

FOOTSCRAY PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 253

PO Box 6019, West Footscray VIC 3012

Telephone: 9687-1910

Email: footscray.ps@education.vic.gov.au

ABN: 73 428 063 13



Dear parent/guardian,

Footscray Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Footscray Primary 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. Nevertheless, the ongoing financial support of our families ensures that we can continue to offer the best possible education experience for every child at Footscray Primary School.

Within our school this support has allowed us to organise and coordinate rich, extensive programs outside of the traditional teaching and learning programs. Our specialist programs of Art, Music, Science & Design, and PE are strengthened by your financial contributions, allowing us to purchase varied art resources, musical instruments, science and construction materials.

Additional programs we can offer because of your contributions include choir, productions and concerts, art shows, school and community events such as Book Week, Science Week, Market Day, 100 Days of School, sports events, and wellbeing programs such as SWPBS, engagement groups, and the Friendship Zone.

We make strategic use of our department funding to establish program budgets for areas such as Literacy, Numeracy, Wellbeing, ICT, Transitions, Professional Development, Intervention and many more. We also use our funding to subsidise the cost of curriculum materials that are not covered by voluntary contributions. In 2025, we received parent payments from 61% of our Foundation families, 49% of our Year 1-2 families, 45% of our Year 3-4 families and 40% of our Year 5-6 families. We drew on program budgets to subsidise the remaining costs to deliver the programs that we all believe are essential to meet the learning and wellbeing needs of our young people and the staff who support them.

To ensure we can continue to deliver on the high expectations held by all of us at Footscray Primary School we would really value your contributions in line with the Department's Parent Payments Policy.

Yours sincerely,

Jen Briggs

Principal

Yours Sincerely

Raylene Varone

School Council President

Year 5-6 Parent Payment Schedule

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
General classroom consumables (including Specialist subjects), materials & equipment - Classroom materials and equipment – writing books, pens, pencils, textas, sharpener, ruler, eraser, scissors, glue sticks, display folders - Inquiry unit materials - Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper - Music - Science – chemicals - Mathematics – numeracy resources - English – literacy toolkits and texts - Sports – equipment	\$200
Digital and Online Subscriptions Reading A-Z Assessment & Reporting Platforms	\$23
ICT Devices – provision and upkeep of devices from the shared classroom sets including Netbooks (Year 5 –6)	\$ 65
Curriculum Activities - Book Week - Literacy and Numeracy Week - Significant event celebrations - Inquiry actions and exhibitions - Language and Culture events - Science Week - Health – Respectful Relationships, Sexuality Education & E-Safety (Year 3-6)	\$ 70
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$358.00

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
All Aboard – assist families with payment of camps, excursions and other activities (recommended \$25)	\$
First aid equipment and support (recommended \$15)	\$
Communication & Online Payment Tools - Compass (recommended \$20)	\$
School grounds maintenance and improvements (recommended \$25)	\$
School Sports Victoria affiliation (recommended \$3)	\$
Student wellbeing programs – SWPBS, friendship zone, student support space, engagement programs (recommended \$15)	\$

Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure (recommended \$100)	\$
Library fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource (recommended \$100)	\$
Total Other Contributions	\$

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

Footscray 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.

If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child, please pay and consent on Compass when advised.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Optional Camps and excursions/incursions as scheduled. The cost of these activities will be advised once known	The cost of attending these activities will be advised via Compass
Swimming carnival	
Interschool Sports	
Other Higher level sport competition – swimming, athletics, cross country, kanga cricket (dependant on selection)	
Year 6 commemorative uniform item	
Year 6 graduation	Paid to photo company
School photos – price dependant on package purchased by the family	

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- flexible payment arrangements (via Compass)
- the All Aboard Fund - funded by family voluntary contributions and fundraising activities to assist with funding for camps, excursions and/or other welfare needs
- State School Relief – clothing & uniform support

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

Sharon Jones – Business Manager

Ph: 03 9687 1910 | Email: Sharon.jones3@education.vic.gov.au

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$
Other Contributions	(Non-tax deductible) \$
	(Tax-deductible) \$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$ as advised on Compass
Total	\$

Payment methods

Compass

Bpay – please contact the office for details of your family reference number

EFT – at the school office

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 Payments 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 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.

