



19 October 2021

Dear parent/guardian,

Somerville Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of *Somerville Primary School's* voluntary financial contributions for 2022.

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 your support, whether that's 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 *provide brand new books for our Foundation, Grade 1 and Grade 2 Students; both within the classroom and for home reading. New Numeracy resources for our students within the classroom to provide hands on and engaging maths lessons. We have been able to prioritise ground works, to provide new learning landscapes such as the stage and grassed area near the Kindergarten. Increased Mentor texts and Literacy Pro for students in Grades 3-6. Increased Developmental Learning Resources within the Foundation classes and greater opportunities for specialists and incursions for our students. The support has also enabled us to increase access to our Chaplain and other wellbeing priorities. Without your continued support Somerville Primary School cannot provide all of the outstanding opportunities for our students; both academic and wellbeing.*

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

Yours sincerely,

David Tapp
Acting Principal

Erica Brady
School Council President



Curriculum contributions & other contributions

1. Curriculum Contributions	
Items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	
Classroom consumables, materials & equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper \$10 Science – chemicals \$10 Japanese - \$5 Performing Arts - \$5 Sport –\$5 ICT - \$5 	\$40.00
Online Subscriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathletics \$11.80 Reading Eggs \$14.20 Essential Assessment \$9.25 ACER Assessments - \$6.00 	\$41.25
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$20.00
2. Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	
School Sports Victoria membership	\$10
First aid equipment	\$5
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$5
3. Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure.	\$10
Total Amount	\$131.25

Educational items for students to own

Attached is a list of items that the school recommends you order & purchase online from Paperchase, a third-party supplier for your child to individually own and use.



Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Somerville Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order 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 indicate on the table below and return this to the school by 1/2/22.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount	(Please tick)
<i>Please note that the amounts indicated are based on 2021 camps. Costs may change in 2022. All information relating to camps, activities & sport programs in 2022 will be posted onto Sentral as and when they are scheduled.</i>		
Optional Year 3-4 Camp	\$290 approx	
Optional Year 5-6 school camp	\$310 approx	
Optional Year 5-6 Interschool Sports program	\$48 approx	
Other optional incursions and excursions to be scheduled	TBA	
optional Whole school events	TBA	
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities		\$TBA

Financial Support for Families

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

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund – Healthcare card holders
- Westernport community house Education Assistance Program

Every year Western Port Community Support provides support to those parents struggling with the expenses associated with the return to school in February. The program operates from October through to February each year and is appointment based. Please phone 5979 2762 or present in person to make an appointment

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact: David Tapp Ph: 59775421 | Email:

somerville.ps@education.vic.gov.au



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.

Parent/guardian to complete

Curriculum contributions & other contributions you wish to pay in 2022	Please enter amount \$
1. Curriculum Contributions	\$
2. Other Contributions	\$
3. Tax deductible contributions	\$
Total general voluntary contribution to the school	\$

Payment methods

- Eftpos at general office, via phone or Direct Deposit

Direct Deposit to:

Account Name: Somerville Primary School Official Account
BSB: 633000 Account Number: 123046278

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 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

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.