October 2025

Dear parent/guardian,

Hastings Primary School would like to thank you for your financial support as we endeavour to provide the best possible education for your child.

Within our school this support has allowed us to provide special curriculum experiences, enhanced digital learning opportunities, upgrade of our library, upgrade of our playground, faster WIFI and internet.

Our school is committed to ensuring that parent payment requests are accurate, transparent, affordable, and aligned with our requirements as a Victorian Government school. It has recently come to our attention that some changes are required to our parent payment arrangements to ensure they are clear and transparent. Accordingly, we have updated and re-published this year's parent payment arrangements on our school website.

If you have made your parent payments this year and still wish to contribute towards the listed items and activities, no further action is required. However, if the updated arrangements change what you are interested in contributing towards and/or purchasing, please reach out and we can provide you with a line of credit towards other future costs. We can also provide you with a refund if required.

Thank you again for your continued support of our school. If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact:

Simone McDonald – Principal

Ph: 03 5979 1517

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

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

Yours sincerely

Simone McDonald PRINCIPAL

Dave Gardner SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Classroom consumables, materials & equipment Classroom stationary Readers	\$50
Subject specific materials and equipment • Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper (\$5 per term)	\$20
Online Yearly Subscriptions Maths Seeds (\$20) Reading Doctor/Literacy Pro (\$15) M-Class (\$5)	\$40
ICT Devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets	\$0
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials (\$5 per term)	\$20
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$130

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$50
Total Other Contributions	\$50

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

Hastings 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.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Excursions to be scheduled (estimated: \$50)	ТВА
Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	ТВА

Financial Support for Families

Hastings 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

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

Simone McDonald – Principal

Ph: 03 5979 1517

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

Total

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 130
Other Contributions for school grounds maintenance and improvements	\$ 50
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$ TBA
Total	\$180

Payment methods:

Payments are made via the compass portal.

Payment by Instalments

To support families, we offer the option to pay by instalments. We kindly request that full payment is made by **December 2025**, which helps us ensure a smooth start to the school year. Instalment payments can be made by the following suggested dates:

First instalment: 07/11/2025
Second instalment: 01/12/2025
Final instalment: 27/01/2026

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.