies. Updating and purchasing new Performing Arts equipment (musical instruments, costumes, props, digital technology for recording purposes) for student use during Performing Arts lessons, lunchtime club and the school band.</p>	\$10.00
<p>Physical Education</p> <p>Updating and purchasing new sports equipment for student use during Physical Education lessons, Interschool Sports as well as for use during recess and lunch breaks.</p>	\$20.00
<p>Swimming Program</p> <p>Annual swimming program for all students, further details to be provided.</p>	\$TBC
<p>Mandarin</p> <p>Workbooks and Mandarin consumable supplies and digital subscriptions.</p>	\$10.00
<p>Online Subscriptions</p> <p>Subscriptions for Reading Eggs and Mathletics.</p>	\$30.00
<p>ICT Devices</p> <p>The provision of devices from the shared classroom sets.</p>	\$50.00
<p>Printing & Photocopying of Curriculum Learning Materials</p>	\$55.00
<p>Total Amount</p>	\$260.00

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<p>School Grounds Contribution (recommended per family)</p> <p>School Council believes it is very important that the school grounds are always kept neat, well maintained and safe for all children. A recommended voluntary annual contribution of \$30 per family will enable School Council to maintain the school grounds to a high standard without the need to conduct regular working bees.</p>	\$30.00
<p>Air Conditioning Contribution (recommended once per new family)</p> <p>School Council elected to have air conditioning installed in all classrooms. The financing of this facility is the school's responsibility, as the Government does not provide funds for air-conditioning. Families new to the school are asked to contribute to this cost with a recommended voluntary 'once only' contribution of \$50.00 per family. This is a modest contribution, but a most important one in order to meet regular running costs.</p>	\$50.00
Tax deductible contributions	
<p>Building Fund Donation</p> <p>The Seaholme Primary School Council has set up a Building Fund that has a Deductible Gift Recipient status with the Australian Taxation Office. This means that the school is now able to accept donations from parents and organisations, specifically for the School Building Fund, which will be tax deductible for the donor.</p>	
Total Amount	\$80.00

Educational items for students to own

Below is a list of items that the school recommends you purchase for your child to individually own and use.

- Large box of tissues (to be shared in the classroom).
- Library Bag: a bag can be provided by the school at no charge or alternatively you may bring your own recycle bag or library bag from home.
- Art smock: Seaholme Primary School art smocks may be purchased from our uniform provider or alternatively you may provide your own waterproof art smock.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Seaholme 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 in order to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
<p>Foundation and New Students - Home Reader Bag</p> <p>Each child will require a Home Reader Bag. These bags are used to transport classroom library books, along with home readers to and from school. Hard copy parent communication is also put in this bag along with diaries when students are in the later years of primary school.</p>	\$10.00
<p>Additional Extra-Curricular Items & Activities</p> <p>These items and activities are designed to enhance and broaden the educational experience of students, such as instrumental music, extension classes, camps, etc. The cost of these items will be communicated to parents/carers prior to the activity, should the school be able to offer these programs to students.</p>	\$TBC
<p>Excursion Contribution</p> <p>Incursions and excursions are provided to students to enhance and broaden their experience.</p> <p>It is anticipated that a minimum of four incursions/excursions will occur for each student throughout the 2023 school year.</p> <p>A detailed list of all excursions will be available to parents/carers upon request at the end of the 2023 school year.</p>	\$120.00
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	\$130.00

Total

Category	
Curriculum Contributions	\$260.00
Other Contributions	\$80.00
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$130.00

Financial Support for Families

Seaholme Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty. If, for any reason, you experience difficulty making payments please contact James Barger, Acting Principal or Rachael Stevanovski, Acting Business Manager on 9398 2806 to confidentially discuss support options and payment arrangements. Current supports in place include:

- The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF),
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
- An opportunity to purchase second-hand uniform, and
- Support from State Schools Relief.

If you have any questions in relation to the Parent Payments, please do not hesitate to contact Rachael Stevanovski, Acting Business Manager on 9398 2806.

Payment methods

Payments can be made via the QKR! App which is the preferred method. Credit/Debit cards can also be accepted at the office or by completing your payment details on the pink form attached and returning it to the school office.

Please note:

- Unfortunately, payments cannot be taken on the morning of Monday 30 January 2023 as all staff will be focusing on transitioning students from Foundation to Grade 6, quickly and safely into their classrooms.

Refunds

We will consider requests for partial or full refunds of payments made by parents on a case-by-case basis taking into account individual circumstances. In general, we will not be able to refund payments made for items purchased or costs that have already been paid where those funds have already been transferred to a third party. For example, camp or swimming costs; where a child becomes unwell and cannot attend and the payment has already been made or committed to a third party and no refund is available to the school. Where possible, we will make this clear to parents at the time of payment.

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) 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.