

Dear Parent/Guardian,

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

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements 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 it be for your voluntary contributions, fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support has allowed us to provide a wider offering of subjects and special curriculum experiences, enhanced digital learning opportunities, the maintenance of our beautiful grounds, and additional assistance for children in the classroom amongst numerous other things.

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

Department of Education guidelines now mandate that schools are UNABLE to provide parents with a statement of fees. With this in mind, parents are asked to please review the recommended voluntary financial contributions schedule on Compass for an indication of contributions for your child/ren.

CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS

Costs of material including stationery items, cooking ingredients, online subscriptions to learning activities and art supplies used in the classroom, expendable materials used for science and technology and all other specialist classes.

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS – FOR NON-CURRICULUM ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES

The Aspendale Gardens Primary School Council is extremely appreciative of the generosity of parents who are able to support the school through the payment of the non-curriculum items. They help AGPS provide greater wellbeing support, first aid and hygiene costs, enhanced students support and our building and grounds maintenance.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES

AGPS offers a range of items and activities that enhance and broaden the schooling experience of students that are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis. The students at AGPS have the option of attending swimming and sporting programs, school camps and other excursion and incursion activities.

To ensure accurate budgeting for the school year, we would appreciate payment of your contribution by **Friday 17th February 2023**. Payments can be made via Compass or at the school office.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Baker
Acting Principal



Ashley Williams
School Council President



Foundation, 2023

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<p><i>Foundation classroom consumables, materials & equipment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stationery – exercise books, pens, pencils, textas, etc (\$68) • Art – paint, crayons, canvas, coloured paper, etc (\$50) • Classroom - Science materials, mathematics supplies, books, readers, class sets, take home books, printing & photocopying of worksheets and learning materials, provision of devices from shared classroom sets (\$50) • Inquiry - Portfolios, additional art and craft supplies (\$60) • LOTE – exercise books, materials, food supplies for cooking, etc (\$50) • Maths Pack - 100 chart, Tens Frames, Playing Cards, Dice, Coins, Clock, Unifix Blocks, Counters (\$12) • Reader Bag (\$10) • Diary (\$6) 	\$306
<p><i>Foundation Online Subscriptions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential Assessment (Numeracy & Literacy) • Wushka • Nessy 	\$36
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$342.00
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<p><i>International Baccaulaureate Primary Years Program (PYP) Membership</i></p> <p><i>Student wellbeing programs</i></p> <p><i>First aid Equipment</i></p>	\$40
<p><i>School grounds maintenance, beautification and improvements (Graeme, Elly, mowing, planting, weeding, upkeep, etc)</i></p>	\$50
Total Other Contributions	\$90
Tax Deductible Contributions	
<p>Building Fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure</p>	\$50
Total Amount	\$

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Aspendale Gardens 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.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
School Yearbook	\$20
Optional Foundation incursions and excursions to be scheduled	\$120
Optional Swimming Program	To be advised
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	\$140

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact: Rebecca Russell Phone: 03 9587 0877 | Email: rebecca.russell2@education.vic.gov.au

Total

Category	
Curriculum Contributions	\$342
Other Contributions (Non-tax deductible)	\$90
(Tax deductible)	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$140
TOTAL	\$

Payment methods

Credit/Debit Card via Compass portal (preferred payment method)

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 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.