



Dear Parent/Carer,

MIDDLE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY 2025

Middle Park Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our Parent Payments Policy and voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

The Department of Education and Training worked with schools to strengthen the Parent Payments Policy to ensure there is transparency and consistency for all Victorian schools and families, and ensure schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements and 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 and support for our students.

Parent payments fall into the three following categories:

- Curriculum Contributions
- Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
- Other Contributions

Please be assured Middle Park Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents. A strategic goal of the school is to be recognised as one of the leading schools in the State providing the best possible start in life for the children. We are continually striving to achieve the best for all the children and these contributions, which are approved by School Council, will allow us to provide extra programs and equipment. Our families have always supported the school in many ways, through fundraising and volunteering your time and high levels of parent payment contributions, which has enabled us to provide the wonderful programs and opportunities provided at Middle Park Primary School. We spend considerable time selecting the most appropriate requisites to meet the needs of our students and no student will be treated differently, denied access or refused instruction to the standard curriculum program for not making a payment or other contribution.

Family Contributions are used to cover additional expenditure not covered by Government funding. To put this into context, at Middle Park Primary School Government funding makes up just over a third of the school's income and fundraising, depending on the year, is approximately 15%. The contributions outlined in this letter below represent the largest portion of the school's recurrent revenue, as highlighted below:

2025 Indicative Estimates	\$	%
Department of Education Cash Grant	\$429,179	36%
Parent Payment Contributions	\$441,721	37%
Fundraising	\$185,250	16%
Other Income (Team Kids, bank interest, hall hire, ads, etc.)	\$134,440	11%
	\$1,190,590	100%

In 2025, the Victorian Government is providing a one-off \$400 School Saving Bonus to help families in Government schools cover the cost of school uniforms, textbooks, and school activities like camps, excursions and sports. Additional information about the initiative and how to allocate your funds has been provided in Compass.

Financial Support for Families

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

- Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF) provided by DET and is automatically paid to the school for families holding a valid means-tested concession card. If eligible primary school students receive \$150 per year. Applications are made via the school and payments commence from March 2024 until June 2025. More information and application forms will be sent out at the beginning of 2025.
- State Schools Relief to assist with clothing and uniforms.
- Payment Plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services or an alternative contribution plan please contact Naomi Hayes on 9690 1336 or email naomi.hayes@education.vic.gov.au

All contributions will be listed and payable via Compass.

Payment Methods

The following 3 payment options are available:

1. Payment in full – via credit card authority on the attached form or Compass using a valid credit/debit card, on or before Friday 7 March 2025
2. Compass instalment plan across two payments via a valid credit/debit card on:
07/03/2025 and 09/05/2025
Or across four payments:
07/03/2025 09/05/2025 11/07/2025 3/10/2025
3. Personalised payment plans via Compass – arranged by contacting Naomi Hayes, Business Manager

Refunds Policy:

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.

We want to thank you for all your ongoing support, which ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students. This makes a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

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

Yours sincerely,



Tim Newton
Principal



Mary Barry
School Council President

Please find the itemised list of Curriculum Contributions, Other Contributions and Extra-Curricular Items and Activities for Middle Park Primary School in 2025, we look forward to receiving your contributions. All contributions will be entered individually in Compass at the beginning of the school year.

Curriculum Contributions:

Items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the curriculum. Below is a list of the voluntary financial items and activities which are essential for your child to learn the standard curriculum.

Other Contributions:

Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives. These include our school nurse, music program, site improvement and our Building & Library Funds which are both tax deductible. We continue to welcome and very appreciate your voluntary contributions to support our school being the wonderful school it is.

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
- General classroom consumables, materials and equipment including stationery packs, printing and photocopying \$170 - English – classroom library books and resource materials \$ 35 - Mathematics - materials and maths equipment \$ 15 - STEAM - materials and science equipment \$ 20 - Art consumables - paint, paper, crayons, glitter, craft materials \$ 30 - LOTE - classroom consumables, materials and French activities \$ 15 - Health & PE - sport equipment and resource materials \$ 25	\$310
Student Online Subscriptions including: - Mathletics - Seesaw - Essential Assessment	\$50
Technology - contribute to improvements and sustainability of the digital learning environment including technology infrastructure and devices.	\$60
Swimming and Water Safety Programs for Prep - Grade 6 All children are expected to attend as swimming is an integral part of the personal development program of our school, with water safety skills being a key element of our sports program Prep - Grade 6 students will attend a week program at MSAC.	\$45
Curriculum Activities: Incursions throughout the year for all year levels	\$100
Curriculum Contributions Total	\$565
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
Compass Communication costs (per student)	\$20
School Nurse - we do not receive Government funding to have a Registered Nurse at the school. Nearly every one of us has had reason to be grateful for this service on more than one occasion (per student)	\$80
Site Improvement (per family) - school grounds, landscapes and equipment maintenance and improvements	\$70
Music Program (per family)	\$100
Other Contributions Total	\$270
Tax Deductible Contributions	Amount
Building Fund (per family) - Provides funds for additional and specific building enhancements & major repairs. <i>Additional contributions welcome.</i>	\$80
Library Fund (per family) - Provides funds for additional library resources. <i>Additional contributions welcome.</i>	\$80
Tax Deductible Contributions Total	\$160
Total Amount	\$995

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities:

Middle Park Primary School offers 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. Extra-Curricular items and activities are provided on a user-pays basis and throughout the year may include optional academic competitions, optional excursions, school yearbook, graduation, recording of school concert.

If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child, please consent and pay on Compass when they are entered on Compass throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – Prep – Grade 2	Amount
School Yearbook Our Year Book is available at the end of the school year and includes celebrations and highlights of the year from all year levels. It is a great memento for students and families.	\$20
Excursions to be scheduled throughout the year (payment at the time of individual event) (estimated \$100)	TBA
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	~\$120

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – Grade 3&4	Amount
School Yearbook	\$20
Excursions to be scheduled throughout the year (payment at the time of individual event) (estimated \$100)	TBA
Grade 3/4 Lord Somers, 3 day/2 night Camp - Wednesday 21 st – Friday 23 rd May 2025 *\$400 School Saving Bonus can be applied to partially cover costs (payment at the time of individual event)	\$536
Grade 3/4 Interschool Gala Day Sports Program	\$30
Grade 3-6 Beach Surf Lifesaving Day (payment at the time of individual event)	\$25
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	\$711

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities - Grade 5	Amount
School Yearbook	\$20
Excursions to be scheduled throughout the year (payment at the time of individual event) (estimated \$100)	TBA
Grade 5/6 Canberra Camp, 4 day/3 night Camp - Monday 24 th – Thursday 27 th March 2025 *\$700 Paid in 2024, approx. ~\$400 Outstanding *\$400 School Saving Bonus can be applied to partially cover costs (payment at the time of individual event)	\$400
Grade 5/6 Interschool Gala Day Sports Program	\$60
Grade 3-6 Beach Surf Lifesaving Day (payment at the time of individual event)	\$25
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	\$605

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities - Grade 6	Amount
School Yearbook	\$20
Excursions to be scheduled throughout the year (payment at the time of individual event) (estimated \$100)	TBA
Grade 5/6 Canberra Camp, 4 day/3 night Camp - Monday 24 th – Thursday 27 th March 2025 *\$700 Paid in 2024, approx. ~\$400 Outstanding *\$400 School Saving Bonus can be applied to partially cover costs (payment at the time of individual event)	\$400
Grade 5/6 Interschool Gala Day Sports Program	\$60
Grade 3-6 Beach Surf Lifesaving Day (payment at the time of individual event)	\$25
Grade 6 Graduation	\$50
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	\$655

2025 Total Cost per Grade

	Curriculum Contributions	Other Contributions	Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Camp	Total	2025 Canberra Camp paid in 2024	Total including Camp Instalments paid in 2024
Prep - 2	\$565	\$430	\$20 + approx. \$100 for excursions	N/A	\$1,115	N/A	\$1,115
Grade 3/4	\$565	\$430	\$75 + approx. \$100 for excursions	\$536	\$1,706	N/A	\$1,706
Grade 5	\$565	\$430	\$105 + approx. \$100 for excursions	~\$400	\$1,600	\$700	\$2,300
Grade 6	\$565	\$430	\$155 + approx. \$100 for excursions	~\$400	\$1,650	\$700	\$2,350

2025 Grade 5/6 Canberra Camp	Amount
The 5/6s will be heading to Canberra for a 4 day, 3 night camp from Monday 24th to Thursday 27th March 2025. Following feedback from the previous camp we have changed the transport from coach to flying. We are expecting the camp to cost approx. \$1,100. We are aware of the significant cost for this activity and endeavour to reduce the price for families where possible with school based initiatives. Deposit payment – 24th March 2024 - \$350 Progress Payment – 24th August 2024 - \$350 Final Payment – 24th January 2025 – approx. \$400 (TBC) *\$400 School Saving Bonus can be applied to partially cover costs	~\$1,100



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.