



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Mountain Gate Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

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

Your financial support allows us to:

- Provide high quality teaching programs and all specialist programs including Art, Music, PE, Library and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)
- Provide a DIPL Literacy Program, Reading Eggs, Mathletics, Mathseeds and Essential Assessment, all of which enhance our Curriculum program.
- Provide a quality wellbeing program including TRIBES and The Resilience Project.
- Ensure that we have the most up to date computers and iPads for student use.
- Resource the Tutor Program to offer extra assistance where needed.
- Maintain our beautiful buildings and grounds and install/maintain play spaces and shade sails.
- Ensure we maintain our class book sets and Library books.
- Provide a vast range of sporting equipment.

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

Yours sincerely,

Lissa Jackway
Principal

Mountain Gate Primary School

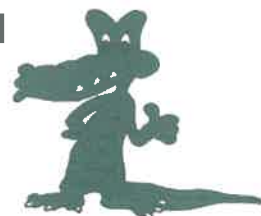
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PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

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.



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ADELE AVENUE, FERNTREE GULLY. 3156
 Telephone: 9758-2811, 9758-2635. Facsimile: 9752-2765

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<p><i>Years Foundation - 6</i></p> <p><i>Classroom consumables, materials & equipment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General classroom materials and equipment – shared classroom stationery, paper, posters/charts, etc. \$95 • Visual Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper \$10 • Mathematics – numeracy blocks, number sheets, pattern making materials \$10 • English – book boxes, specialty writing paper, laminating \$10 • DIPL Program – Literacy \$20 • Sports – equipment, ribbons, awards, certificates, laminating \$10 	\$155
<p><i>Online subscriptions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathseeds/Mathletics \$10 • Reading Eggs \$10 • Essential Assessment Numeracy \$10 	\$30
<i>ICT devices – Provision and upkeep of school devices from the shared classroom sets</i>	\$25
<i>Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials</i>	\$5
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$215
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<i>Parent communication tool – Compass Education</i>	\$10
<i>Enhanced wellbeing support – Resilience Project</i>	\$10
<i>School grounds maintenance and improvements</i>	\$15
Total Other Contributions	\$35

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

Mountain Gate Primary School offers a range of optional 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.

Parents and Guardians will be invited to access these activities and items on a user-pays basis throughout the 2024 school year.



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Financial Support for Families

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

- **The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund**
CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of schools trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold an eligible Pension or Health Care Card or are foster parents you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school for use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, and sporting activities for the benefit of your child. CSEF cannot be used for Curriculum Contributions or Uniforms. The Annual CSEF amount per student is \$125 for primary school students. Applications will be sent home at the start of the year and will be in our newsletter.
- **State Schools Relief (SSR)**
Foundations students eligible for CSEF will receive a Uniform package mid-year via State Schools Relief.
- **Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities**
Payment plan options will be available for Extra-Curricular activities on Compass or by request.
- **Other financial support options for families**
Mountain Gate Primary School has established partnerships with welfare and support agencies to assist our families.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements please phone the office on 9758 2811 or email mountain.gate.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Payment methods

Our preferred method of payment is via the Compass app. Payments may also be made by Eftpos or cash at the school office. All classroom consumables, materials and equipment will be delivered directly to your child's 2024 classroom ready for the beginning of the school year.