



Spring Gully Road

Bendigo Victoria, 3550

Phone: (03) 5443 7230

Email: spring.gully.ps@education.vic.gov.auWebsite: www.sgps.vic.edu.au

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are looking forward to a great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

Please find attached:

Part 1: 2024 booklist - items students must have for school, invited to ordered through Education Plus

Part 2: Other contributions - paid to SGPS through Compass or on book collection day.

All children are to bring **all** items to school on the first day of school:

Grades 1 to 6 Interview Day Tuesday January 30, 2024

Preps Assessment Day Tuesday January 30, Wednesday January 31 or Thursday
February 1, 2024

We would appreciate giving the booklist your prompt attention, so that all orders can be finalised as soon as possible.

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 and support for our students. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that's through fundraising or volunteering your time. This makes a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

The environment and resources that we enjoy today represent the contribution made by our parent/carer community over many years. Parent/Carers voluntary contributions make a significant difference to the quality of our programs. This financial support ensures that we can continue to provide the excellent range of resources and facilities for your children. Your support in 2023 allowed us to:

- Facilitate Literacy and Mathematics online digital subscriptions.
- Maintain sufficient class sets of books for students to develop their reading.
- Update library books to reflect the current interests and passions of our students.
- Replenish sports equipment.
- Purchase materials for our specialist subjects.
- Provide a one-to-one netbook program for Grades 3 to 6.
- Subsidise excursions and incursions.

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

Yours sincerely,

Principal

Francis Trezise

School Council President

Ronald Lowe

PART 1: BOOKLIST - Ordering and Method of Payment (Third Party)

Schools as of 2022 can no longer receive payment for booklists. We have attached a booklist request.

1. You are invited to order and pay online from Tuesday October 3, 2023 the Curriculum Contributions to our nominated booklist provider Education Plus until Friday December 15, 2023. Orders placed after this date may not be ready for collection day.

Orders to be placed online.

1. www.edplus.com.au

2. School Login

- 2024 Prep SGP02024R
- 2024 Grade 1 SGP12024H
- 2024 Grade 2 SGP22024B
- 2024 Grade 3 SGP32024X
- 2024 Grade 4 SGP42024L
- 2024 Grade 5 SGP52024G
- 2024 Grade 6 SGP62024S

3. Click on the "Booklist" tab in the top menu

4. Then enter the code above in the "Code" box

5. Press enter and follow the instructions to complete your order

6. Make sure you go all the way to the "Place Order" tab. Once you have completed this you should receive a confirmation email confirming your order. If you don't receive this e-mail, please contact Education Plus on 03 5447 8588.

You will receive an email order confirmation and can also request order tracking sent to your mobile.

All orders received after Friday December 15, 2023 - may not be ready on collection day.

Collection of order will be:

Where: Spring Gully Primary School
Date: Tuesday January 23, 2024
Time: 8:00am to 4:00pm
From: Art Room

OR

2. Purchase equivalent materials from other sources.
If parents choose to provide equivalent materials to the booklist above, items should meet the specifications provided by the school.

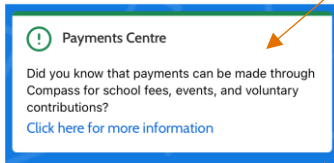
PART 2:

Curriculum Contributions – Subscriptions and Other Contributions – Education Resource Levy

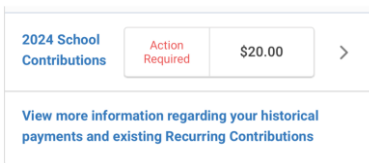
This year we are invited to contribute to Online Subscriptions, Educational Levies and the Netbook Program with two different options:-

1. Compass Payment

On the home screen you will see “Payment Centre”
[click here for more information.](#)



This will take you into the action centre where you see the below screen, click on the > and press continue.



This will take you into your child’s voluntary contribution for 2024.

You can opt to pay in full or a payment plan. If you choose the payment plan it will automatically deduct 25% of whatever you elect to pay. The instalments are set to come out on the following dates:

- 14/12/23 18/01/24 15/02/24 14/03/24

Or

2. Book Collection Day - Tuesday January 23, 2024 from 8:00am to 4:00pm

- EFTPOS
- Cash – please have correct money as no change will be available.

Financial Support for Families

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

- State Schools Relief
 Is a not-for-profit organisation that improves the lives of tens of thousands of disadvantaged Victoria students, and their families, each year. SSR provides government school students with new uniforms and footwear. They work side by side with us to ensure any students facing hardship have the necessary items they require for school.
- Centrepay
 Is a free voluntary bill paying service. Deductions come from your Centrelink payments and can be used to help pay for education expenses.
 You can start, change, or cancel deductions at any time, to meet your needs.

There are several ways to start Centrepay deductions. You can:

- start a Centrelink deduction online using your Centrelink online account
- visit your local Centrelink service centre or phone Centrelink.

- CSEF - The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provides payment for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions. It also provides a Prep Winter Uniform Package to families through State Schools Relief.

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply.

\$125.00 per year is paid for eligible primary school students. Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student.

- Application forms will be available on booklist collection day.
- Please bring your concession card with you.

If you applied for the CSEF at Spring Gully PS in 2023 you do not need to complete an application form in 2024 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You will only need to submit an application form in 2024 if any of the following changes have occurred:

- New Student Enrolments:
your child has started or changed schools in 2024 or you did not apply at Spring Gully PS in 2023.

Or

- Changed Family Circumstances:
such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2024.

Schools are able to accept and process applications up until the end of Term 2. CSEF payments for eligible students are made to schools from March onwards each year.

Information regarding support options is available from the general office and will be advertised periodically in the newsletter and on the website.

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

Francis Trezise (Principal)

Ph: 03 5443 7230

Email: francis.trezise@education.vic.gov.au

Refunds

Refunds will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will be provided to families where it is reasonable and fair (for example, if the school has not incurred a cost). If Spring Gully Primary School has incurred costs, our school will act reasonably and take into consideration the circumstances relating to the requested refund, for example, if an event is unexpectedly cancelled. If the school decides to provide a refund, then parents need to agree and advise the school where the refund should be paid.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payment Policy please see a one-page overview attached or feel free to contact myself or Sonia Lewis (Business Manager) if you have any questions.

Excursions, Activities and Camps

Parents are required to pay for excursions, some sporting activities, and camps throughout the year before the activity is conducted. These activities are an important part of your child's education and help enrich the students' experiences.

A table of some proposed excursions/activities and approximate costs for 2023 is attached.

Parents may wish to begin paying instalments for these activities from the beginning of next year.

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.