

Dear Parent/Guardian,

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

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum. 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 voluntary contributions, fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this voluntary 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 purchasing of art, music and physical education equipment and resources, enhances IT facilities and equipment. Other programs which we are able to offer because of your contributions include a wide variety of Wellbeing programs, Extension Mathematics, an enhanced Language Support program and our first aid facilities. We are also able to heavily subsidise the Swimming program.

All parent contributions are voluntary and we thank you for your continued support of our extensive, extra school programs and resources.

Beechworth Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents. The 2023 Parent Payment Arrangements have been approved with careful consideration by the School Council to strike a balance between affordability and accessible education materials that enrich each students learning experience.

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

Yours sincerely,

Sue McDonald - Principal

Rani Macaulay - School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount Per student
Classroom consumables, materials & equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, craft materials • Mathematics – numeracy blocks, maths kits • English – book boxes, class sets, novels, readers • Sports – equipment, ribbons, materials • Science - equipment • Diary or my reading log Printing and Photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$100
IT Facilities and Equipment including classroom ICT shared devices	\$30
Online Subscriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential Assessments- My Numeracy & My Literacy (Grade 1 to 6 only) • Soundwaves online (Foundation to Grade 2 only) 	\$15 \$13
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School Sports Victoria membership	\$5.00
School Assistance fund	\$10.00
First aid equipment	\$10.00
School grounds improvements	\$10.00
Compass	\$5.00
Sustainability Programs	\$10.00
Library donation (books)	\$20.00
Total Amount	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	
Beechworth 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, examples Camps, Excursions, Incursions and Interschool Sports. Consent and payment for Excursions, Camps and other activities will be communicated to parents via Compass closer to the event.	

Booklist will be sent out in December for all year levels.

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund *to eligible to Health Care Card Holders*
- State Schools Relief
- Parent Payment Plans via Compass

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

Samantha Hemphill

Ph: 03 5728 1066 | Email: samantha.hemphill@education.vic.gov.au

Payment methods



Payments will be accepted from the 1st of January and no sooner so that the funds are able to be receipted in the correct year.

From the 1st of January payments will be available to made via the course confirmation and payment tab within compass. If you are having issues with login details please contact the office before the end of the term and we will be able to reset your password. If you are using the app the course confirmation alert will show up once the curriculum contributions have been made active. When using the web browser there will be the course confirmation alert or you have the option of clicking on the icon that looks like a rubix cube then selecting course confirmation and payment.



New families will receive their login letters on the state wide step up day on the 13th of December.

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.

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 standard curriculum requirements in Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.
- 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.