



Dear parent/guardian/carers,

Ferntree Gully North Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Ferntree Gully North 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. 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.

Although voluntary, your contributions are incredibly important to the success of our school. They help us provide classroom stationery and materials (rather than asking parents to purchase backpacks), resources for literacy and numeracy (readers and maths equipment, online resources), support our specialist programs, provide up-to-date resources, maintain the software and online resources we use in classrooms, and support the delivery of high-quality teaching and learning. These funds directly benefit your child and their peers by enhancing the educational experience across the board. Many families choose to contribute because they see the real value it brings to their children's education, and your support—no matter the amount—makes a meaningful difference.

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

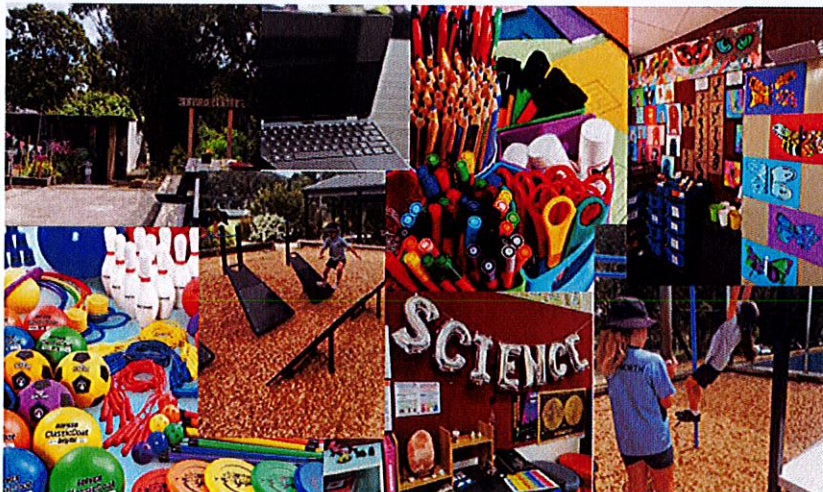
Yours sincerely,

Sue Dean

PRINCIPAL

Simone Jalocha

SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT





Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Initial Stationery and individual items (Consumable classroom items replenished throughout the year) - Includes exercise books, scrap books, project books, word book, document wallet, home reading journal, markers, pencils, sharpener, glue sticks, scissors. - The Resilience Project Diary	\$90
Consumable materials and supplies for specialist and classroom programs. English, Maths, ICT, Science, Lote – Auslan /Cultural Program, Performing Arts (Music), Visual Arts, Library, Physical Education, Enviro and Inquiry. Includes paints, textiles, glitter, cardboard, craft paper, clay, cover paper, project books, coloured paper, award certificates, laminating pouches, masking tape, paints, Gelli plates, PVA glue, clips, planting materials, cooking materials, printing and photocopying of learning materials	\$160
Online Subscriptions - Essential Assessment, Twinkl, Reading Eggs - Epic – Complimentary	\$35
<i>ICT devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets</i>	\$45
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$330

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<i>School Sports Victoria affiliation</i>	\$5
<i>Student wellbeing programs & First aid equipment</i>	\$10
<i>Compass (communications, reporting and finances)</i>	\$20
<i>School grounds maintenance and improvements</i>	\$25
Total Other Contributions	\$60

Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure (Suggested - \$50).	\$
Library fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure (Suggested - \$50).	\$



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

Ferntree Gully North Primary School offers a range of optional items and activities , including camps and incursions/excursions, that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year via Compass and other 3rd parties (ie Trybooking).

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- *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:

Sue Dean (Principal) or Kyra Holland (Business Manager)

Ph: 03 9758 1662 | Email: ferntree.gully.north.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Payment methods

Payment for parent contributions and/or extra-curricular activities can be made via Compass or other possible 3rd parties (ie Trybooking). Payment for parent contributions can also be made in person at the office via EFTPOS or cash.

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.