

# PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS - 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

Ascot Vale Primary School (AVPS) is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the AVPS parent payment arrangements for 2021.

Ascot Vale Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents. Attached to this document is the parent payment schedule for 2021. The schedule will include the following items:

## **Essential Student Learning Items**

Those items, activities or services that are essential to support student learning of the standard curriculum. These are items that the school considers essential for all students and which students take possession of. Parents may choose to provide the items themselves or buy the items from the school where practical and appropriate.

## **Optional Items**

Those items, activities or services that are offered in addition to the standard curriculum program. These are provided on a user-pays basis so that if parents choose to access them for students, they are required to pay for them. This includes the **Excursions/Incursions**.

**Swimming Lessons** are an important part of the school's program and run over a two-week period. The lessons will be provided by trained instructors at the Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre in 2021. Parents/guardians will receive a permission form and further information regarding swimming in the term before lessons start (via a Compass alert).

**Moonee Vale Instrumental Music Program (MVIMP)** This is a user pays program offering students in years 3 – 6 the opportunity to learn an instrument (woodwind, brass, strings, percussion, bass guitar) and perform as part of a group. Lessons are provided weekly with two concerts and other performances throughout the year. Year 5 and 6 students may also have the opportunity to attend music camp once during their time in the program. Camp attendance will incur an additional cost. Information regarding tuition costs and organisation is provided at the beginning of the school year

## **Voluntary Financial Contributions**

Parents can be invited to make a donation to the school for a general or specific purpose.

Voluntary contributions paid into the **Library Fund** or the **Building Fund** accounts are tax deductible. Please retain your receipt for tax purposes. These voluntary contributions assist the school in maintaining our facilities and purchasing books

**Student Sponsorship** option enables AVPS to subsidise camps, excursions and sporting events for eligible families. These valuable donations ensure children do not miss participating in important school and learning experiences.

**The Working Bee** contribution is available for parents who would like to assist but are not available to attend our scheduled working bees during the year. If parents cannot attend and are not involved in other voluntary work at the school, they may choose to make a working bee contribution.

**Classroom and ICT Resources** contribution will assist AVPS with the purchasing of classroom materials, book sets, maths & science, classroom stationery sets, ICT equipment for classroom use etc.

## **Financial Support for Families**

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

1. **Lowering the cost of essential student learning items where possible.** Ascot Vale PS endeavours to seek competitive supplier costs and to minimise excursion costs where possible through walking or taking public transport between locations.
2. **Second hand strategies.** The school runs a successful second hand school uniform shop where 'pre-loved' items are donated and are available for sale for a gold coin donation.

3. **School Assistance.** The school can assist families by establishing payment plans for the purchase of items, such as devices, if necessary.
4. **Student Sponsorship.** The school is able to provide subsidies for camps, excursions or sport to eligible students due to the generous donations of AVPS families.
5. **Government Assistance Programs.**
  - A. The **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)** to the value of \$125.00 provides payments for eligible students to go towards the cost of camps, sports and excursions. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply and a Special Consideration eligibility category also exists. Please note, if a child leaves AVPS throughout the year, the remainder of their unspent CSEF will be transferred to their next school.
  - B. **State Schools' Relief** may cover the cost of new school uniforms, shoes, books and more for disadvantaged students. State Schools' Relief only responds to requests from school principals, assistant principals or welfare coordinators. Parents or Carers who need support to make an appointment with the school to discuss their situation.
6. **Community Assistance.** The school is able to provide families with links with local services and welfare groups which can provide specialist support and assistance to students and families in financial crisis. The school also provides a student sponsorship program to assist such families in need.
7. **Commonwealth Family Assistance.** The Commonwealth Government provides a range of payments and services to help families look after their children's health, education and other family issues. Please contact our office staff to arrange assistance if necessary.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact: Susan Osborne - Principal on 03 9370 6507 or email [ascot.vale.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:ascot.vale.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

## Payment Methods

- **Compass** – AVPS's preferred method:
  - Access **course confirmation** on your child / children's Compass homepage. Select **payment charges** from the different categories (see descriptions below). Essential Learning Items are fixed charges, Voluntary Contribution charges are **optional and can be changed** (reduced or increased) to suit the payee.
  - Sports/PE Levy - Pay as you go via the Compass Parent Portal as an event
  - MVIMP – term by term via the Compass Parent Portal as an event
  - Excursions/Incursions - Pay as you go via the Compass Parent Portal as an event
- **In person at the office**
  - Credit / debit card or cash payments are accepted.
  - AMEX, Diners Club and cheques are not accepted
- **By phone – (03) 9370 6507**
  - Credit / debit card payments are accepted.
  - AMEX, Diners Club and cheques are not accepted

*Please note –Due to Covid-19 in 2020, many families have credit notes on their accounts. If you believe this applies to you, please contact the office before making payments via compass*

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

Yours sincerely,

*Sue Osborne*

**Sue Osborne**

*Principal*

*Helen Millar*

**Helen Millar**

*School Council President*

# PARENT PAYMENT SCHEDULE – YEAR FOUNDATION/PREP

Please find the itemised list of Essential Student Learning Items and Optional Items for your child. Ascot Vale PS also continues to welcome your voluntary contributions for 2021

## Essential Student Learning Items

Below is a list of items and activities which are essential for your child to learn the standard curriculum. You may choose to purchase these items through the school or provide your own. Please indicate which items you would like to purchase through the school on the table below:

A. Essential Student Learning Items	Amount
<b>Book/Stationery Pack</b> – please see attached itemised list. AVPS will purchase these items on your behalf for your child to use in the classroom. If you choose to source these items through your preferred supplier, please notify the school by no later than 30 <sup>th</sup> November 4pm. After this date the school will purchase these items on your behalf	\$64
<b>Specialist and Classroom Art Materials</b> Consumable materials that you child uses in their standard class to make final products they take home eg. Paint, craft paper, glitter, textiles etc	\$23
<b>Learning Subscriptions</b> Essential Assessment <b>\$10</b> Smart Words - <b>\$30</b> A-Z Reading - <b>\$11 (Year F-2) \$6 (Year 3-6)</b>	\$51
<b>Recorder – \$17 (F-1)</b> Year 1 students to retain their recorder from previous year	\$17
<b>TOTAL (A)</b>	<b>\$155</b>

## Optional Items

Ascot Vale PS offers a range of optional items and activities that are additional to the delivery of the standard curriculum. These items and activities are designed to broaden the school experience for your child. If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child, please indicate on the table below.

B. Optional Item	Amount
<b>Optional Excursions/Incursions</b> as scheduled throughout 2021. The cost of these excursions/incursions will be advised via Compass throughout the year.	<i>To be advised</i>
<b>Year F-2 – Dance \$25</b> <b>Year 3-4 – Dance \$25, Athletics \$12, Cricket Carnival \$13</b> <b>Year 5-6 – Dance \$25, Athletics \$12, Interschool Sport \$90 (\$45 each term)</b>	\$25
<b>Swimming Year F-6 \$100.</b> This will be process through Compass as an event	
<b>Moonee Vale Instrumental Program (MVIMP)</b> Year 3-6. Fees to be confirmed. Students to be charged term by term via Compass on acceptance into the programs.	<i>To be advised</i>
<b>MVIMP Camp Year 5/6 only</b>	<i>To be advised</i>
<b>TOTAL (B)</b>	<b>\$</b>

## Voluntary Contributions

Ascot Vale Primary School continues to welcome your voluntary contributions to support our school. You can make a general voluntary contribution that goes towards all of our school's important priorities for 2021 as well as providing additional activities and services for all students.

Alternatively, you can make a voluntary contribution to any of the specific priorities outlined in the table below:

C. Voluntary Contributions	Tax deductible?	Suggested Voluntary Contribution per family	Amount
Classroom and ICT Resources	No	\$150	
Student Sponsorship	No	\$100	
Building Fund**	Yes	\$200	
Library Fund**	Yes	\$100	
Working Bee	No	\$100	
		<b>TOTAL (C)</b>	

\*\*School council has established tax-deductible gift recipient status with the Australian Taxation Office for the Building & Library Fund

Your child will not be disadvantaged if you do not make a voluntary contribution. All records of voluntary contributions are kept confidential as well as your decision about whether to make a contribution or not.

## Parent Payment Schedule

A. Essential Student Learning Items	Amount \$ _____
B. Optional Items	Amount \$ _____
C. Voluntary financial contribution	Amount \$ _____
	<b>TOTAL \$ _____</b>

## 2021 Year Foundation/Prep Book Pack/Stationery List

Item Description	QTY	Price per unit	Total
Mini Scrapbook 100GSM Bond Premium Paper PC6402	2	\$ 0.70	\$ 1.40
Kluwell My Home Reading - Yellow Junior	1	\$ 4.70	\$ 4.70
Olympic Megasaurus Scrapbook	8	\$ 1.50	\$ 12.00
Bostik 35gm Glue Stick	6	\$ 2.05	\$ 12.30
Staedtler 1285-1 2B Jumbo Triangular Pencil	6	\$ 0.80	\$ 4.80
Blue Handle 160MM Deluxe School Scissors	1	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.20
2 Hole Plastic Sharpener with Cannister	1	\$ 1.05	\$ 1.05
Staedtler 526 C20 Large School Eraser with Plastic Sleeve	2	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.50
Micador Colourfun Markers Asst Colours - Wallet 12	2	\$ 4.95	\$ 9.90
Faber Castell Classic Colour Pencils Assorted Pack	2	\$ 5.95	\$ 11.90
Large Tartan 1 ZIP Pencil Case - 340 X 170MM	1	\$ 2.25	\$ 2.25
Fun Factory 48 pg Scrapbook (Japanese)	1	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 64.00</b>

# PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

## ONE PAGE OVERVIEW

The following is a summary of the main principles of the Parent Payments Policy:



### FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.



### PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

- Schools do not ask parents to pay for school operating costs (e.g. utility costs) or general and unspecified charges.
- Schools request payments from parents under three categories:

#### Essential Student Learning Items

- Items and activities which the school deems essential for student learning.
- Parents may choose to purchase essential items through the school or provide their own.

#### Optional Items

- Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum.
- These are provided to students on a user-pays basis.

#### Voluntary Contributions

- Voluntary contributions support the school to continue to be the best local school for all students and can be for general or specific purpose.
- Students will not be disadvantaged in any way if parents do not make a contribution.



### 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 obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and upload their arrangements on their school's public website for transparency.