

14th October 2024

Dear parent / guardian,

Kensington Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Kensington Primary School 's voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

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.

The environment and resources that we enjoy today represent the contributions made by our parent/carer community over many years. Parent/carers voluntary contributions make a significant difference to the quality of our programs.

This financial support ensures that we can continue to provide the excellent range of facilities and resources for your children. Your support in 2024 allowed us to:

- provide high quality programs and specific subject materials and equipment for English, Mathematics, Science, Art, Big Question, PE, Spanish and Performing Arts
- maintain and develop the school grounds
- ensure the upkeep of our computer devices to enhance learning opportunities. Replacing interactive whiteboards with modern screens
- maintain a variety of engaging class sets of books for students to develop their reading skills
- provide hands on maths equipment i.e. counters, calculators, applied maths equipment
- deliver a range of sporting equipment
- arrange for individual student supplies and class bulk supplies
- offer effective first aid for all students.
- Resources for our spelling program SMART words.
- Resources for the explicit teaching of phonics.

We want to thank you for all you support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time.

Please find below Kensington Primary Schools voluntary financial contributions schedule for 2025, which includes an overview of what your contributions will enable the school to purchase for our students.

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

Yours sincerely,



Bridget McLaughlin
Principal



Jonathan Orr
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<p><u>Parents do not need to purchase a Book Pack.</u></p> <p>Classroom consumables, materials & equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> stationery such as exercise books, scrapbooks, diary, pens, pencils, post it notes, rulers, sharpeners, highlighters, permanent markers, scissors, sketch book, glue sticks, coloured pencils, mini whiteboards \$85.00 Art – paint, crayons, canvas, clay, coloured paper, Art folios \$15.00 Mathematics – hands on resources \$20.00 English-reading materials for classroom and home use \$35.00 Sports – equipment \$10.00 Spanish/Performing Arts- musical instruments, Spanish displays, Cultural Artifacts, Spanish literature \$10.00 	\$175.00
<p>Online school licences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little Learners Love Literacy <p>No payment required in 2025 lieu of 2024 payment for Reading Eggs and Mathletics subscription which expired May 2024.</p>	\$0
ICT devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets	\$25.00
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$15.00
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$215.00

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
First aid equipment, including hand sanitiser, antibacterial wipes, band aids, tissues, cotton wool, medical bags	\$10.00
School grounds maintenance and improvements: Provision of a safe and attractive environment for students through maintenance of synthetic turf, management of trees, upkeep of soft fall mulch,	\$50.00
Parent communication tools – COMPASS	\$10.00
Total Other Contributions	\$70.00

Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure. This money will be used to maintain, upgrade, and improve any necessary school building repairs unrelated to the major funded works. Suggested - \$400.00	\$(parent to complete)
Library fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support the purchasing of new books, library furniture such as bookshelves and displays Suggested - \$100.00	\$(parent to complete)

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

Kensington 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 activities will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Excursions/Incursions to be scheduled, estimated: \$140.00	TBA
Cooking & Gardening program	\$40.00
Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$40.00

Tax Deductible Voluntary Contributions

Our School Council is proud of the excellent quality of our facilities and resources available for our students. We offer to cater for students' needs and interests. However, these do not come without some extra costs involved.

Each year Kensington Primary School parents show positive support for the school through **tax deductible** Voluntary Contributions such as the Building Fund and the Library Fund.

Building Fund

Since 2015, financial support has led to considerable improvements being carried out across our school campus. Money from the Building Fund has allowed us to accomplish the following:

- Supply and install cooling and heating split systems in all classrooms
- Insulation was put in the roof cavity to enhance the energy efficiency of the split systems
- As part of the Cooling Project, block out blinds were also installed in all classrooms and in other rooms of the school
- Four heating and cooling split systems were recently installed in the library
- Completion of the Gym. Installation of suspended ceiling and extra panelling mounted on the walls
- Recarpeting and painting in all classrooms
- Partly funded the operable walls above the library in the Year 3 teaching space
- Modernisation of areas to be more functional for example, a teacher office in the Year 3 area is now a locker area for students
- Paid for repairs to eight external concrete windowsills damaged by concrete cancer
- Repairs, painting, plumbing and general maintenance
- The removal of walls in a storeroom to create a student support area
- Replaced entrance doors in library
- Replaced entrance doors above the library
- Replaced lino in the BER Foyer
- Carpeted classrooms
- Replaced all windows in the library and classrooms above the library
- Purchased and installed split systems for the gym foyer, music room and art room.
- Acoustic panelling in the gym.

Library Fund

Our school community has generously supported the Library Fund, which has seen the refurbishment and purchase of quality literature. Examples of what has been purchased are:

- Library furniture – student tables and chairs
- Library Books including short listed books nominated by the Children’s Book Council - yearly
- Non-fiction and Fiction Metal Dividers
- Bar Code Scanners
- Book Easels
- Book Shelving
- Purchased Indigenous texts to celebrate NAIDOC Week
- Library trolley
- Library desk
- Gender diverse literature
- Soft furnishings
- Rugs for reading areas
- Interactive Screens on trolleys

Kensington Primary School is committed in continuing to provide an engaging, orderly, and safe learning environment for our students. For this reason, your continued generous support will be greatly appreciated in 2025.

Financial Support for Families

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

- State Schools’ Relief provides financial support for eligible families to purchase clothing/uniforms at a reduced rate
- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports, and excursions
- 2025 only School Saving Bonus (SSB). The School Saving Bonus provides a one-off \$400 to help Victorian families cover the costs of their child/children’s school uniforms, excursions and activities. Families can choose how they spend the School Saving Bonus. It can be used towards 2025 school costs, which may include:
 - camps, trips, excursions and incursions
 - swimming and sporting programs
 - outdoor education programs
 - graduations
 - school uniforms
 - cooking & gardening

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact Bridget McLaughlin, Principal on 03 93766013, or email kensington.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$215.00
Other Contributions <i>(Non-tax deductible)</i>	\$ 70.00
Building Fund- Suggested - \$400.00 <i>(Tax-deductible)</i>	\$ <i>[parent to complete]</i>
Library Fund - Suggested - \$100.00 <i>(Tax-deductible)</i>	\$ <i>[parent to complete]</i>
Extra-Curricular Items	\$40.00
Camps/Excursions/Activities	\$TBA
Total	\$

Payment Methods

Parent contributions towards the requested payments assist in maintaining the quality of education that we provide at Kensington Primary School. Payments can be made electronically via Compass commencing **Monday 16th December 2024**

Alternatively, EFTPOS payments can be made directly at the Kensington Primary School Office commencing **Wednesday 29th January 2025**

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. Parents are asked to refer to the Department's Parent Payment Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy and any other relevant information located on the Department of Education website.



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 requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- 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.