



20th October 2025

Dear Parent/guardian,

Yarraville Special Developmental School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

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, support and opportunities for our students.

Within our school this support has allowed us to provide a broad and engaging curriculum that is highly differentiated to ensure learning is at the point of need for every student. It allows us to provide essential learning resources to students, renew and enhance the provision of digital technology throughout the school, improve assessment practices, and to organize and coordinate rich and extensive programs outside of the traditional teaching and learning classroom structure. Our Specialist programs of Visual Art, Science, Horticulture and PE are exemplary, and your financial contributions assist us with the purchasing of varied art resources, science equipment, sporting equipment and much more.

Other programs which we are able to offer because of your contributions include Art Therapy, Wellbeing groups such as Canine intervention, learn to play program, just to name a few. All of these programs play an essential role in maximizing academic and well-being outcomes for every student and ensure their experiences at YSDS are engaging, meaningful and effective.

Yarraville Special Developmental School is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth)* with the result that any donations made by you will be tax deductible. To be tax deductible, your donation needs to be made voluntarily. We have suggested an amount to be contributed under “Curriculum Contributions” and “Other Contributions” below, but please feel free to contribute an alternative amount. Amounts paid under “Extra-Curricular Items and Activities” are not donations and are not tax deductible.

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

Yours sincerely,

Caitriona Toland

Caitriona Toland
Principal
Yarraville SDS

Whole School 2026 Parent Payment Contributions

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Classroom consumables, materials & equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulk Classroom Stationery – pencils, exercise books, coloured paper, sticky tape, staplers, whiteboard, etc (\$55.00) • Specialist – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, clay, sports equipment, musical instruments and performing arts and dance props (\$45.00) • Classroom resources – sensory items, communication resources, regulation supports (\$50.00) • Online Subscriptions – Reading eggs, Story box, Math's seeds (\$25.00) 	\$175.00
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$ (parent to complete)

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
Parent communication tools (Compass, iNewsletter, See Saw)	\$25.00
Student wellbeing programs & SWPBS	\$50.00
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$50.00
Total Other Contributions	\$ (parent to complete)

Educational items for students to own

Yarraville Special developmental School provides all resources to students to access the curriculum and does not expect families to purchase any items from third parties.

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

Yarraville Special Developmental 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.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular items and Activities	Amounts
Camps and excursions to be scheduled (Cost TBA)	\$TBA
Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$TBA

Financial Support for Families

Yarraville SDS understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- 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:

Toni Bohannon

Ph: 03 9314 4919 | Email: Toni.Bohannon@education.vic.gov.au

Category	Totals
Total tax-deductible Contributions	\$300.00
Total	\$ (parent to complete)

Payment methods

Payments will be accepted via EFT, BPAY and cash at the school office.

Contribution 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. Please see the Yarraville SDS School Refund Policy for more details.

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.