



Carrum Primary School 3385  
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10 October 2023

Dear parent/guardian,

Carrum Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Carrum Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

Our School Council is proud of the excellent quality of our facilities and resources available for our students to enjoy and few schools match the numerous programs we offer to cater for students' needs and interests. However, these do not come without some extra costs involved.

At Carrum 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.

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. The environment and resources that we enjoy today represent the contributions made by our parent/carer community over many years. Parent/Carers contributions make significant difference to the quality of our programs. This financial support ensures that we can continue to provide the excellent range of facilities and resources for your children.

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 & resources as well as renewing and enhancing the provision of digital technology (including robotics) throughout the school; upgrading the Valetta Street Boundary fence; complete playground safety works and replacement of the old classroom furniture.

Your support in 2023 allowed us to continue to offer opportunities unique to Carrum PS:

- Radio production and presentation through Carrum Kids Radio (CKR)
- Friends of Carrum Foreshore
- Carrum Beach Patrol
- 'I See, I Care' (ISIC) Program
- Rum-B Run Farmlet
- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program
- 5-star Sustainability program
- 'Step-up' program
- Wellbeing Program
- Host 'Big Green Schools' annual conference

Please find below Carrum Primary School's voluntary financial contributions schedule for 2024, which includes an overview of what your contributions will assist us to offer.

Department of Education guidelines now mandate that schools are UNABLE to provide parents with a statement of amounts owing. Parents are asked to please review the recommended voluntary financial contributions schedule below for an indication of recommended contributions for your child/ren.

Refunds can be requested in writing. 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.

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

Yours sincerely,

**Clem LANGFORD (Principal)**

**Louise CHILDS (School Council President)**

<b>Curriculum Contributions</b> - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	<b>Amount</b>
<i>Classroom consumables, materials &amp; equipment</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper etc</li> <li>• Science &amp; Cooking consumables</li> <li>• Sports – equipment</li> <li>• Welfare – student diary</li> </ul>	\$30
<i>Online subscriptions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletics (\$17)</li> <li>• Essential Assessment (\$20)</li> <li>• Soundwaves or similar (\$20)</li> <li>• SeeSaw or similar (\$13)</li> </ul>	\$70
<i>ICT devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets</i>	\$40
<i>Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials</i>	\$10
<b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<i>Swimming and water safety program (P-2 – July/Aug) &amp; (Y34 – Mar/Apr) \$20-50 approx.</i>	\$TBA

<b>Other Contributions</b> - for non-curriculum items and activities	<b>Amount</b>
<i>Student wellbeing programs (Incl. Berry Street)</i>	\$20
<i>First aid equipment and consumables</i>	\$10
<i>School grounds maintenance and improvements (including RBR)</i>	\$20
<b>Total Other Contributions</b>	<b>\$50</b>

### **Educational items for students to own**

Attached is a list of items that the school recommends you purchase from Winc for your child to individually own and use. Packs range from \$70 to \$130 depending on your child's year level in 2024.

<b>Educational Items for students to own (stationery items)</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Stationery items purchased per student (refer to letter from Winc)	\$ see lists

### **Curriculum Contributions and Other Contributions**

The curriculum contribution levies suggested below can also be paid to Winc at the time of purchasing your student stationery pack. Alternatively, contributions can be paid direct to the school in January 2024 and throughout the 2024 school year if you wished to spread your contributions.

### Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Carrum Primary School offers a range of optional 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. Further details and exact costings will be provided to families closer to the activity date. The table below is an expected list of activities/events the school will offer in 2024.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
School photos (paid direct to Advanced Life Photography)	\$~60
Y3/4 School camp (paid direct to school)	\$~350
Y5/6 School camp (paid direct to school)	\$~500
Interschool sporting competitions Y3-6 (paid direct to school)	\$~100
Y6 jumper (2023 Year 5 students only) (paid direct to PSW)	\$ 77
Other Optional Excursions to be scheduled (paid direct to school)	\$~120
<b>Extra-Curricular Items and Activities are optional &amp; on a user-pays basis</b>	

### Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- CentrePay through Centrelink
- Tailored payment options

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

Ph: 03 9772-1117 | Email: [clare.bennett2@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:clare.bennett2@education.vic.gov.au)

### Totals

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 150.00
Other Contributions <i>(Non-tax deductible)</i>	\$ 50.00
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$ refer to year level
<b>Total (suggested)</b>	<b>\$ 200 + booklist</b>

**Payment methods**

BPAY / Direct Deposit / eftPOS / CompassPay

Please use your family reference number if paying by direct deposit and note that your family has a unique BPay reference number. These details can be found on your statement that can be sent home or emailed to you if you contact the office.

**Refunds**

All refunds must be requested in writing.

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 Payments Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy, and any other relevant information.

Thank-you for your support.

# 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.