

PARENT PAYMENT POLICY & ARRANGEMENTS 2024

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Bellaire Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Bellaire Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, the ongoing support from our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education for our students. We want to thank you for all your support; whether that's through fundraising or volunteering your time - we appreciate it greatly. This has a profound and positive impact on our school and the programs we are able to offer.

Within our school, this support allows us to provide an enriched learning and teaching program for every student, and is highly valued by our school community. The commitment and contributions from parents benefits students and results in improved achievement outcomes, wellbeing and engagement in learning. Without these contributions programs such as Bike Ed, puberty program, inquiry emersion, STEAM experiments and enriched ART projects will not go ahead.

At Bellaire Primary School, we design and develop learning and teaching programs that draw upon the best educational knowledge and practices, and strive to offer broad and enriched opportunities to students that are above and beyond what is required in the standard curriculum and what is provided for by Government funding.

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

Yours sincerely,



Suzanne Prendergast
Principal



Ben Craven
School Council President

Curriculum 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"> - Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, paper - Science – chemicals, masking tape, applications, construction supplies - Inquiry – grocery items, craft items, construction supplies - Sports – equipment 	\$100.00
Online Subscriptions Prep to Year 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sunshine Online, Story Box, Essential Assessment, Maths 300, Teach Starter, Seesaw, Twinkle Year 3 to Year 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JAMF, Essential Assessment, Maths 300, Teach Starter, Seesaw, Twinkle 	\$42.00
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$10

Other Contributions

Bellaire Primary School continues to welcome your contributions to support our school. You can make a contribution to any of the specific priorities outlined in the table below:

Other Contribution - for non-curriculum items and activities	Tax deductible?	Suggested Voluntary Contribution per family
Computer/Technology Replacement Program A donation of \$40 per child to ensure that Bellaire Primary School stays at the forefront of technology. We ask that all families support this initiative, which has been developed to ensure we maintain our ICT equipment at the highest standard across all Learning Communities.	No	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00
Student Wellbeing Support A donation of \$20 per child is recommended by the School Council to support extending our student wellbeing initiatives to best support the needs of our students, whether it be individual, small groups or whole class.	No	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00
General Donation Supports the replacement of furniture and equipment, Ground's maintenance and Development including Playgrounds, Shade Sails and Play surfaces (amounts are suggested only)	No	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100.0
School Buildings Fund All families are invited to donate to support ongoing improvements to school buildings and facilities. All funds raised will be targeted to further develop our learning spaces in 2022 (amounts are suggested only)	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100.0

Educational items for students to own

Attached is a list of items that the school recommends you purchase from *Paperchase Office National* for your child to individually own and use. These packs will be delivered directly to the school in the week prior to the school year commencing in 2024.

Parents have the option to purchase the Student Stationery Pack from another business and/or provide their own.

Bellaire Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

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

Extra - Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
School Camps for Grade 3 to Grade 6 Students	To be confirmed closer to the event
Grade 6 Graduation	To be confirmed closer to the event
Excursions and Incursions held throughout the year including Inter school sports etc.	To be confirmed closer to the event

Financial Support for Families

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

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments to eligible students to attend camps, sports, and excursions. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply and a special consideration category also exists.
- Payment plan options
- State Schools Relief may cover the cost of new school uniforms, shoes, books and more for disadvantaged students. Parents or Carers who require assistance need to make an appointment with the school to discuss their situation.
- Local community supports such as Rotary, Lions Club of Highton, St Vincent de Paul and the Salvation Army provide financial assistance, scholarships, and bursaries to needy families in our school community. Access to these supports is available through referral from the Student Welfare Coordinator.
- Bellaire Primary School runs a Second-hand Uniform sale once per term – uniforms are donated and sold for a gold coin donation to our Student Wellbeing Program. This is then used in various ways to support students from disadvantaged families in our school community, including initiatives such as providing new or used uniforms to students and families, paying for camps & excursions, etc.

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

Cathy McHenry – Business Manager

Ph: 03 5243 5203

Email: bellaire.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Total

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 152.00
Other Contributions	<i>(Non-tax deductible)</i> \$
	<i>(Tax-deductible)</i> \$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$
Total	\$

Payment Methods



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 refer to our Refund Policy on our website - bellaireps.vic.edu.au - or by contacting our school office.

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.