

GUTHRIE STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Guthrie Street Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the school's payment arrangements for 2021.

Please find the fee schedule for your child/ren attached.

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

Financial Support for Families

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

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) available for eligible families
- State Schools Relief (SSR) support is available for uniforms/footwear (via the School Wellbeing Team) for our Foundation students who are eligible health care card holders
- Ganbina support for our eligible Koorie families.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, families are invited to contact the school for information regarding support options on 5821 1944.

Payment Methods

We have several options for fee payment in 2021:

- Full fees paid by Friday 12th February 2021. **These will be discounted by 10% to \$288 per child if paid on time.** \$320 if paid after the due date.
- A Compass payment plan
 - Instalment 1 Monday 15th February \$80.00
 - Instalment 2 Friday 30th April \$80.00
 - Instalment 3 Friday 23rd July \$80.00
 - Instalment 4 Friday 15th October \$80.00
- EFTPOS/Credit card at office, or over telephone 5821 1944
- BPAY – details available on your family statement

Parents are able to enter into confidential payment arrangements by contacting the Business Manager, Joanne Pickles on 5821 1944 or guthrie.street.ps.shepparton@education.vic.gov.au.

Refunds

Please refer to our Parent Reimbursement Policy located on the school website.

If a family has paid for a camp, excursion or activity and their student does not attend, they will receive reimbursement under the following situations:

- If the student has an approved illness on the day.
- If the activity is a singular activity which is cancelled by the school or provider, and whereby a replacement activity is not offered.
- If a student leaves Guthrie Street Primary School before the event.

If a family has paid for a camp, excursion or activity and their student does not attend, they will not receive reimbursement under the following situations:

- If the student does not attend one day out of an entire program involving multiple days/activities, as the family payment covers the program as a whole.
- If the school is forced to cancel one day out of a program involving multiple days/activities due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances and the school is charged the full cost, as the family payment covers the program as a whole.
- If it has been stated that they were paying for a non-refundable deposit.

Method of reimbursement

Reimbursements will be processed by way of a credit being applied to the family account unless alternative arrangements are made, which can be used for future activities. If the original payment was made with CSEF Credit, this credit will be reapplied to the family account as CSEF credit.

Department Parent Payment Policy

For further information on the Department's Parent Payment Policy please see overview attached.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan Bicknell
Principal

Tunya Jarvis
School Council President

FEE SCHEDULE

Please find the itemised list of Essential Student Learning Items and Optional Items for your child.

Payment for Essential Learning Items will be through Compass. Payment Plans are available on request. Please speak to the Business Manager if you have questions.

Essential Student Learning Items Foundation to Year 6	Amount
Below is a list of items which are essential for your child to learn the standard curriculum.	
<p>Stationery Pack</p> <p>This pack includes all compulsory textbooks, activity books, exercise books, stationery, book bags and other consumables.</p> <p>This charge includes items owned by the student in-class and brought home at the end of the year.</p>	\$115
Reading Diary	\$10
STEM Consumables	\$15
Art Consumables	\$15
PE materials	\$10
<p>Excursion Levy</p> <p>This includes each year levels major excursion for the year and a number of local excursions, incursions, sports days, visiting performances and year-end activities. These could all include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buses to and from all excursions • Fun Run • Athletics • Interschool Athletics • Cultural Performances • End of year activities (swimming, cinema, bowling etc.) 	\$115
<p>Laptop/Technology Program</p> <p>Our school has a BYOD program in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. School Council has prioritised the purchase of laptops for classroom use and the provision of some iPads for shared use.</p> <p>In Foundation, Years 1 and 2 the school provides laptops and iPads for student use in all subject areas.</p>	\$40
TOTAL	\$320

Optional Items	Amount
<p>Guthrie Street Primary School offers optional activities throughout the year that are additional to the delivery of the standard curriculum. These activities are designed to broaden the school experience for your child.</p>	
<p>Optional item charges may be requested as they arise during the year, which might include, Year 5-6 sports, swimming and School Camps. Payment for these activities will be requested closer to the event.</p>	
<p>The major items are our school camps, listed below. These costs are indicative only – exact cost and payment options will be communicated closer to the camp date.</p>	
<p>Grade 3 Camp - Billabong Ranch Echuca</p>	<p>\$150</p>
<p>Grade 4 Camp – Howqua Camp Echuca</p>	<p>\$300</p>
<p>Grade 5 Camp – Lorne Surfing Camp</p>	<p>\$350</p>
<p>Grade 6 Camp – Canberra</p>	<p>\$450</p>

Voluntary Contribution	Amount
<p>Guthrie Street Primary School continues to welcome voluntary contributions to support our school.</p>	
<p>Families are invited to make a voluntary contribution that is used to fund our Grounds and Playgrounds maintenance and enhancement.</p>	<p>\$ optional</p>

Your child will not be disadvantaged if you do not make a voluntary contribution. All records of voluntary contributions are kept confidential as well as your decision about whether to make a contribution or not.

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

- 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.

Optional Items

- 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

- 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.