



White Hills Primary School

ABN 11 511 517 849

Principal: Mr Andrew Schaeche

Assistant Principal: Mr Scott Ross

Dear Parent/Guardian,

White Hills Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of White Hill's Primary School's 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 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 this support has allowed us to enhance digital learning opportunities by purchasing ipads and netbooks, maintain our gardens/grounds and support students with special curriculum experiences just to name a few. We thank you all for your contributions to making our school the best it can be for all our students and the community. In 2024 we would like to continue to enhance all our programs and make many more positive modifications to our school.

Attached is information and suggestions on voluntary financial contributions for 2024 for your child. Payment of voluntary contributions can be made:

- In person from 25th January, 2024 at the WHPS Office.
- When ordering your child's school book pack via the Education Plus website
- Via your Compass parent portal in 2024

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

If you have any questions, please phone the friendly office staff.

Yours sincerely,

ANDREW SCHAECHÉ
Principal

DAVID TRELOAR
School Council President



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Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Online subscriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sunshine Online – Reading (\$2.00)Soundwaves – Spelling Program (\$3.00)	\$5.00
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$10.00
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$15.00

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
Classroom, Library and Reading Contribution for replacement of books	\$20.00
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$15.00
Total Other Contributions	\$35.00

Educational items for students to own

A booklist the school recommends you purchase from Education Plus is also attached. These items are for your child to individually own and use in the classroom.

Booklists purchased through Education Plus will need to be paid for directly through Education Plus at the time of ordering and will be delivered to the school in January for collection on the allocated collection day in January, 2025.

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

White Hills 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. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

The exact cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year. Below is an approximate cost for each item based off the price for 2024.

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Extra-Curricular Items and Activities- PREP	Amount approximate
Swimming and Water Safety Program	\$57.00
Jets Gymnastics Program	\$45.00
School Camp Program – Prep Tea	\$6.00
Whole school events <ul style="list-style-type: none">Athletics carnival - entry and transport (\$7.00)In School Performances x 2 @ \$12.50 ea (\$25.00)	\$32.00
Excursion	\$22.00
Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$162.00

Payment methods

White Hills Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents.

- Payment for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities can be made by cash, cheque or debit/credit card at the school office, over the phone or via the school's Compass Parent Portal.

Refunds

Our school will consider requests for partial or full refunds of payments made by parents on a case-by-case basis considering the individual circumstances. Generally, the school will not be able to refund payments made for items purchased or costs that have already been paid where those funds have already been transferred to a third party. For example, camp costs when a child becomes unwell and cannot attend in circumstances where the payment has already been made or committed to a third party and no refund is available to the school. Where possible, we will make this clear to parents at the time of payment.

Financial Support for Families

White Hills 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) support, applications can be made via the Wellbeing team to assist with clothing/uniforms.
- Regular Direct Debits from Centrelink paid to the school (**Centrepay**). Parents are able to arrange this through Centrelink. Please see office administration for set-up details.

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

Andrew Schaeche, Principal

Ph: 0354430799 | Email: Andrew.schaeche@education.vic.gov.au

Link to DET Parent Payment Policy: <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/parent-payment/policy>

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.