

3<sup>rd</sup> November 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.

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

# 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.

## 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"> <li>Bulk Classroom Stationery – pencils, exercise books, coloured paper, sticky tape, staplers, whiteboard, etc (\$55.00)</li> <li>Specialist – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, clay, sports equipment, musical instruments and performing arts and dance props (\$45.00)</li> <li>Classroom resources – sensory items, communication resources, regulation supports (\$50.00)</li> <li>Online Subscriptions – Reading eggs, Story box, Math's seeds (\$25.00)</li> </ul> | \$175.00        |
| <b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>\$175.00</b> |

| 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         |
| <b>Total Other Contributions</b>                              | <b>\$125.00</b> |

| Category                                 | Totals          |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Curriculum Contributions                 | \$175.00        |
| Other Contributions (Non-tax deductible) | \$125.00        |
|                                          |                 |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>\$300.00</b> |

### 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.