



14/11/2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Barrawang Primary School would like to advise you of our voluntary financial contributions for 2025. These contributions are per student and are an annual charge.

The Barrawang Primary School Council has approved the Parent Contributions for 2025 which fall within the guidelines of the DET Parent Payment Policy. For further information on the Department's Parent Payment Policy please see a one-page overview at the end of this document

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.

Parent contributions in all forms are highly valued by our school and will allow us to organise and coordinate rich, extensive programs and materials beyond what is required in the standard curriculum and what is provided for by Department funding. We make every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all families.

Financial Support for Families

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

- State Schools Relief Fund (SSR)

SSR is a not-for-profit organisation that works side by side with all Victorian primary, secondary and specialist schools to ensure that a student whose family is facing hardship have the necessary items that their child requires for school. SSR can provide students with essential clothing/uniform, footwear and other educational resources.

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school incursion/excursions, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession healthcare card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF.

- Compass instalment options and flexible payment arrangements
- Individualised payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact: Jess Williams (Business Manager) Ph: 8652 8590 | Email: barrawang.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Payment Methods

Barrawang Primary School's preferred method of payment is via the Compass parent portal.

Families can opt to access the 6 monthly payment instalments below via their Compass portal or can contact the school to set up a more individualised payment plan within Compass. At any stage during this period, families can cancel their instalment agreement by emailing the school in writing.

6 monthly payments on the 20th of each month: February (25%), March (15%), April (15%), May (15%), June (15%) and July (15%).

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.

Yours sincerely,

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Classroom consumables, materials & equipment (\$110 / \$27.50 per term) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom – pens, pencils, textas, markers, glue sticks, writing, graph, scrap and display books, highlighters, folders, scissors, rulers, erasers, sharpeners, white copy and coloured paper, post it notes etc. Inquiry – ingredients, books, paper, posters, shared classroom materials etc. Mathematics – numeracy blocks, maths kits, paper, whiteboard, markers etc Literacy – book boxes, class sets, novels, take home books, paper, diaries etc 	\$110
Specialist consumables, materials & equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> STEM and Digital Technologies - Robotics, sustainable reverse art materials and equipment, cooking materials and equipment (\$20 / \$5 per term) Creative Arts – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, glue, card, wool, wood, clay, sand, material, instruments etc. (\$20 / \$5 per term) Performing Arts – costumes, props, equipment, shared classroom writing materials, workbooks etc (\$20 / \$5 per term) Physical Education (P.E) – replacement sporting equipment, ribbons etc (\$10 / \$2.50 per term) Reach Groups – whole school wellbeing activities each term along with annual school events such as special persons day (\$10 / \$2.50 per term) 	\$80
Online subscriptions (\$35 / \$8.75 per term) Literacy: Soundwaves (Spelling) Sora Online (Reading) Little Learners (Spelling & Reading) \$18.50 Numeracy: Essential Assessment (Math) \$15.50	\$35
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials (\$25 / \$6.25 per term)	\$25
Electronic Devices (iPads – School Owned) (\$30/ \$7.50 per term) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICT - provision of devices from the shared classroom sets, applications and IT technician costs 	\$30
Amount	\$280
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
First aid – Employment of a full time first aid officer to manage medical conditions/injuries and administer medication, provision of first aid equipment and materials including spare emergency clothing	\$25
Library program – Oliver library system, subscriptions, shelving, catalogue barcoding and extension of books to sustain the library as a valuable resource for students	\$25
Amount	\$50
Total Annual Amount	\$330

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities - 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.

- Annual School photos
- Interschool sporting programs inc. affiliations (Years 3 - 6)
- Year 6 Graduation Ceremony
- Extra-Curricular Excursions and Incursion Activities
- Swimming and Water Safety Program
- School Camps

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities are provided on a user-pays basis with costs advised as they occur throughout the year.

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.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS

FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- **\$150 for primary school students**
- \$250 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

