

# ELECTRONIC FUNDS MANAGEMENT POLICY

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set out how our school will manage electronic funds in accordance with applicable Department of Education and Training policy and law.

## SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- All staff/responsible persons involved in management of funds transacted electronically
- All transactions carried out by Bellaire Primary School via the methods set out in this policy

## POLICY

Bellaire Primary has developed this policy consistently with the [Schools Electronic Funds Management Guidelines](#) and [Section 4 Internal Controls](#) of the Finance Manual for Victorian Government schools.

### Implementation

- Bellaire Primary school council requires that all actions related to internet banking are consistent with The Department's [Schools Electronic Funds Management Guidelines](#).
- Bellaire Primary school council approves the use Combiz of as the approved software for all internet banking activities as individual authority and security tokens are required.
- All payments through internet banking software must be consistent with Department requirements and must be authorised by the Principal and one other member of school council nominated by the school council.
- Bellaire Primary school council will determine how refunds will be processed and any refunds processed through the EFTPOS terminal and will be recorded in a refund register.
- Bellaire Primary will undertake maintenance and upgrading of hardware and software as required.
- Bellaire Primary will ensure proper retention/disposal of all transaction records relating to accounts such as purchase orders, tax invoices/statements, vouchers, payroll listings and relevant CASES21 reports.

### EFTPOS

- The Principal of Bellaire Primary, will ensure all staff operating the merchant facility are aware of security requirements. At our school, this includes: two members present at all times.
- School council minutes must record which staff are authorised to process transactions.
- No "Cash Out" will be permitted on any school EFTPOS facility.
- Bellaire Primary will accept EFTPOS transactions via telephone.
- Bellaire Primary school to decide locally if refunds will be processed through EFTPOS

### BPay

- Bpay transactions will be recorded using CASES21 and in accordance with the appropriate process guide instructions.
- To ensure the correct allocation of payments, parents are asked to forward the consent form or remittance advice from their statement with the charges being paid marked. If the school does not receive this advice within two days of the payment being made, the funds will be allocated at the schools discretion.
- Alternatively parents may email [bellaire.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:bellaire.ps@education.vic.gov.au) for the attention of the Business Manager and quote the charge number being paid.

### Qkr!

- Mastercard, through the Qkr! phone app provides schools with the ability to accept non-cash student payments through a smartphone, iPhone or an Android phone.
- The use of Qkr! allows schools to increase the options and convenience provided to parents as well as improving security by reducing the amount of cash handled and kept on school premises.
- Qkr! is managed by administration staff and overseen by the Business Manager.
- Batches are generated daily when Qkr! payments have been received. Qkr! transaction reports are sent via email and are then reconciled to the Official Account via Cases21 Bpay.
- The office is not able to refund directly through Qkr!, this is completed by Mastercard for transactions cancelled within the app.
- Payments that are paid for through Qkr! and then not required, e.g. student didn't attend an excursion; will be credited to the family account by a credit note on Cases21.

### Direct Debit

- All direct debit agreements must be approved and signed by school council prior to implementation.
- The school council requires all suppliers to provide tax invoices/statements to the school prior to direct debiting any funds from the school's account
- A direct debit facility allows an external source to a pre-arranged amount of funds from the school's official account on a pre-arranged date. Any such payments will be authorised as appropriate and required.
- Bellaire Primary will ensure adequate funds are available in the Official Account for the "sweep" of funds to the supplier.

### Direct Deposit

- Bellaire Primary utilises a "two user authorisation of payments" banking package, as it contains a greater degree of security and access controls.
- Creditor details will be kept up to date and the treatment of GST for creditors will be monitored.
- Payment transactions will be uploaded as a batch through the CASES21 system.
- All payments made through the internet banking system must be authorised by two authorised officers.
- The various internal controls that need to be considered include:
  - The identification of staff with administrative responsibilities Business Manager to access statements and upload batches
  - The identification of staff with authorisation/signatory responsibilities. The Principal and School council delegate for the authorisation of payments]
  - The Business Manager must not have banking authorisation/signatory responsibilities other than for the transferring of funds between school bank accounts
  - The allocation and security of personal identification number (PIN) information or software authorisation tokens
  - The setting up of payee details in CASES21
  - The authorisation of transfer of funds from the official account to payee accounts
    - Alternative procedures for processing, using the direct deposit facility, for periods of Business Manager's and Principal leave of absence.

### BPay

Bellaire Primary school council will approve in writing the school council's decision for the utilisation of BPAY.

Payments made by BPay are subject to the same requirements as for all transactions relating to accounts such as:

- Purchase orders
- Tax invoices/statements
- Payment vouchers
- Signed screen prints and payee details
- Relevant cases21 reports etc.

This includes a requirement for the principal to sign and date BPay transaction receipts attached to authorised payment vouchers.

### FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Finance Manual for Victorian Government Schools
  - [Section 3 Risk Management](#)
  - [Section 4 Internal Controls](#)
  - [Section 10 Receivables Management and Cash Handling](#)

Available from: [Finance Manual — Financial Management for Schools](#)

- [Schools Electronic Funds Management Guidelines](#)
- CASES21 Finance Business Process Guide
  - [Section 1: Families](#)
- [Internal Controls for Victorian Government Schools](#)
- [ICT Security Policy](#)
- [Public Records Office Victoria](#)
- [Records Management — School Records](#)

### REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last approved by School Council on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022 and is scheduled for review in February 2023.