



Teesdale Primary School
Main Road Teesdale Vic 3328
Phone 03 5281 5218
Email: teesdale.ps@education.vic.gov.au

PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY 2025

November 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Teesdale Primary School is looking forward to a great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Teesdale Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

The Parent Payment Policy, and how the school will implement the policy, is attached as well as the 2025 list of payment items/services requested for your child's program.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian Curriculum requirements 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 is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Parent payments will support us to ensure the continuation of programs such as the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program and the DIBELS assessment platform.

Payment is not required until January 2025.

All parent payments and contributions can be made electronically by BPay with the School's Biller code 87361 and your unique family reference code. The Book Box will be delivered to your child's classroom, ready for the first day of school.

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

We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing all students return to school in 2025.

Chelsey Marks
Acting Principal

Simon Murry
School Council President



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Curriculum Contributions

Book Packs

Teesdale Primary School book pack purchased through Winc Education provides parents with high quality items at a lower than catalogue price, according to year levels. Your child may not require every item, but because the book packs are supplied direct to school as standard issue, it is cheaper to leave all items on the list. Parents may choose to provide or purchase items themselves. If you choose to do this, please consult with the school so that your child has the right items.

Please advise the school office by Friday 29th November 2024 if you do NOT wish the school to order a 2025 Book Pack for your child.

DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills)

The cost is \$15.00 per student for DIBELS for 2025.

DIBELS is a tool which streamlines the assessment of reading. This assessment tool is designed to shorten the time it takes to assess each student and will be used regularly to detect risk and monitor the development of early literacy and early reading skills from Foundation to Year 6. One of the many benefits of the DIBELS assessment system is that teachers spend less time assessing students and more time teaching.

Note: DIBELS is subsidised by the Government and at Teesdale Primary School is accessed by all students in all grades. Teachers can assign tasks at appropriate level and target learning to each child's needs.

Curriculum Contributions – items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<i>Book Pack (stationery requirements)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Years F-6 	\$130.00
<i>Online Subscriptions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DIBELS Years F-6 	\$15.00
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<i>Kitchen Garden</i> The cost is \$50.00 per student for Kitchen Garden for 2025. Our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program is an important part of our school. The students learn to plant and nurture fruit and vegetables in the kitchen garden and harvest the produce to cook in the Mudbrick Kitchen. The school ensures the grounds are kept up to standard by employing a contractor to mow and for the maintenance and upgrade of our grounds. We have a garden and a kitchen specialist to maintain and manage the kitchen garden. Parents will also be able to help by taking part in working bees and programs.	\$50.00
<i>Total Contributions</i>	\$195.00



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Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Teesdale 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. These are provided on a user-pays basis and parents may choose whether their child participates.

Please note only major events within our school are listed below to assist with family budgeting.

Payment is not required until notification is sent out to families.

Other excursions/activities/sports will be scheduled.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Estimated Amount
<i>Year F-2 Swimming Program – Term 1</i>	Govt Funded
<i>Year 3/4 Camp Lady Northcote - Term 4</i>	\$300.00
<i>Year 5/6 Camp Melbourne Urban – Term 2</i>	\$300.00
<i>Beloka Leadership Camp – Term 1</i>	\$50.00
<i>Year 6 Graduation – Term 4</i>	\$25.00
<i>Year 3-6 Winter Sports</i>	\$15.00
<i>Other excursions to be scheduled</i>	

Educational items for students to own

BYOD – Bring Your Own Device

Our BYOD program applies to students from Years 3-6. Information on the program will be communicated to families.

Financial Support for Families

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

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
- Preloved uniform items at the school office

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, please contact our school principal, Chelsey Marks on 03 5281 5218, or email teesdale.ps@education.vic.gov.au.



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Payment Methods

Payment is not required until January 2025.

All parent payments and contributions can be made electronically by BPay with the School's Biller code 87361 and your unique family reference code.

The Book Box will be delivered to your child's classroom, ready for the first day of school.

Voluntary contributions may be paid in regular instalments.

If BPay is not an option for you, please contact the school office to make alternative arrangements.

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.

Teesdale Primary School Refund Policy is available on our school website.

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.