

November 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Cobden Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum 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 you support, whether that's through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

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

Yours sincerely,



Jarod Bacon
Principal



Sharon Shields
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<p><i>Classroom consumables, materials & equipment</i></p> <p>Exercise books, scrap books, pens, pencils, crayons, glue sticks, highlighters, whiteboard markers, scissors, ruler, rubbers, sharpener.</p> <p><i>Other items specific to each year level include;</i></p> <p>Reader cover, reader logbook, pencil case, grid books, display books, headphones/ear buds, USB, whiteboard, spelling booklet & school diary.</p> <p>Online Subscriptions – Mathletics, Reading Eggs, Essential Assessment.</p>	\$180
Cultural Performances	\$40
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$220
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
Total Other Contributions	N/A

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Cobden Primary School offers a range of camps and excursions 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. The cost of these excursions will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	TBA

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- Flexible payment arrangements.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, please call Business Manager Kerry McGlade 5595 1087. Any information about your financial circumstances, payment arrangements or status will be kept strictly confidential.

Total

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$220
Other Contributions	N/A
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	TBA
Total	\$220

Payment methods

EFTPOS – available at the school office

Direct Debit – NAME: Cobden Primary School Council Official BSB: 083-001 A/C: 93-973-1105
(Please use student’s name or family name as reference)

CASH/CHEQUE – Payable to Cobden Primary School

OTHER PAYMENT ARRANGEMENT – Please contact the school office 5595 1087.

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 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 standard curriculum requirements in Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.
- 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.