Watsonia North
Primary School

# PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

## PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Watsonia North Primary is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Watsonia North Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

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 of your support, whether through 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:

- Continue to offer high-quality programs and provide subject-specific materials and equipment for English, Mathematics, Science, Art, Music, Inquiry, Language and Physical Education
- Maintain and develop our school grounds for students' benefit, e.g. play equipment, play areas
- Maintain and upgrade our computer resources/devices to enable our students to have access to the benefits of current information technology
- Provide sufficient numbers of up-to-date books for students to develop their reading skills
- Provide high-quality Mathematics teaching equipment, i.e. class sets of measurement materials and software
- Providing a range of Literacy and Mathematics digital and online subscriptions
- Provide a wide range of sporting equipment necessary for the Sport and Physical Education Program
- Provide resources to implement innovative teaching and learning programs
- Provide effective care and First Aid program for all students

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

Yours sincerely,

**Sarah Pollnitz**
**Principal**

**Penny Van Gelderen**
**School Council President**

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## YEAR 4 2026

| Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum | Amount |
|---|---|
| *Year 4 classroom consumables, materials & equipment*<br>• *Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, glitter, beads, glue*<br>• *STEM – Consumables for experiments & construction, books & materials*<br>• *Mathematics – numeracy blocks, kits, texts*<br>• *English – book boxes, class sets, levelled reading materials*<br>• *Sports – equipment, ribbons,*<br>• *Library – books, subscriptions*<br>• *Music – materials and equipment*<br>• *Home Reading Journal*<br>• *Classroom supplies – pencils, textas, glue sticks, assorted exercise books, markers, assorted folders, document wallets, general stationery items* | $261 |
| *Year 3/4 Online Subscriptions*<br>• *Mathletics $19*<br>• *SeeSaw $12*<br>• *Literacy Pro $13* | $44 |
| *Year 3/4 Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials* | $15 |
| ***Curriculum Contributions Total*** | **$320** |
| **Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities** | **Amount** |
| *First aid equipment* | $20 |
| *School grounds maintenance and improvements* | $20 |
| Other Contributions Total | $40 |
| **TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS** | **$360** |

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**Extra-Curricular Items and Activities** **$User-Pays basis**

Watsonia North Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden students' schooling experience and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis. These items/activities such as camps, incursions, excursions, sports and school photos are provided on a user-pays basis. Associated costs are published on Compass termly or before a specific event, where parents provide payment and consent. For our Prep cohort, we estimate this to be approximately $612 per child for 2026.

**Financial Support for Families**

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund.
  Families holding a valid, means-tested concession card are eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) that provides payments for eligible students to attend Extra-Curricular (OPTIONAL) Items and Activities.
  The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps and term expenses (incursions, excursions & events) for the benefit of the eligible student - 2026 primary school student rate is $400.
- State School's Relief

**Fundraising**

Parents and Friends Association hold events throughout the year which include bookclub, raffles, etc. A major fundraiser may be considered by the Parents and Friends Association, to be held at some stage during the year, eg Fun Run, Jump Rope for Heart.

**Social Services**

Several small fundraising efforts will be run throughout the year. These events will support foundations such as The Cancer Council, The Royal Children's Hospital and other charities as determined by the Student Representative Council.

There will be a maximum of one out of uniform day per term, which usually requires a gold coin donation of $1 or $2 for social services.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact:

Despina Diamandis
Finance Manager

Ph: 03 9435 1285 | Email: Despina.Diamandis@education.vic.gov.au

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| Category | Suggested Total |
|---|---|
| Curriculum Contributions | $320 |
| Other Contributions | $40 |
| Extra-Curricular Items and Activities | $User-Pays |

**Payment Methods**

Parent payments and annual general permissions are completed via Compass.

https://wats-north-vic.compass.education

You can log in using our school's online communication portal, using your unique login details, which have been provided to you. Please check 'Course Confirmation/Payment' in 'My News' on your homepage and follow the prompts. If you are having issues with Compass, have forgotten your password or have no access, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

Other means of payments can be made as follows:

- *Cash*
- *EFTPOS*
- *Direct debit from your debit or credit card*
- *Direct deposit to the school's bank account. Commonwealth bank: 063 246 / 10060319*

*(Please ensure you use reference **Fees $ Family Name**)*

*I authorise $_____ to be charged to my Visa / MasterCard.*

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***NAME (as on card)*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***CARD NUMBER:*** | | | | | - | | | | | - | | | | | - | | | |
| ***SIGNATURE*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***BANKCARD*** | | ***VISA*** | | ***MASTERCARD*** | | ***EXPIRY DATE*** | ***____Month_____Year*** |

**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, considering 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 the school uses 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 students' schooling experience 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) with which parents can have a confidential discussion 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.