

24 October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

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 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 is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school, your support in 2024 has allowed us to provide:

- A wide range of subjects and special curriculum experiences for our students across all year levels.
- Facilities improvements e.g. performing arts decking upgrade, toilet hand dryers, spout & gutter upgrades.
- Continuing improvement to A/C units, air purifiers, tree plantations,
- New student furniture; teacher conference jellybean tables and stools.
- Updated library resources.
- Maintenance of synthetic grass play areas and ongoing upkeep of our playgrounds and sporting courts.
- Upgrade of IT devices.

Please find below Mount View Primary School's financial contributions schedule for 2025, which includes an overview of what your contributions will go towards.

Parents and carers are asked to please review the recommended financial contributions schedule below for an indication of contributions for your child/ren.

For further information on the Department of Education Parent Payments Policy, please see the attached overview.

We thank you in anticipation of your support.

Justine Mackey
Principal

Zoe Huang
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions	Items that students use or participate in to access the Curriculum	Annual amount PER STUDENT
Curriculum Consumables	<p>General classroom consumables, materials, and equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student supplies e.g. stationery packs. • Classroom supplies e.g. craft items, shared stationery, charts, readers. • Printing, photocopying of student work, worksheets and learning materials • Consumables in specialist areas such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Art (paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, paper, card) - Science, Technology (electric circuits, beebots, scales) - English (book boxes, class sets, readers, novels) - Maths (stationery, maths kits, numeracy blocks, counters) - PE equipment (balls, bats, racquets) - Music (books, instruments) - Languages (books, learning materials; LOTE, EAL) 	\$335
Technology & Communication software	<p>Compass & Naavi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication tools for students and parents <p>Digital and online subscriptions for learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunshine Online • Mathletics • Class Solver • Seesaw • Meraki licences (to operate devices) • Cyber Safety Project online <p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Council Education Research (PAT) • Elastik • Essential Assessment • Soundwaves Spelling 	\$105
Whole School Activities	<p>All students participate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Diversity Day • Science week • Water Safety Day <p><i>Please note - details of these items and activities will be provided to students and families throughout the year.</i></p>	Cost will be advised as events occur

Other Contributions	Non curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives	Annual amount PER STUDENT
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Grounds (maintenance and improvements) 	\$45
Other Contributions	TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS	Annual amount PER STUDENT
Building Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A <u>tax-deductible</u> contribution to support renovations, upgrades and maintenance of school infrastructure 	\$60
Library Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A <u>tax-deductible</u> contribution to support book purchases and other items that sustain the library as a valuable resource 	\$60

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are in addition to what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum	PER STUDENT User Pays
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camps, excursions, incursions, guest speakers, sporting events, including transport and entry Athletics and Cross Country, including transport and entry Interschool Sports - Yr 5 and Yr 6 Swimming Program all year levels, including transport and entry Yearbook, school photos, recording of school concerts <p><i>Please note - details of these items and activities will be provided to students and families throughout the year.</i></p>	<p>Cost will be advised as events occur</p>

Financial Support for Families

Mount View Primary School appreciates that some families may experience financial difficulties in meeting payment requests. To check if you are eligible for any government assistance, please check the following government websites:

[Help with school costs and fees | vic.gov.au](https://www.vic.gov.au/help-with-school-costs-and-fees)

[Raising kids - Services Australia](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/raising-kids)

[Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\)](https://www.csef.vic.gov.au/)

[State Schools' Relief](https://www.sr.vic.gov.au/)

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you wish to make special arrangements for payment, please contact the Business Manager via the School Office. We will work with you to construct a payment plan that suits your needs for Curriculum Contributions, Activities and Extra-Curricular Items.

School Savings Bonus

The School Saving Bonus for Government school students can be accessed via the School Saving Bonus online system in November 2024. It provides a one-off \$400 (per student) bonus, to help Victorian families cover the costs of their kids' **school uniforms, swimming program, camp, excursions and activities**. These funds cannot be contributed towards student stationery packs &/or other family contributions detailed in this letter. Please check the following government website for more information:

[School Saving Bonus | vic.gov.au](https://www.vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus)

Payments via Compass Portal



Mount View Primary School uses the online Compass School Management system and service for families. The Compass portal is the primary means of communication between the school and home. This system is fully implemented across all areas of administration and finance at the school. It is therefore expected that all families have their email contact details up to date to ensure they will receive all notifications for excursions/activities, consent forms, payments, newsletters and events via this system.

Payments for curriculum contributions, excursions and various other school activities must be made via the Compass system to enable full financial and administrative reconciliation. We regret that cash payments can no longer be accepted, other than small amounts during fundraising events.

Please note:

- Family / Parent Contributions are listed under **Course Confirmations** tab
- Excursions, camps and other activities are listed under **Events** tab
- School news, class bulletins and all notifications are listed under **My News**

You will see a link to these on your Compass home page.

Each family has a unique login code for Compass, which can be accessed via the Compass link on the front page of the school website www.mountviewps.vic.edu.au. New families starting during the year will be issued with their unique login details after students have commenced school.

Refunds

Parent & Family 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. Please find a copy of our refund policy on our school website.

Family Receipts & Statement

It is approved by School Council that individual receipts are not automatically issued by the school, however a detailed statement of all family accounts is sent to parents/carers at the start of each new term and at the end of the school year. Receipts for specific payments may be requested at the time of payment.

If you have any questions regarding any financial matters, please contact me during school hours.

Hollie Brown,

Business Manager

hollie.brown@education.vic.gov.au

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.