



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we turn to welcome the 2023 school year, we are full of positivity and great hope that it will be a magnificent year where our children are engaged in exceptional learning opportunities. To make this possible, we are reliant upon the generous spirit of our parents and carers to help fund programs and resources. Your generosity will make a difference to the lives of the children and the learning that occurs at our school.

As 2020 and 2021 were unusual years due to COVID, we were able to reallocate a number of resources in 2022.

However, in 2023 you may notice some slight increases in our requests. The reason for this is we now need to replace many essential items to ensure we can continue to support the range of different educational, social and physical aspects of our school life.

Our Finance Committee and School Council have carefully considered the contributions we are requesting. The amount for 'Curriculum Contributions' is \$320 and the suggested amounts for 'Other Contributions', such as the continuation of employment of a School Nurse, is \$416 (suggested contribution amounts only). You may choose to nominate your own contribution figure to the 'Other Contributions' (please see below).

If you are able to pay the requested contribution amount of \$736, which is less than \$200 per term, just imagine the difference this will make to the lives of the children and the resourcing we can offer them!

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the Victorian curriculum, however the funding schools receive from DE&T simply do not provide well enough to meet the needs and demands of any school. Therefore we are reliant upon the ongoing support of our families to ensure that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our children. We thank you in advance for all your support, whether through contributing financially, supporting our fundraising efforts and/or volunteering your time. This makes a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer the children.

In recent years, your support through 'Other Contributions' has allowed us to: provide essential learning items for families who have experienced financial distress; ensured all children had the opportunity to attend excursions and camps; provided uniforms and basic food supplies to families in need; maintained our fleet of classroom-based laptops and iPads, replaced technology such as interactive whiteboards; maintained and made improvements to our school grounds; provided shared classroom resources including book sets and so much more.

Once again, we please ask you to consider paying the contributions where you can. Your wonderful generosity will enable us, together, to create the best possible learning environment for our children, which they richly deserve.

Book Packs:

DE&T recommends parents purchase Book Packs directly from the supplier. Our recommended supplier is Maxim. These packs contain all the essential stationery items that your child will use on a daily basis and will be delivered to school. We will store these items at school and distribute them to your child as needed. Please order your child's Book Pack by the date advised, as Maxim will not accept late orders. You will find the link to Maxim below:

[Book pack](#)

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please click [here](#) and see a one-page overview attached.

Thank you!

Sue Higgins
Principal

Peta Wetzel
School Council President

Anabel Herr
Business Manager



Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum

Amount

These are suggested amounts, but we welcome any contribution.



<p>These contributions directly support several important curriculum areas and programs that we offer including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● class sets for vital numeracy manipulatives (dice, playing cards, counters, etc.) ● critical literacy resources (Guided reading books, take home readers, etc.) \$20 ● the maintenance and repair of musical instruments ● Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper ● replacement of sporting equipment ● Performing Arts: replacement and up-grade of musical instruments, purchase of costumes, microphones, etc ● purchasing of inquiry and science resources (SMILE & STEAM) \$20 ● LOTE program resources ● printing/photocopying of worksheets and learning materials for class & home 	\$210
<p>Online Subscriptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Essential Assessment/ My Numeracy ● Compass to support tracking of student academic and wellbeing data ● Seesaw for students to document their learning and share with teachers and parents what is happening in the classroom 	\$35
<p>Information and Communications Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provision of shared classroom sets ● Software, device configuration & maintenance and equipment (eg servers, WAPs etc) needed to sustain and enhance our ICT program 	\$75
Total Amount \$320	\$

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
These are suggested amounts, but we welcome any contribution.	
<p>Nurse Kate Fund \$100</p> <p>We do not receive Government funding to have a Registered Nurse at our school. Nearly everyone has had a reason to be grateful for this service and donations to this fund will help to continue the employment of Nurse Kate and to purchase first aid consumables to treat students and to meet student health needs when at school, on excursion and camp.</p>	
<p>Welfare & Inclusion Fund \$100</p> <p>To offer support programs for our children and support families in need, including financial support to purchase required materials and items they may need in the classroom, to attend swimming, camps and excursions, to buy uniforms and hats, and to attend student wellbeing programs.</p> <p>Funds will also be used to support staffing of our Literacy Intervention Program and to purchase additional resources for our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).</p>	
<p>School Sports Victoria Affiliation (Y3-Y6) \$6</p>	
<p>School Grounds Maintenance and Improvement Fund \$60</p> <p>To keep the school looking its best, including employment of our Grounds Person Warren (2 days per week)</p>	
Tax deductible contributions	
<p>Building fund \$50</p>	



<p>A tax-deductible contribution to support the repairs on current buildings (for example, Hato painting and roof and eaves repair, plumbing repair in the Shiawase building and foyer upgrade);</p>	
<p>Library fund \$100</p> <p>A tax-deductible contribution to further develop the new school library space and the supporting technology, additional books and resources. 2023 funding will go towards books & furniture for our new satellite libraries in every building and the new library space in the Hato building.</p>	
<p>Total Amount</p>	<p>\$</p>

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

St Kilda Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis via Compass.

Total

Category	
Curriculum Contributions	\$320
Other Contributions	\$416

Payment methods

St Kilda Primary School uses Compass for all their payments.

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF Fund)
- State Schools Relief (SSR)

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

Anabel Herr Ph: 03 0534 3993 | Email: anabel.herr@education.vic.gov.au

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.



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.