

November 2024

2025 Parent Contributions

Dear Pearcedale Primary School Parents and Carers,

Pearcedale Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

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 educational outcomes for our students.

Within our school this support has allowed us to provide the environment and resources that we enjoy today through the contributions made by our Pearcedale Primary School community over many years. Parent and Carer contributions have made significant difference to the quality of our programs. This financial support ensures that we can continue to provide the excellent range of facilities and resources for your children.

Your support in 2025 will continue to allow us to:

- Provide all student stationery and resources in the classroom
- Provide high quality programs and specific subject materials and equipment for: English, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), Visual Art, Performing Arts, Inquiry Units, AUSLAN, PE and Health and Wellbeing
- Ensure the upkeep of our computer devices to enhance learning opportunities
- Maintain sufficient classroom and library resources to ensure all students have access to high quality reading programs and materials to develop student literacy skills
- Facilitate Literacy and Mathematics online digital subscriptions
- Provide parent/school communication and payments via Compass
- Maintain and develop the school grounds and playgrounds
- Provide whole school activities and celebrations and so much more

We want to thank you for all your support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

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

Yours sincerely,

Simon Anderson

Principal

Lorelle Hunt

School Council President

2025 YEAR 2

Curriculum Contributions – items and activities that students use or participate in to access the Curriculum

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Individual and shared classroom stationery items e.g. exercise books, pencils, glue sticks, highlighters, clip folder, eraser, ruler, display book, scrapbooks, markers, scissors, PM Handwriting, reading journal, sharpener and whiteboard kit. | \$80.00 |
| AUSLAN, Performing Arts, Visual Art and STEM – Subject specific consumable materials. Provision and maintenance - ICT devices, technology equipment e.g. Student notebooks, iPads, audio visual equipment – including headphones, specialised STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) equipment, Library and Class reading sets and take-home readers, Musical equipment and PE equipment. | \$75.00 |
| Paper - Photocopying and printing for students | \$25.00 |
| Digital and Online Subscriptions / Assessments for learning – Nessy Reading and Spelling, Essential Assessment, Compass and PAT Maths / Reading | \$45.00 |
| TOTAL CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS | \$225.00 |

Pearcedale Primary School has been able to purchase the items of curriculum classroom consumables in bulk and have them delivered to the school ready for the start of the 2025 school year. This also allows for all students to have the same materials as their classmates. If parents/carers choose to provide equivalent materials, this should be done in consultation with the school as items are to meet the specifications provided by the school. e.g. mm per writing book.

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities

| | |
|---|----------------|
| First Aid materials and facial tissues | \$5.00 |
| School Grounds and Building Maintenance and Improvements Contribution | \$50.00 |
| TOTAL OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS | \$55.00 |

| Category | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Curriculum Contributions | \$225.00 |
| Other Contributions | \$55.00 |
| Extra-Curricular Items and Activities | TBA |

Extra-Curricular (OPTIONAL) Items and Activities

Pearcedale 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 to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis. Details of these items and activities will be provided to students and families throughout the year.

No payment is required for these items or activities at this time – permission forms and payment requests will be sent out to families throughout 2025 via the Compass App.

| Extra-Curricular Items and Activities |
|---|
| Optional Swimming Program and Water Safety Program |
| Optional Year 3 - 5 School Camps, Year 6 Canberra Camp, Snow Camp, Music Camp |
| Optional Year 6 Interschool Sports program |
| Other optional Foundation – Year 6 excursions to be scheduled |
| Optional Year 6 Polos & Hoodies, Graduation Mementos |
| Optional Whole School Photos |

Financial Support for Families

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

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions.

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

Donna Holland

Ph: 03 5978 6250 | Email: pearcedale.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Payment methods

Parent contributions towards the requested payments are essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at Pearcedale Primary School. Payment can be made via Compass App or Web Browser. See the New Parents Guide to Billing – a step by step guide to take you through paying your school contributions.

- Compass will be closed for payments from Saturday 14 December 2024 – Sunday 19 January 2025
- 2025 Compass will be open for all payments from Monday 20 January 2025.

Alternatively, EFTPOS payments can be made directly at the Office during school operating hours.

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 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.