

Dear parents and carers,

St Kilda Primary School is proud of our students' achievements in 2024 and is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning outcomes for our students in 2025.

Excellent student outcomes are in part possible with the support of our parent/carer community and their contribution both from a participation and financial perspective.

Each year your financial contributions provide vital funds to ensure we can continue to support the range of different educational, social and physical aspects of our school to meet the needs of our children.

Government schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the Victorian curriculum, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary.

In 2024, your generosity has allowed us to offer above and beyond the standard curriculum and has made a significant difference to the lives of our students by

- continuing to employ Nurse Kate on a full-time basis
- funding excursions, swimming, camps, extracurricular activities, such as, tennis, soccer, basketball, yoga and subsidised/fully funded Before and After School Care for families who experience financial difficulties
- providing school uniforms and basic needs items
- running a school based Social Skills program
- introducing a Prep-Year 6 STEAM program as an additional specialist area, designed to spark curiosity and foster critical thinking
- enabling a strong focus on Disability and Inclusion to ensure there is a cohesive approach to the mental health and wellbeing of all students
- providing iPads to ensure equity for the Year 5/6 Bring Your Own Device program
- maintaining both a Facilities Manager and Handyman to uphold our facilities and grounds to the highest standards, ensuring all school equipment complies with OH&S regulations

It is only with continued support from you that we can see our dreams for your children come to fruition. We therefore thank you in advance for all your support, whether through contributing financially, supporting our fundraising efforts and/or volunteering your time.

In addition, I am pleased that the Victorian Government is providing \$400 per student in 2025 through the School Saving Bonus (SSB), which families can use towards the costs of Extra-Curricular Items and Activities and/or School Uniform.

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

Thank you!

Sue Higgins  
Principal

Narelle Crooks  
School Council President

<b>Curriculum Contributions</b> - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Consumables, materials &amp; equipment to support student learning:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Classroom – additional resources and requisites</li> <li>Science – resources, science equipment, experiment materials, etc</li> <li>Visual Art – various materials, paint, pastels, paper, clay, textiles, etc</li> <li>LOTE – resources, papers, drawing materials, etc</li> <li>Library – borrowing program, additional resources, etc</li> <li>Music – resources, classroom instruments for student use, etc</li> <li>Physical Education – sports equipment, balls, place ribbons, etc</li> </ul>	\$90
<b>Online subscriptions to complement and extend our curriculum:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seesaw, Sunshine online, Storybox, Compass, library system</li> </ul>	\$90
ICT devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets	\$190
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$10
<b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b>	<b>\$380</b>

<b>Other Contributions</b> - for non-curriculum items and activities	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Nurse Kate/First Aid:</b> At St Kilda Primary School, we hold the emotional and social wellbeing of our students as paramount to their school experience. However, we do not receive Government funding to have a Registered Nurse or a wellbeing coordinator, or train our staff in first aid, CPR and anaphylaxis to guarantee student safety. Donations to this fund will help to continue the employment of Nurse Kate, ensure that our first aid room and all classrooms are stocked with adequate first aid supplies, along with extra asthma, anaphylaxis, and defibrillator equipment and to meet student health needs when at school, on excursion and camp.	\$150
<b>Wellbeing &amp; Inclusion:</b> This fund provides essential resources for mental health support, community-building programs, and accessibility services, ensuring that everyone can thrive, regardless of background or circumstance. Your donation will make a meaningful difference in creating a space where everyone feels valued, empowered, and connected. Together, we can make a lasting impact on the wellbeing and inclusivity of our community.	\$100
<b>Groundskeeper/Facilities Maintenance:</b> We are seeking your kind support for Warren, our Grounds Keeper and Facilities Maintenance Fund, which plays a crucial role in maintaining the beauty and functionality of our shared spaces. Your donation will help ensure that our grounds remain well-kept, safe, and welcoming, while also supporting essential maintenance to keep facilities in top condition for all to enjoy. Your contribution will help create a clean, organized, and sustainable environment that enhances the experience for everyone.	\$120
<b>Total Other Contributions</b>	<b>\$370</b>

Tax deductible contributions	
<p><b>Tax deductible Building fund:</b> The Building Fund Contribution is crucial for improving and expanding our facilities to better serve our community. Your donation will directly contribute to renovations, upgrades, and essential maintenance, ensuring that our space remains safe, functional, and welcoming for all.</p>	\$100
<p><b>Tax deductible Library fund:</b> We are reaching out to request your generous support for our Library Fund, which is dedicated to enriching our collection, upgrading resources, and enhancing the library experience for all. Your donation will help us acquire new books, expand digital resources, and improve facilities, creating a vibrant learning space that fosters curiosity, education, and personal growth.</p>	\$50

### Educational items for students to own

St Kilda Primary School recommends you purchase a book pack directly from Maxim who can provide us with discounted materials for your child to use in the classroom. These book packs can be purchased via Compass at the end of each school year.

### Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

St Kilda 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. The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year via Compass.

### Total

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$380
Other Contributions	<i>(Non-tax deductible)</i>
	\$370
	<i>(Tax-deductible)</i>
	\$150
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities: will be advised throughout the year through Compass	\$
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$900</b>

### 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
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact Anabel Herr, Ph: 03 9534 3993, Email: [anabel.herr@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:anabel.herr@education.vic.gov.au)

### **Payment methods**

St Kilda Primary School uses Compass for all their payments.

### **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.