THE EDUCATION STATE

SCHOOLS

PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

ONE PAGE OVERVIEW

The following is a summary of the main principles of the Parent Payments Policy:

FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.

PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

- Schools do not ask parents to pay for school operating costs (e.g. utility costs) or general and unspecified charges.
- Schools request payments from parents under three categories:

Essential Student Learning Items	Optional Items	Voluntary Contributions
○ Items and activities which the school deems essential for student learning. ○ Parents may choose to purchase essential items through the school or provide their own.	○ Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum. ○ These are provided to students on a user-pays basis.	○ Voluntary contributions support the school to continue to be the best local school for all students and can be for general or specific purpose. ○ Students will not be disadvantaged in any way if parents do not make a contribution.

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 obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and upload their arrangements on their school's public website for transparency.

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