

TRARALGON SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 2114

Street Address: 13 - 19 Keith Morgan Drive Traralgon South 3844
Postal Address: RMB 3015 Traralgon South 3844
Telephone: (03) 5195 5244
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25-10-2019

Dear Parents,

Please find attached information associated with our 2020 Parent Payment policy. In order to provide families an opportunity to plan and budget for an expensive time of year, the Department of Education and Training (DET) recommends schools communicate these levies six weeks prior to the end of the previous year.

School Councils are responsible for annually ratifying a Parent Payment policy. In doing so, they ensure all fees and charges are kept to a reasonable level, DET protocols are followed, and a quality education with the best possible resources is made available to all students.

The full Parent Payment and Implementation policy can be obtained via our website (<https://www.traralgonsthps.vic.edu.au>) or from our General Office.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding our 2020 Parent Payment policy, please contact me on (03) 5195 5244, or alternatively, you are most welcome to see me in person.

Sincerely,

Joel Blythman

Principal



PARENT PAYMENTS 2020

Within the comprehensive curriculum offered at Traralgon South Primary School, students consume items, activities and services which support the standard program. These items, activities and services are essential to support student learning of the standard curriculum and are deemed compulsory. Traralgon South Primary School charges an Essential Student Learning Items levy for these items, activities and services.

We make every effort to keep the cost of materials and services low whilst maintaining a high level of education for our students. We do appreciate that some families experience difficulties in meeting payment requests and a range of support options are available to assist with this. Please make an appointment to discuss these options if required.

STUDENT NAME:		2020 YEAR LEVEL:	
ESSENTIAL STUDENT LEARNING ITEMS			LEVY
<p>These are items or services that are essential for your child's education. The Department of Education and Training (DET) states that parents/guardians are expected to buy or supply these items. Traralgon South Primary School purchases in bulk, assuring discount prices are paid by families. There are also items that can only be purchased through the school.</p>	<p>This levy contributes to the cost of student requisites including stationery, bulk consumable materials used in the classroom, Athletics, Online literacy programs, Art materials, MAPPEN, printing and photocopying. This also includes activities associated with instruction that all students are expected to attend, such as incursions, excursions, school sports and travel.</p>	\$160.00	
OPTIONAL ITEMS			
<p>These are provided on a user-pays basis so that if parents choose to access them for students, they are required to pay. These costs to parents are expected to be paid throughout the year and may include, but are not limited to, charges for activities and programs provided by outside specialists such as Life Education, swimming, art performances, music, school photographs, and some camps and excursions.</p>	School Photos	To be advised	
	Years 3 & 4 Camp	\$270 (Approx.)	
	P-6 Swimming Program	To be advised	
	Years 5 & 6 Camp	\$280 (Approx.)	
	Other Sport and Excursion Costs	To be advised	
VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS (per family)			Tick if paying
<p>These are presented each year to parents to target a school-based project.</p> <p>Please note these are suggested amounts per family, but parents are able to contribute whatever amount they would like. Voluntary contributions can be made at any time of the year.</p>	Grounds Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$20
	<p>The funding for the maintenance and upkeep of our school grounds is not fully provided by the DET, so contributions to this levy goes towards ensuring our grounds are maintained to a high standard.</p>		
	Information Technology (IT)	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$30
	<p>The DET fund a limited amount of equipment, though contributions to this levy support our aim to provide optimum advantages to our students.</p>		
	Working Bee	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$20
	<p>This voluntary contribution is intended to be a substitute for attendance at working bees throughout the year, supporting the maintenance of our school environment.</p>		

Timeline of Known Charges:

Term 1	28 February	Parent Payments 2020 due:	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essential Student Learning Items• Voluntary Grounds Maintenance• Voluntary Information Technology• Voluntary Working Bee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$160 per child\$20 per family\$30 per family\$20 per family
	March	School Photos	Costs depend on order
Term 2	April	Year 3/4 Camp	\$270 (Approx.)
Term 3	September	Prep-6 Swimming Program	To be advised
Term 4	November	Year 5/6 Camp	\$280 (Approx.)

Please note that during the year there may be additional costs related to particular themes classes are involved in.

Payment Options:

For your convenience, there are several options to make parent payments. These are:

- In person, at the General Office, using cash or cheque.
- Electronic transfer (direct deposit). Please include a description of the related item you are making a payment for in the reference field. For example, '*Student name: 2020 School Fees*', and complete and return the 'Direct Deposit Notification' slip below.

Account Name: Traralgon South Primary School

BSB: 313 140

Account Number: 12002290

Please note: If your family is experiencing circumstances which make it difficult to meet Parent Payments, please contact the school to discuss your options in a confidential manner.

DIRECT DEPOSIT NOTIFICATION

If you are paying for invoices and/or payments via electronic transfer (direct deposit), please complete the details below and return this to the General Office at your earliest convenience.

Name: _____

Date of Direct Deposit: _____

Amount: _____

Description of Payment(s): _____

Signature: _____

Understanding Parent Payment Categories

Schools

What does the legislation say?

The Education and Training Reform Act (2006) provides for free instruction in the standard curriculum program to all students in government schools. The Act also empowers school councils to charge fees to parents for goods and services provided by the school to a child.

In the Act, a 'Parent' includes a guardian and every person who has parental responsibility for a child including parental responsibility under the Commonwealth Family Law Act 1975 and any person with whom a child normally or regularly resides.

What do schools pay for as part of 'free instruction'?



Free instruction is the teaching staff, administration and the provision of facilities in connection with the instruction of the standard curriculum program, including reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities.

The standard curriculum for Years F-10 means implementation of the Victorian Curriculum F-10.

The standard curriculum for senior secondary schools means a program that enables a student to be awarded a VCE or VCAL qualification.

What principles govern parent payment practice?

Educational Value | Access, Equity & Inclusion | Affordability

Engagement & Support | Respect & Confidentiality | Transparency & Accountability

Parents

What may parents be asked to pay for?

Schools can request payment for Essential Student Learning Items



These are items, activities or services that the school deems **essential** to student learning of the standard curriculum.

Where practical and appropriate, parents may choose to purchase items through the school or provide their own.

These may also be either:

Items the student takes temporary or permanent possession of

- e.g.
- textbooks, activity books, exercise books
 - stationery, book bags
 - student ID cards, locks
 - cooking ingredients students will consume
 - materials for final products that students take home (technology projects, build-your-own kits, dioramas)
 - Picture Exchange Communication Systems

Activities associated with instruction that all students are expected to attend

i.e. travel, entry fees or accommodation

- e.g.
- excursions
 - incursions
 - school sports
 - work placements

Parents can be asked to pay for items, activities and services in the three Parent Payment Categories:

Essential Student Learning Items,
Optional Items and
Voluntary Financial Contributions.

Schools determine how items, activities and services are classified within these categories based on the learning and teaching program of their school.

Schools can request payment for Optional Items

These are items, activities or services that are **optional** and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum.

Students may access these on a user-pays basis.

These may be either:

Items the student purchases or hires

- e.g.
- school magazines, class photos
 - functions, formals, graduation dinners
 - materials for extra curricular programs
 - student accident insurance

Activities the student purchases

- e.g.
- fees for extra curricular programs or activities, such as instrumental music tuition
 - fees for guest speakers
 - camps, excursions, incursions, sports
 - entry fees for school run performances

Items and/or materials that are more expensive than required to meet the standard curriculum

- e.g.
- use of silver in metal work instead of copper
 - supplementary exam revision guides

Support for families experiencing hardship is available at every school and each school has a parent payment contact person. See your school's policy for more information.

For more information on Parent Payments and Personal Devices, visit the DET website at: www.education.vic.gov.au

Schools can invite **Voluntary Financial Contributions** for



- e.g.
- Building or Library fund (Tax deductible)
 - Voluntary contributions for a specific purpose, such as equipment, materials, services.
 - General voluntary contributions