

Friday, 17 July 2026

Dear Strathmore Families,

Strathmore Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the school's voluntary financial contributions for 2026. Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary.

Nevertheless, parent contributions continue to provide an important and critical source of funding which enables us to supply resources necessary to maximise successful delivery of our learning programs such as stationary items, online subscriptions, consumables in specialist classes etc (see next page for break down.

The ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students. **In 2025 we had 48%** of families make voluntary financial contributions. We want to thank you for all your support through paying the contributions over the years as this has allowed Strathmore PS to purchase items for Music, such as additional instruments, new iPads, art supplies for specialist showcase, PE equipment including new soccer goals and basketball nets, and other technology resources in classrooms including TV's and robotic Lego sets.

The following pages outline the estimated spend per student for 2026.

For 2026, we have reduced the price on the voluntary contributions to support families. In 2026 the school is requesting **\$400** from families in the category of **"Curriculum Contributions"**. The items that the school spends voluntary financial contributions on ensures that students have everything they need at school and there is no need for families to purchase books or other stationary in the form of a book list.

Contributions of this amount from families will support the continued provision of high-quality resources and programs across the school and benefit every student in their learning.

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

Yours sincerely,



Jason Vandy

Principal – Strathmore Primary School

Brendan Flaim

School Council President

Curriculum Contributions

For 2026, the school is requesting \$400 from families for “**Curriculum Contributions**”. The items that the school intends on spending are the same items in 2025. Contributions of this amount from families will support the continued provision of resources and programs across the school.

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Items for the Classroom Program, such as: - Individual classroom stationery items, such as exercise books, pencils, glue sticks - Inquiry learning materials and equipment - Online subscriptions, such as Mathletics, Reading Eggs, Compass, ActiveLearn, ACER Progressive Achievement Test assessments, Essential Assessment subscription	\$250
Items for Specialist Subjects, such as: - Visual Arts materials and equipment - Equipment, maintenance and consumables for Sports and Physical Education - Stationery and consumables for Italian and on-line subscription to Linguascope - Music instruments, equipment and consumables	\$50
Literacy and Mathematic Resources, such as: - Guided reading sets - Independent reading books for classroom libraries - Texts to support explicit teaching of phonics - Hands on manipulatives and resources for maths - Take-home readers.	\$100
Total Amount (Curriculum Contributions)	\$400

Other Contributions

Families are invited to make voluntary contributions, to an amount of their own choosing, to the tax-deductible **Building** and **Library Funds** for 2026.

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure.	\$
Library fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource.	\$
Total Amount (Other Contributions – Families are invited to set their own amounts to donate to these funds).	\$

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Strathmore Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis. For Strathmore Primary School, all camps, direct experiences at school (e.g. guest speakers, presentations, performances) excursions, overnight events, sporting events and graduation ceremonies and celebration days are in this category and are regarded as a user-pays basis.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
All camps, direct experiences at school (e.g. guest speakers, presentations, performances) excursions, overnight events, sporting events and graduation ceremonies and celebration days are regarded as user-pays and will be individually invoiced to families closer to the time of each event.	\$TBA
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities (Advised throughout the year on Compass)	\$TBA

Financial Support for Families

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

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) and State Schools Relief (SSR) for uniform items
- Payment plans and instalments
- CentrePay – families in receipt of payments through Centrelink may access a free and voluntary service to pay bills and expenses through regular deductions from Centrelink payments (***please find document attached with further detail***)

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact: **Kirsten Way (Business Manager)**.

Total

Category	
Curriculum Contributions	\$400
Other Contributions (Families are invited to set their own amounts to donate to these funds)	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities (To be advised closer to the time of events).	\$TBA

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 reasonable and fair to do so, taking into consideration whether a cost has been incurred, the Department of Education and Training's Parent Payment 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.