

**Falls Creek Primary School**

15 Slalom Street
Falls Creek VIC 3699

Phone: 03 5758 3311

Email: Falls.creek.ps@education.vic.gov.au

02 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Voluntary Parent Payments 2025

Falls Creek Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning in 2025 and would like to advise you of our School's Voluntary Parent Payment amounts.

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. The following page provides details outlining the associated costs that schools are not funded for, but which are essential to the programs we provide.

With your support, through parent payments, we also organise and coordinate the best possible programs outside of the traditional teaching and learning classroom structure. These voluntary contributions assist us with the purchasing of student stationary supplies, school workbooks and online subscriptions specifically for your child's learning and assessment needs.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see the attached the Department of Educations Parent Payment Policy.

Sincerely

Tony Keeble
Acting Principal
Falls Creek Primary School

Hayley Seaton
School Council President
Falls Creek Primary School

| Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum | Amount |
|---|---------------|
| <i>Classroom consumables, materials & equipment</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stationery (pencils, Markers, writing books, rulers, erasers, grid books etc) – (\$25) • Mathematics – Maths Textbooks (\$30) • English – InitaLit Student Books (\$20) | \$85 |
| <i>Online subscriptions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential Assessment (\$13) • Athletics (\$30) • Type Quick (\$10) | \$53 |
| <i>ICT devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets</i> | \$0 |
| <i>Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials</i> | \$0 |
| Total Curriculum Contributions | \$128 |

| Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities | Amount |
|---|---------------|
| <i>School Sports Victoria affiliation</i> | \$0 |
| <i>Student wellbeing programs</i> | \$0 |
| <i>First aid equipment</i> | \$0 |
| <i>School grounds maintenance and improvements (School heating costs and additional cleaning needs)</i> | \$0 |
| Total Other Contributions | \$0 |

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

Falls Creek 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.

If you would like to purchase an activity for your child, please ensure payment is made to the school by due date of that event.

| Extra-Curricular Items and Activities | Amount |
|---|---------------|
| <i>School camp 2025 – Sovereign Hill (December) – Costs Yet to be confirmed</i> | \$TBA |

| | |
|---|--------------|
| <i>Winter Interschool sports program (accommodation, Lift passes, hire, travel)</i> | <i>\$TBA</i> |
| Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities | \$TBA |

Financial Support for Families

Falls Creek 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)
- *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, contact:

James Eggleston

Ph: 03 5758 3311 | Email: falls.creek.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Planning Total

| Category | Totals |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Curriculum Contributions | \$ 128 |
| Other Contributions | \$ 0 |
| Total | \$ 128 |
| Extra-Curricular Items and Activities | \$ TBA |

Payment methods

Payment methods can be made via the two following methods:

- Compass (our schools family communication portal)
- Bank deposit

Falls Creek Primary School,

BSB: 063 722

Account: 10003397

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 Payments 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 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.