

18/11/2025

Dear Families,

Newport Gardens Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the school's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, parent contributions continue to provide an important and critical source of funding which enables us to supply resources necessary to maximise successful delivery of our learning programs. 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 through paying the contributions over the years as this has made a huge difference to our school on a day-to-day basis with quality materials as well as enhancing the level of programs we can offer. Within our school, financial contributions from families have allowed us to purchase quality consumable materials for teaching and learning in the classroom, including quality stationery and classroom supplies. Additionally, the financial contributions from families in recent years has also enabled the school to resource exceptional learning in areas such as Science and Technology and Physical Education.

We continue to value your contributions in supporting our school programs and resources. These contributions assist us in providing items that students use to access the curriculum and allow us to continue to support our children in broadening their educational experiences. Your past contributions have enabled positive changes to our programs and implementations. The continued expansion of our school and classroom libraries with books and furniture as well as new sports equipment has only been possible with the contributions of our families. The generosity of our school community will allow us to consolidate our digital portfolios on Seesaw, alongside the maintenance of our digital devices.

For 2026, the school is requesting the following amounts from families in the category of *"Curriculum Contributions"*.

- Prep/Foundation **\$243.60**
- Year 1/2 **\$231.10**
- Year 3/4 **\$243.45**
- Year 5 **\$303.95**
- Year 6 **\$343.95**

These amounts are the same as requested in 2025. In early 2026, the school will open the facility on Compass for families to make payment in the **Course Confirmation/Payments** section of the website.

Additionally, the school's Deductible Gift Recipient fund for the **Library** enables us to purchase quality literature which has a direct impact on student reading, engagement and instructional practices. A donation to this fund, separate from voluntary contributions for Curriculum Contributions, is tax deductible. This generosity is appreciated by all and without your valued contributions, many of these things may not be possible.

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

Yours sincerely,



Peter Olm
Principal – Newport Gardens Primary School

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – PARENT PAYMENT 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.