

2021 PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Wandong Primary School

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wandong Primary is a school of choice and parents enrol their children into our school because our curriculum far exceeds a standard program. Our parents choose our school because of the diversity and quality of our teaching and learning.

School Council has agreed and ratified our Parent Payments of \$155 for 2021, for the purpose of meeting our educational objectives. When divided across the school year of 41 weeks- this is less than \$4.00 per week per student.

School Council has made a considerable effort to ensure that this school policy is fair and provides a number of options to support parents to access the materials and services associated with their child's education.

Please find the itemised list that includes essential education items (those items that your child needs for school).

Payment in full or your first preferred instalment payment is required by February 1, 2021.

Please Note: Additional school charges may arise during the year. These are **Optional Education Items**. For example: instrumental music, fundraising events, swimming, camps, production tickets and special events.

Government funding is received for some school costs such as staff salaries, utilities and some maintenance costs. Various other grants are made available for specific purposes. **However, much of the operational costs including provision of computers (including laptops/ipads), high quality school resources, extra sports equipment, library/ICT equipment, quality art and science supplies and consumables, along with the provision of new initiatives are supported solely from local fundraising, including parent payments.** We strongly believe we are offering high quality education at a minimal cost to families. Parent payments lifts the quality of our programs significantly across the school.

Voluntary contributions		
Library and Technology Fund donation	Please tick the amount you wish to donate to the Library Fund to contribute to the new books, resources and technology required in our new library learning space.	\$ 20.00
		\$ 50.00
		\$100.00
		Other \$ ____
Facilities and Building Fund donation	Please tick the amount you wish to donate to the Facilities and Buildings at Wandong. We have some work to do in our grounds including but not limited to: soft fall, repairing equipment, improvement to paths/walk ways, painting, carpet, planting, and signage. We want our spaces inside and outside to match the exceptional teaching and learning across our school.	\$ 20.00
		\$ 50.00
		\$100.00
		Other \$ ____
Essential education items		
Essential education items	Essential education items This payment also contributes to all shared items and consumables, such as cover paper, art materials, poster paper, kinder squares, printing, art supplies, posters, publishing and creative materials, laminating materials, book marking materials, cooking supplies, experiment materials, shared text books and assorted stationary. All curriculum associated learning and assessment materials are covered. All class reading books and all literacy and numeracy and specialist subjects are included (Science and Technology, Physical Education, Arts and LOTE programs)	\$155
	Essential Education Items + Voluntary Contribution = YOUR ADJUSTED TOTAL	\$ _____

Payment arrangements and methods

Please indicate your preferred method of payment:

Option A (full amount By February 1, 2021) Option B (payment at the beginning of each Term)

Option C (other payment arrangements)*

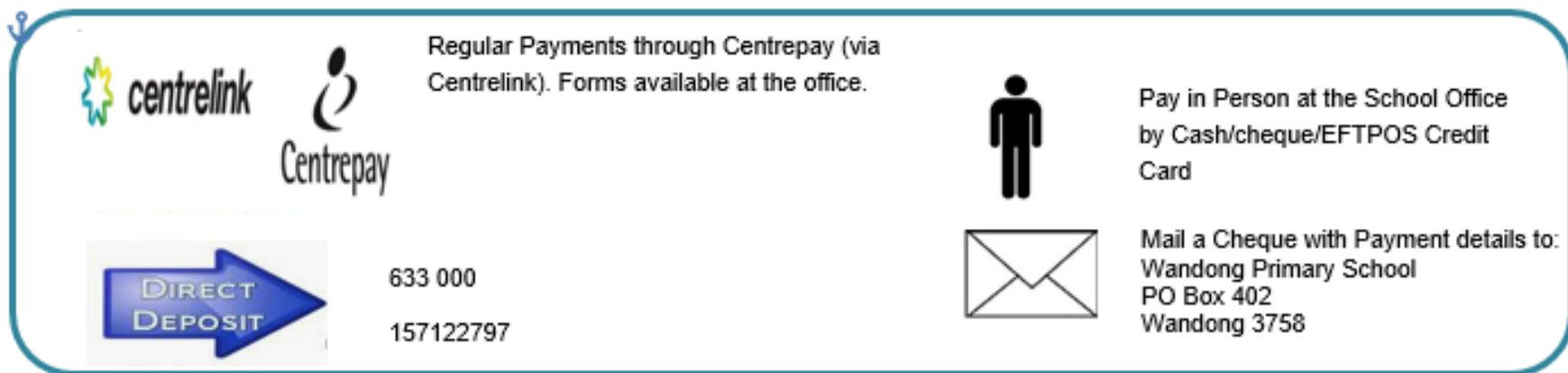
* (If selecting Option C please make an appointment with the school to discuss your circumstances and the available options)

I HAVE ENCLOSED PAYMENT OF \$ _____



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The graphic is a rounded rectangle with a blue border. It contains several elements: the Centrelink logo, the Centrepay logo, a 'DIRECT DEPOSIT' arrow icon, a person icon, and an envelope icon. Text describes regular payments through Centrepay, in-person payments at the school office, and mailing cheques to the school.

Regular Payments through Centrepay (via Centrelink). Forms available at the office.

Pay in Person at the School Office by Cash/cheque/EFTPOS Credit Card

Mail a Cheque with Payment details to:
Wandong Primary School
PO Box 402
Wandong 3758

633 000
157122797

FAMILY SUPPORT OPTIONS

The school appreciates that families may sometimes experience financial difficulties in meeting requests for payments and contributions. A range of support options are available to assist eligible parents, including the State Schools Relief Committee support, Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund.

CONSIDERATION OF HARDSHIP

We understand you may not be able to pay this amount at the requested time so we can offer a confidential payment plan for you if you wish.

Alternative payment arrangements are also available through the school and if you are facing any financial difficulties please contact Ros Hulett (Business Manager) on 5787 1232, or alternatively contact wandong.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au if you would like to organise a confidential meeting.

COMMUNICATION WITH FAMILIES

Parents and guardians will be provided with early notice of payment requests for essential education items and voluntary financial contributions (e.g. a minimum of six weeks' notice prior to the end of the previous school year).

Receipts will be issued to parents once payments have been processed.

Reminders for unpaid essential education items or optional extras will be generated and distributed on a regular basis to parents, but not more than once a month.

Only the initial invitation for voluntary financial contributions and one reminder notice will be issued per year to parents and guardians.

All records of payments or contributions and any outstanding payments by parents and guardians are kept confidential.

Please email wandong.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au if you wish to raise any concerns or have a general inquiry regarding the charges.

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed each year as part of the Wandong Primary School cyclic policy review process.

CERTIFICATION

This policy was adopted at the School Council meeting held at Wandong Primary School on



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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

