

October 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians of **Year Foundation / Prep Students**,

Ascot Vale Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Ascot Vale Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2023.

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

Across our school this support has allowed AVPS to offer a range of learning resources and experiences, including a wide offering of subjects and curriculum activities; digital learning equipment and opportunities (including large TV screens in every classroom); improvements to our school amenity; high quality literacy and numeracy resources (such as the Smart Words program, many books and maths equipment) and classroom and special subject equipment and resources.

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

Yours sincerely,

Sue Osborne

Principal

Scott Miller

School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<p>Year Foundation/Prep Materials 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book/Stationery Pack – Scrapbooks (multi sizes), home reader journal, glue sticks, pencils, scissors, sharpener, eraser, markers, coloured pencils, photocopying, classroom teacher resources etc. (\$55) • Recorder (\$19) • Specialist and Classroom Art Materials – for example: paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, glitter, textiles (\$23) 	\$97
<p>Year F-2 Online Subscriptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Words (\$30) • Essential Assessment (\$16) • A-Z Reading (\$15) • Resilience Project (\$36) 	\$97
<p>Year F-2 ICT Devices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision, licence and storage of 1:2 shared devices for the classroom. 	\$90
<p>Health & Physical Education To be confirmed in 2023 and arranged separately via compass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dance • Swimming • Life Education incursion 	\$TBC
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<p>Student Sponsorship 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.</p>	\$100
<p>Student Sponsorship - ICT Device supports AVPS to provide digital device to all students.</p>	\$50
<p>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.</p>	\$100
<p>First aid equipment contribution to help cover the cost of first aid supplies for student consumption.</p>	\$10
Tax deductible contributions	
<p>Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure.</p>	\$200
<p>Library fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource.</p>	\$100
<p>Total Amount</p>	\$

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Ascot Vale 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.

Please note: All items below will be placed on Compass as an Event and amounts to be confirmed in 2023.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount	Purchase (Please tick)
Optional Year F-2 Excursions & Activities to be scheduled	TBC	
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities		\$

Financial Support for Families

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

- The **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund** 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 Victorian school.
- **State School 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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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 Ph: 03 9370 6507 | Email: ascot.vale.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Total

Category	
Curriculum Contributions	\$
Other Contributions	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$

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). Curriculum/Other Contributions are **Voluntary and can be changed** (reduced or increased) to suit the payee.
 - MVIMP – term by term via the Compass Parent Portal as an event
 - Extra Curricular Excursions/Incursions/Camps - 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 2020/2021, families may have credit notes on their accounts. If you believe this applies to you, please contact the office before making payments via compass

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	Other Contributions	Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.	Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.	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.