

## PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY OVERVIEW

Dear Parent,

Strathfieldsaye Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our parent payment arrangements for 2021.

### Parent Payments Summary

Please find attached the Parent Payments Summary which is a fee schedule outlining the Essential Student Learning Items, Optional Items and Voluntary Contributions for your child/ren for the 2021 school year. Strathfieldsaye Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents.

**Please complete the attached Parent Payments Summary (PPS) and related forms and return to the school office by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December.**

### Financial Support for Families

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

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF – for valid Health Care Card holders and Centrelink pensioner concessions – see attached CSEF form)
- A choice of three Payment Plan options, as outlined on the attached PPS form.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, please contact any of our friendly staff in the office.

### Payment Methods

Strathfieldsaye Primary School accepts the following payment options:

1. BPAY using your Biller Code and Reference (as outlined on your Family Account Statement)
2. Direct deposit via the School's Bank Account (Commonwealth Bank BSB: 063 506 Account: 10113475)  
Please use your student's full name and '2021' as a reference.
3. Cash or EFT available at the school office

### Voluntary Contributions

Strathfieldsaye Primary School also continues to welcome your voluntary contributions to support our school throughout the school year. You can make a general voluntary contribution that goes towards all of our school's important priorities for 2021; and additional activities and services for all students. Your child will not be disadvantaged if you do not make a voluntary contribution. All records of voluntary contributions are kept confidential including your decision about whether to contribute or not.

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

Yours sincerely,

**Cindi Bruechert**

School Principal

**Darren Flett**

School Council President

### Essential Learning Items

In line with the Department of Education and Training Parent Payments Policy, Strathfieldsaye Primary School identifies the activities and services that are essential for every child to have access to a standard curriculum. These charges are school based; therefore, they vary across different schools based on local needs and circumstances, and they reflect each school's priorities, decisions, and resources.

The Essential Student Learning Items are broken down into two categories – *Classroom Requisites* and *Materials and Services* – and they are reviewed for approval by School Council every year.

The *Classroom Requisites* component consists of consumable curriculum items that are purchased for individual student use to facilitate learning such as work books, pens, pencils, paper, reader books and other stationary items (refer to individual year level booklists for further details).

The *Materials and Services* funding is used to purchase materials or services to enhance the standard curriculum. This covers a wide range of budget areas including the following: classroom budgets for curriculum consumables, supplies for activities and programs relating to curriculum delivery (including Maths, English, GAP activities, Art, Library Books, PE, Performing Arts, LOTE, Health & Wellbeing, Be You), tissues, first aid supplies, replenishing class sets of readers/novels /technology items.

A breakdown of how this is calculated is as follows: (based on projected enrolments of 520 Students at October 2020)

<b>Materials and Services Costs</b>	<b>Amount per year</b>
Classroom Budgets \$12 per student x 520 Students	\$6,240
Mathematics	\$2,000
English	\$5,500
Visual Arts	\$5,000
Library	\$500
LOTE	\$700
Performing Arts	\$1,440
Be You (formally Kids Matter)	\$375
Physical Education	\$2,000
GAP Program	\$1,040
Health & Wellbeing	\$250
Annual paper, stationery and tissues supplies (based on 2020 figures)	\$9,500
Replacement of technology items	\$4,000
Community Garden	\$1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$39,545</b>
<b>divided by 520 students</b>	<b>\$76 per child</b>

# PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

## ONE PAGE OVERVIEW

The following is a summary of the main principles of the Parent Payments Policy:



### FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.



### PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

- Schools do not ask parents to pay for school operating costs (e.g. utility costs) or general and unspecified charges.
- Schools request payments from parents under three categories:

#### Essential Student Learning Items

- Items and activities which the school deems essential for student learning.
- Parents may choose to purchase essential items through the school or provide their own.

#### Optional Items

- Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum.
- These are provided to students on a user-pays basis.

#### Voluntary Contributions

- Voluntary contributions support the school to continue to be the best local school for all students and can be for general or specific purpose.
- Students will not be disadvantaged in any way if parents do not make a contribution.



### 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 obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and upload their arrangements on their school's public website for transparency.