

1st November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Bulleen Heights School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Bulleen Heights School's voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

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 the standard curriculum programs by:

- Applied Behavioural Analysis program conducted by ABA Therapist at primary level
- Primary Inclusion Program conducted at other school locations
- Offering a Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC) at Secondary level
- Transition Officer assisting Year 12 graduating students
- Enriching the student experience through enhanced Art, PE, Swimming, Outdoor Education, Sport programs, Elective programs and independent living experiences
- Continuously enhancing the learning programs by investing in ongoing learning technologies and digital resources including onsite technicians
- Supporting our students and families with a multi-disciplinary team of Psychologist, Speech and Occupational Therapists
- Providing and maintaining a vehicle fleet to transport students to activities for curriculum and extra curriculum activities.
- Improving the academic excellence of our students through continual professional development of staff to apply the best research and practice in the classroom
- Providing a room dedicated to STEAM supported by Leading Teachers
- Assessment practises to ensure teaching is targeted to student's individual learning plans

Bulleen Heights School is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth)* with the result that any donations made by you will be tax deductible. To be tax deductible, your donation needs to be made voluntarily. We have suggested an amount to be contributed under "Curriculum Contributions" and "Other Contributions" below, but please feel free to contribute an alternative amount. Amounts paid under "Extra-Curricular Items and Activities" are not donations and are not tax deductible.

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

Yours sincerely,



Susan Merjan
Principal



Andrew Field
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions – suggested tax-deductible contributions for items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Classroom Consumables: materials and equipment including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom – workbooks, scrap paper, coloured paper and board, easy grip pens, pencils, crayons, markers, paint, glitter, glue, toys, puzzles, games - \$100 Communication tools – communication diary, scheduling displays, language displays, PECS, symbols and behavioural displays - \$20 Sensory items –oral motor, tactile and movement resources including soft and hard toys, hand bean bags, massagers, kinetic sand - \$50 Food Technology – food ingredients such as flour, butter etc. - \$140 STEAM Technology – making, design and construction - \$15 Sports – bike equipment maintenance - \$10 	\$335
Online Subscriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading Eggs Mathletics Story box Math Seeds Seesaw 	\$80
ICT Devices – Repairs and maintenance of class sets	\$20
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$50
Whole School Incursion Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health & Nutrition Week - \$15 Education & Autism Week - \$15 SWPBS Week - \$15 Literacy & Book Week - \$10 Numeracy Week - \$10 NAIDOC Week - \$15 	\$85
Total tax-deductible Curriculum Contributions	\$570

Other Contributions – suggested tax-deductible contributions for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
Student Wellbeing Programs – Respectful Relationships and Student Voice Programs	\$10
Total tax-deductible Other Contributions	\$10

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

Bulleen Heights 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.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year via compass.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
School magazine/ yearbook	\$20
School photos	\$30
Excursions	TBA
Optional senior elective programs	TBA
Optional senior school camp	TBA
Other optional excursions to be scheduled	TBA
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	\$50

Financial Support for Families

Bulleen Heights 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)
- 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:

Business Manager: Jess Nutt

Ph: 03 9850 7122 | Email: Bulleen.heights.sch@education.vic.gov.au

Total

Category	Total recommended amount	Total payment
Total tax-deductible contributions	\$580	[\$parent to complete]
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$50	[\$parent to complete]
Total	\$630	[\$parent to complete]

Payment methods

- Compass Pay

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.