

PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS 2027

Foundation to Year 6



Dear families,

This letter provides information about voluntary contributions you can make to support Ocean Grove Primary School for 2027 and other payments you can choose to make.

Victorian government schools provide free instruction. This means all students have free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability.

Some families choose to make a voluntary financial contribution to support the school, and we are very grateful for this support. Making a voluntary contribution is your choice. There is no expectation or pressure for families to contribute.

Ocean Grove Primary School offers a range of items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Financial help is available for extra-curricular items and activities if you are experiencing financial hardship (see further details under Financial Help for Families in the attached information). For a confidential discussion about how to access the financial help available, please contact: Lara Field on 5255 1340 or at ocean.grove.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

If you need an interpreter, please contact [03 9605 3053](tel:0396053053) and give our school's phone number 5255 1340. An interpreter can help you speak with us. This service is free. For more information, please see [How to use an interpreter to contact your school](#).

For more information on the Department of Education's Parent Contributions policy please see the information attached. You can read the full policy at [Parent Contributions: Policy | education.vic.gov.au](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parent-contributions-policy).

Yours sincerely,

Scott McCumber
Principal

Simon Brommeyer
School Council President

OCEAN GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL 2027 PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS ARRANGEMENTS

Voluntary contributions

If you are the carer of a student in out-of-home care or hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card), please ignore the invitation to make voluntary contributions.

We encourage any family experiencing financial hardship to contact the school for information about the financial help available for extra-curricular activities like camps and excursions.

Voluntary contributions to enhance our school's range of programs, resources and environment	Suggested amount – parents can contribute more or less	Amount (parent to complete)
Foundation	\$320	\$
Year 1	\$270	\$
Year 2	\$270	\$
Year 3	\$250	\$
Year 4	\$250	\$
Year 5	\$250	\$
Year 6	\$235	\$

If you do not make a voluntary contribution, your child will be provided with access to what they need for their learning.

Tax-deductible voluntary contributions	Suggested amount – parents can contribute more or less	Amount (parent to complete)
Voluntary - Building fund: a tax-deductible contribution to support renovations and upgrades of school infrastructure	\$50	\$
Voluntary - Library fund: a tax-deductible contribution to support library maintenance and enhancements	\$50	\$

Extra-curricular items and activities

Ocean Grove Primary School offers a range of optional items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Accessing these items and activities does require payment, but financial support is available (see further details under Financial help for families on the following page).

Example extra-curricular items and activities include optional activities, camps, excursions and programs and class photos. We have provided estimated costs of known extra-curricular camps below.

Extra-curricular items and activities will be placed onto Sentral as they arise. Payments can also be made via instalment if needed and should be finalised before attending.

Please contact the school for advice on financial help available for extra-curricular items and activities.

Estimated Camp Costs 2027		
Camp	Date	Estimated Amount
Year 2 – Camp Wyuna (day camp)	12 th March 2027	\$75
Year 3 – Camp Wilkin	7 th – 8 th June 2027	\$200
Year 4 – Cave Hill Creek	9 th – 11 th June 2027	\$450
Year 5 – Lade Northcote Discovery Camp	21 st – 23 rd April 2027	\$450
Year 6 – Camp Howqua (and snow)	2 nd – 5 th August 2027	\$900

Financial help for families

Ocean Grove Primary School understands families can experience financial difficulty. Help is available, including:

- **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund** – this program provides funding for eligible students, including those in out of home care, and holders of eligible financially means-tested cards (such as health care cards), to attend activities like camps, sporting activities, excursions and incursions that are offered on a user-pays basis.
- **Affordable School Uniforms** - delivered by [State Schools Relief](#), this program helps cover costs such as school uniforms, shoes, and other essential school items where families are experiencing financial hardship or short-term crisis.
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
- Secondhand uniform (located at the office)

Applications for support from the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and State Schools Relief are submitted by the school - please contact us to discuss these and other financial help.

For a confidential discussion about how to access financial help, please contact Lara Field, Business Manager on 5255 1340 or email ocean.grove.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

Payment methods

If you want to make voluntary contributions throughout the year, you can:

- decide when to make each contribution
- choose the amount of each contribution

If you would like to pay for extra-curricular items and activities through instalments, you can pay directly through Sentral or contact the office for further assistance.



Sentral
All voluntary contributions will be placed on Sentral.



BPay
Payment made directly to the school by using your Bpay biller code and Reference number.

Payment Methods



Cash, EFTPOS or Credit Card
Pay directly to the office or you can phone in to pay by credit card.



Centrepay
Set up a once off or recurring Centrelink deduction out of your regular benefits to go directly to school.



Thanks for supporting your children's learning

Refunds

The Ocean Grove Primary School Refund Policy is available on our website.

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 of Education's [Parent Contributions](#) policy and guidance, [Financial Help for Families](#) policy, and any other relevant information.

Parent Contributions policy

Information for families



FREE INSTRUCTION

Schools give students free instruction in the curriculum. This includes:

- Free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability.
- The Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major, and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Free access to all subjects, including elective subjects.
- Free access to select-entry and accelerated programs.



FAMILIES CAN CHOOSE TO CONTRIBUTE

Schools can invite 2 types of voluntary contributions:

Voluntary contributions

Used towards enhanced educational programs and school environment, and additional resources and opportunities offered by schools

Tax deductible contributions

Used towards building and/or library fund (for those schools who have such funds)

Schools must advise the carers of students in out-of-home care and parents and carers who hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card) that the invitation to make voluntary contributions does not apply to them.

In addition, schools can invite parents and carers to pay for optional:

- Extra-curricular items and activities that go beyond the curriculum - for example, school photos, some excursions and some camps.
- Learning materials for students to individually use and own - for example, textbooks, stationery, and in secondary schools only, digital devices. If these items are not bought or provided from home, schools will provide students with free access to what they need for curriculum delivery.



FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

Each school has a contact person who can discuss with parents and carers the financial supports that are available.

Schools must publish their Parent Contributions arrangements on their school website, along with a link to the department's [Parent Contributions policy](#).