

## Parent Payments Policy 2026

Dear parent/guardian

Edithvale Primary School welcomes families for another great year of learning and would like to advise you of Edithvale Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary, with Extra-Curricular Items and Activities provided on a user-pays basis.

The ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer high value education and support for our students. We want to thank you for all your support, whether through contributions, fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a significant difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

There are three financial contribution categories to ensure the successful operation and resourcing of our Educational Programs

**Curriculum Contributions** These are voluntary contributions which parents/carers pay to the school to provide essential support to the standard curriculum program. This payment ensures that the school can offer high quality programs and facilities for all students.

**Extra-Curricular Items and Activities** These items and activities are provided in addition to the standard curriculum program and are designed to broaden the school experience for your child. This includes activities such as incursions, excursions and camps. These extra-curricular activities are conducted on a user-pays contribution.

**Other Contributions** cover non-curriculum related items and activities that support the school's operational functions and objectives – noting that these contribute to items and activities that directly benefit students e.g. First aid, building and ground maintenance and education support.

### Payment Methods

Parent Contributions will be available for viewing and payment from 4 February 2026, through the Compass Payments Centre or via Events. The school also accepts Cash, EFTPOS and BPay (contact the Office for details). The following payment options are available:

1. Payment in full – of an amount of your choosing
2. Monthly Compass instalments on 18 February, 18 March, 18 April, 18 May
3. Individualised Compass instalment dates tailored to suit
4. Centrepay deductions (option for CSEF recipients)

For assistance with Compass Billing, please see [A guide for parents & families | Compass Education AU](#) for step by step instructions, or contact the Office.

### Financial Support for Families

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

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) payment of \$400.00 per eligible student (Healthcare card holders) to assist with camps, sports, excursions paid to the school on your behalf
- State Schools Relief (SSR) for assistance with uniform, footwear, textbooks etc.

- Centrepay – where you can direct Centrelink to send a portion of your pension or benefit straight to the school each fortnight.
- School Saving Bonus – rolled over from 2025

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

Sharyn McKee Ph: 9772 1393 or via email [Sharyn.Mckee@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Sharyn.Mckee@education.vic.gov.au)

### **Refunds**

Parent requests for refunds should be made in writing and 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.

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

Yours sincerely,



Hayley Grindley  
Acting Principal



Andrew Murray  
School Council President

Our parent contributions have remained the same amount for 2026 so please find the itemised list of Curriculum Contributions, Other Contributions and Extra-Curricular Items and Activities for 2026 and we look forward to receiving your contributions.

All contributions will be entered in Compass at the beginning of the school year.

You will be able to set up payment plans in Compass if required and please don't hesitate to contact us if you need assistance.

<b>Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English - various student novels and resource materials</li> <li>Mathematics - materials and maths equipment</li> <li>Science - materials and science equipment</li> <li>Art consumables - paint, paper, crayons, glitter, craft materials</li> <li>LOTE - classroom consumables and materials</li> <li>Health &amp; PE - sport equipment and resource materials</li> <li>Performing Arts - resource materials and music equipment</li> <li>Library - shared classroom resources</li> </ul>	\$140
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$10
Curriculum Activities: Excursions, incursions and swimming programs throughout the year for all year levels. These will be advertised and payable via Compass at least three weeks prior to the event.	TBA
<b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Student Wellbeing Programs Compass Communication First aid School grounds maintenance improvements	\$150
<b>Total Other Contributions Amount</b>	<b>\$ 150</b>

**Extra-Curricular Items and Activities:**

Edithvale Primary School offers 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. Extra-Curricular items and activities are provided on a user-pays basis and include optional academic competitions, optional excursions, optional sport carnivals, graduation, school performance.

If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child, please consent and pay when they are entered on Compass throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Grade 6 Graduation	TBA
Year 6 Interschool Sports program - includes transport, ground fees and event chargers for the year	TBA
Grade 4 - 6 Camps: These will be advertised and payable via Compass at least 8 weeks prior to the event.  Extra-Curricular Excursions and Incursions throughout the year for all year levels: These will be advertised and payable via Compass at least three weeks prior to the event.	TBA
Academic Competitions	TBA
Other optional sport carnivals	TBA
<b>Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities</b>	

## 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.