



2021 Parent Payment Arrangements

10/11/20

Dear RPS Families,

Thank you once again for your persistence and patience throughout a very difficult year. With the support of our incredible community, the commitment of our teaching and support staff, leadership team and School Council, we know that in 2021 we will continue to maintain our excellent educational programs, successful outcomes and high quality standards that have become a hallmark of RPS.

The reason we are writing to you is because the Department of Education has made significant changes to their Parent Payments Policy and our form has changed from previous years. Each year our parent payments and contributions, set by School Council, provide vital funds necessary to ensure we maintain a high quality education for all students. The three areas for which parents may reasonably be requested to make a payment or contribution are:

Essential Student Learning Items

These are items which are essential for your child to learn the standard curriculum at school and that students take **permanent possession of** during the year. The parent payment arrangements form attached to this letter includes a breakdown of these items for 2021.

Optional Educational Items

Are those items such as excursions, incursions, camps, swimming and other activities or services that are offered in addition to the standard curriculum program. These will be based on a "Pay as you go" method on QKR and COMPASS with permission in 2021.

Voluntary Contributions – Student Learning

Previously allocated as part of the student essential items, these contributions are now separate. They are allocated to cover other materials and resources your child uses at school and takes **temporary possession of**. They contribute to learning area resources: Literacy and Numeracy resources, STEAM, sports equipment, Italian & French Language resources, musical instruments and technology.

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Payments of these contributions are now considered voluntary, however these vital funds help the school provide direct resources to every child such as:

- Use of iPads and Lenovo netbooks across the school to enhance student learning opportunities – many families also borrowed these devices during remote learning.
- Digital tools such as cameras, video cams, microphones, printing, photocopying and laminating of classroom resources.
- Take home reading material through classroom libraries and take home reading schemes.
- Literature circle books replenished with new titles, engaging our readers with award winning authors.
- Maths resources such as manipulatives like unifix cubes, base ten blocks, interlocking cubes, pattern blocks, and fraction strips. Manipulatives intrigue and motivate while helping students learn.
- Musical instruments for the Performing Arts Program - we continue to provide unique instruments for students to enjoy and perform with (recently we purchased 16 African drums).
- Sports equipment that is used for every year level appropriate to children’s developmental needs.
- Varied STEAM resources to support units of inquiry, robotics and coding equipment.

Your child will not be disadvantaged if you do not make a Voluntary Contribution. All records of Voluntary Contributions are kept confidential as well as your decision about whether to make a contribution or not.

Additional Voluntary Contributions – Programs & Events

School Production – In 2021 we have planned our biennial school production at Caulfield Grammar School and we would love to hire costumes and sets for the show.

ICT Program – In 2021 we would like to lease 30 new iPads and 30 Lenovo netbooks as our existing resources are old and current leases are ending. We are seeking a small contribution to support this.

Voluntary Contributions – School Priorities

Building Fund – In 2021, we would like to freshen up the student toilets, increase ventilation and change the toilet seats.

Library Fund – In 2021 we would like to purchase more books and themed resources to support our Library program.

Maintenance & Special Projects – In 2021 we would love to fix the fence at the mini pitch and upgrade the fence along the back oval as well as address any other small maintenance issues across the school, especially in line with COVID Safe and OH&S practices.

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Sustainability (new) - We are committed to embedding sustainability into our practices and providing educational opportunities that will help our students foster care and respect for the natural environment. A special project will be identified in 2021.

Contributions to our school have allowed us to:

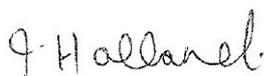
- Maintain the school grounds with a weekend grounds person and termly mowing.
- Install new fencing at the back of the school along the junior playground for added security.
- Redevelop the school uniform shop into a new room for our Literacy Intervention program (MiniLit & Maqlit).
- Install ten brand new split system air-conditioners across the school at a cost of over \$40K.
- Upgrade the school library with soft furnishings, shelving and purchase picture story books related to social emotional learning for students.
- Upgrade and repaint our basketball courts, four squares, new back boards, rings and new goals for the mini pitch.
- Remove graffiti, install signage for trespassing, private property and security cameras to deter vandalism.
- Increase shelving, storage and bag lockers in the Year 1/2 classroom near the mezzanine.
- Carpet the internal stairwell of the main building.
- Carpet the 5/6 classroom and install a new TV for interactive projection.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS SUMMARY	SUGGESTED AMOUNT
Student Learning	\$200
Programs & Events (School Production & ICT Program)	\$35
Building Fund (tax deductible)	\$50 / \$100 / \$150 / other
Library Fund (tax deductible)	\$50 / \$100 / \$150 / other
Maintenance & Special Projects	\$50 / \$100 / \$150 / other
Sustainability Fund (new)	\$50 / \$100 / \$150 / other

Yours sincerely,



Natalie Rose
Principal



Tarryn Holland
School Council President



Michael Kent
Treasurer

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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.

2021 PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

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

Please find the fee schedule(s) for your child(ren) attached. Please complete the final page of this form and return it to the school by 9 December 2020 so the school can prepare accordingly.

Payment Plans / Methods

Ripponlea's School Council work hard to ensure costs to families are kept as low as possible, whilst also striving to provide an innovative and vibrant learning environment for our students. The school strongly encourages parents to make payments via the QKR Payment Portal.

For your convenience we are offering two payment plans:

- A. Full payment now or up until the 31st January 2021
- B. Split payment – 14 December 2020, 17 February 2021, 17 March 2021, 14 April 2021

Financial Support for Families

The school appreciates that families may sometimes experience financial difficulty in meeting payment requests. Support options are available to assist parents including a payment plan tailored to your family needs and possible access to the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF). If you are the holder of a concessions card, please complete the online application form or collect a form from the school office in preparation for 2021. If you require assistance regarding requested payments please call our Business Manager, Rachel Helyer, on 9527 5728. All discussions are private and confidential.

Any student who is attending a Victorian government school is eligible for support buying uniform via State Schools' Relief support. Eligibility situations include, but are not limited to: health issues resulting in serious financial difficulties, house fires where school clothing is lost; independent living and/or homelessness, natural disasters or serious financial difficulty. Parents or carers who are struggling to provide their child's uniform need to make an appointment with the school Principal to discuss their situation.

Refunds

Ripponlea Primary School responds to refunds on a case by case basis. Where refunds are deemed reasonable, and if the school has not incurred a cost on behalf of your child, refunds are made on a pro-rata basis.

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

2021 FEE SCHEDULE – GRADE 1 AND 2

Please find the itemised list of Essential Student Learning Items and Optional Items for your child. Ripponlea Primary School also continues to welcome your voluntary contributions for 2021.

Essential Student Learning Items - breakdown

Below is a list of items and activities which are essential for your child to learn the standard curriculum. You may choose to purchase these items through the school (who order in bulk to obtain favourable rates) or provide your own. Please advise the office if you would like to buy your own.

Qty	Essential Student learning Items	Amount
Stationery pack		
	2 x glue sticks, 2 x A4 10mm grid books, 2 x 64 page A4 18mm dotted third books, 2 x 64 page A4 14mm dotted third books, 2 x project books 18mm, 1 x eraser, 1 x A4 magazine file, 1 x red A4 wallet, 1 x re-fillable display book, 1 x pack display book covers, 1 x pencil sharpener 2 hole, 1 x pack crayons, 1 x scissors, 1 x pack fine line markers, 1 x red checking pencil, 1 x pack coloured A4 paper, 1 x pack whiteboard markers, 1 x handwriting book, 1 x pack loose leaf dotted thirds paper, 1 x pack 2B pencils, 1 x pack triangular pencils, 1 x pack coloured cover paper, 1 x pack tissues	\$75
1	Set headphones	\$20
	Stationery pack total	\$95
Consumables		
	Classroom consumables (various craft materials, assorted paper/stationery to support student learning)	\$50
	Visual Art consumables for Art (clay, sculptures, weaving, knitting, fabrics)	\$30
	Consumables for Integrated Subjects and projects, (STEAM, LOTE, music/sustainability projects, cooking)	\$30
Digital learning programs/resources		
	Mathletics, Sunshine Online, Reading Eggs, Wushka, Seesaw, PAT assessment reading / maths and various ipad apps	\$70
TOTAL ESSENTIAL LEARNING ITEMS		\$275

Optional Items

Ripponlea Primary School offers a range of optional items and activities that are additional to the delivery of the standard curriculum. These items and activities are designed to broaden the school experience for your child.

These optional extras are provided on a user-pays basis. Request for permission and payment will be made throughout the year and students will attend these events on receipt of permission and payment.

Optional Items (but not limited to) - costs to be advised throughout 2021	Amount
<p><u>Swimming program</u></p> <p>This program is offered to the whole-school as part of our Health and Physical Education and Sport program. The emphasis is on water safety, survival techniques and swimming skill development. Swimming is an essential part of the HPE Program and as such we encourage every child to participate. This program is classed as an optional extra and is provided on a user pay basis, therefore students attend upon receipt of permission and payment.</p>	Pay as you go
<p><u>Incursions/excursions</u></p> <p>These programs are offered in the form of whole-school and year level educational excursions and incursions. Request for permission and payment will be made during the year via Compass and Qkr, as each event is confirmed. These events are an optional extra and are provided on a user pay basis, therefore students will attend these events upon receipt of permission and payment.</p>	Pay as you go
<p><u>Big Night In and sleepover</u></p> <p>Our program promotes the development of your child's independence, resilience and social skills. Request for permission and payment will be made during the year via Compass and Qkr, as each event is confirmed. These events are an optional extra and are provided on a user pay basis, therefore students will attend these events upon receipt of permission and payment.</p> <p>Grade 1 - Big Night In Grade 2 - Sleepover at school</p>	Pay as you go

Voluntary Curriculum Contributions

We seek families' support with respect to Voluntary Contributions, so that Ripponlea Primary School can continue to deliver the best education for your child. A key factor in our success and the quality of our academic and co-curricular programs is the support we have had from our community over many years through financial contributions. Thank you to all of those families who continue to make a contribution to our school.

You can make a voluntary contribution that goes towards all of our school's important priorities for 2021 as well as providing 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 as well as your decision about whether to make a contribution or not.

2021 PARENT PAYMENT SUMMARY – GRADE 1 AND 2

Please detach and return this form to the office by 9th December 2020

Student name _____

Summary of Parent Payment Charges	Suggested Voluntary Contribution per student			Amount
Essential learning items – Stationery, curriculum consumables, digital learning programs	n/a			\$275.00
Optional items - In 2020 these were:- Swimming (\$140) Excursions / Incursions (\$130), Big Night In Sleepover (TBC)	n/a			PAYG
Voluntary Contributions <i>(in 2020 these items were deemed 'essential')</i>				
Student learning - literacy and numeracy resources, STEAM, sports equipment, Italian & French Language resources, musical instruments and technology	\$200			\$
Programs & Events – School production & ICT program	\$35			\$
School priorities				
Building Fund <i>(tax deductible*)</i>	\$50	\$100	\$150	\$
Library Fund <i>(tax deductible*)</i>	\$50	\$100	\$150	\$
Maintenance & Special Projects	\$50	\$100	\$150	\$
Sustainability Projects	\$50	\$100	\$150	\$
TOTAL (please fill in)				\$

* School Council has established tax-deductible gift recipient status with the Australian Taxation Office for the Building Fund and Library Fund

Payment options	Choose <u>one</u> method of payment
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Payment in full - via Qkr now (or by 31 January 2021)

OR

Payment by instalment - 4 x equal payments processed by the office on the following dates

14 December 2020 17 February 2021 17 March 2021 14 April 2021

Only complete your credit card details if you wish to use the instalment method	
Name on card:	Type: Visa / Mastercard
Card number: _ _ _ _ _	Expiry date:
Mobile phone number:	Amount per instalment: \$
I hereby give consent to Ripponlea Primary School to deduct the above total from my card in 4 equal instalments	Signature: