

14 November 2025

Dear Parent/Guardians,

Parktone Primary School is proud of our student's achievements in 2025 and is looking forward to another wonderful year of teaching and learning in 2026. Our student outcomes are in part possible due to the continued support of our parents/carers and their contributions by both community involvement and a financial perspective. To continue to enhance student learning at Parktone Primary School, we would like to advise you of the school's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. While the Department of Education funds a standard curriculum program, many of the highly valued programs and resources provided by Parktone Primary School go beyond this funding and could not be provided without the financial support of our families whose children benefit.

The ongoing voluntary financial support of our families ensures that our school continues to offer a comprehensive educational program to deliver robust learning outcomes and support for all our students. We want to thank you for your support, whether that is through your contributions, fundraising events, or volunteering time. This has made a significant difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support and the continued generosity of our school community have allowed us to:

- Provide new shade sails, creation of a sustainability garden, mural, fencing and plants for our garden beds.
- Enabled the school to employ a groundsman to continue the upkeep and maintenance of our school grounds ensuring a safe and attractive environment for all who use the facilities.
- Upgrade and purchase additional technology equipment providing enhanced digital learning opportunities in all curriculum areas including the purchase of 3D printers and Ozobots for our STEAM program.
- Allowed the school to continually resource and restock literacy books, library books and classroom resources such as take-home books, classroom libraries, and hands on resources.
- Upgrade buildings, including addition of a new entry door in administration, ensuring the safety of all students.
- Offer a wide range of subjects and special curriculum experiences for our students across all year levels, through the purchase of quality art, physical education equipment, and resources.
- Specialist software to support student learning and assessment in literacy and numeracy.
- Supply first aid materials and equipment for our well used first aid room.
- Provide assistance to families in need.

Please find the schedule for your child's contributions for 2026 attached. This is provided to families prior to the end of the school year for planning purposes. Further details regarding payments will be made available via Compass at the commencement of the 2026 school year.

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
- Student Assistance Fund

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact Nadine Robinson (Business Manager) or Genevieve Casonato (Principal) on 03 9580 1207, or email: parktone.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Payment methods

Curriculum Contributions and Other Contributions can be paid through several payment options available through the school: -

- **Preferred option:** through Compass by following the link: –
[Course Confirmation/School Payments](#)
- Direct Debit – Parktone Primary School
BSB: 063-144
Account No: 1008 3779
- BPAY (please contact the school to obtain your unique BPay Code)
- EFTPOS facility (at the school office or over the phone)

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.

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

Kind regards,



Genevieve Casonato
Principal



Adrian Fitzgerald
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
These items and services support the course of instruction in the standard curriculum program. Our school takes great care to minimise costs to parents by ordering classroom consumables in bulk. <i>Classroom consumables, materials & equipment</i> • Student Stationery (\$125) - e.g. writing books, scrap books, writing and drawing implements, sharpeners, eraser, highlighters, etc. • Shared Classroom Materials (\$10) – over and above stationery provided per student, e.g. construction and project materials, cover paper • Visual Arts (\$30) – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, clay • Japanese (\$10) – pencils, crayons, glue sticks, craft materials, Japanese day materials • STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) (\$30) – craft materials, science exercise book, design book, supplies for experiments • Performing Arts (\$10) – scrap books • Leader In Me (\$10) – cooking ingredients, gardening supplies, craft materials, LIM folders	\$225
<i>Online subscriptions</i> • Leader In Me (\$21) • Maths Online Program (\$22) • Maths Fluency Program (\$9)	\$52
<i>Assessments</i> • SPA Data Tracker (\$5) • Best Performance – Writing Analysis (\$20)	\$25
<i>Printing and photocopying of learning materials</i>	\$30
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$332

Other Contributions – for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<i>Student and parent communication tool - Compass</i>	\$30
<i>First aid and hygiene costs</i>	\$10
<i>eLearning.</i> Due to the departments directive that there will no longer be a BYOD program we are requesting contributions to enable the school to purchase and maintain devices that will enhance and support the learning of all students (<i>Suggested amount of \$70 or you may wish to nominate an amount</i>)	\$70
<i>Student Assistance Fund.</i> Contributions help the school provide extra-curricular items and activities to families due to demonstrated financial hardship (<i>Suggested amount of \$20 or you may wish to nominate an amount</i>)	\$20
<i>School grounds maintenance and improvements</i> (<i>Suggested amount of \$50 or you may wish to nominate an amount</i>)	\$50
Total Other Contributions	\$180

Tax deductible contributions	
<i>Library fund.</i> A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource. (<i>Suggested amount of \$50 or you may wish to nominate an amount</i>)	\$50

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

Parktone 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. These are provided on a user-pays basis. Details and cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year.

Category	Total
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 332
Other Contributions (<i>suggested amount</i>)	\$ 180
Tax Deductible Contribution (<i>suggested amount</i>)	\$ 50
TOTAL	\$ 562

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.