

PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Dandenong Valley SDS is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the parent payment arrangements for 2021. Please find the fee schedule attached for your reference.

Dandenong Valley SDS makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents. The Parent Payment charges letter issues to parents in December each year, requiring payment in the following year.

Dandenong Valley SDS understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options including:

Family support options

- Second hand and low cost options e.g. school clothing pool, low cost suppliers
- CSEF
- State Schools Relief
- Local community supports

Financial Support for Families

- Families who do not have an immediate capacity to pay are able to enter into alternative and confidential payment arrangements with the school.
- Parents can communicate with the Parent Payment contact person or the Principal by phone, email or in person about their financial situation and related difficulties in making payments.
- Parents should contact the school office for further information.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact the Principal or Business Manager on 9704 4800.

Refunds

- Requests for partial or full refunds of payments made by parents will be considered on a case-by-case basis taking into account the individual circumstances. Generally we will not be able to refund payments made for items purchased or costs that have already been paid where those funds have already been transferred to a third party. For example, camp costs when a child becomes unwell and cannot attend, in circumstances where the payment has already been made or committed to a third party and no refund is available to the school. Where possible, we will make this clear to parents at the time of payment.

Payment Methods

- A discount will be given for early payment made in full on or by the end of Term 1 each year.
- Non discounted payments can be made either annually, by term or with special arrangement with the Principal. A reminder notice for outstanding fees will be sent each term.
- Payments can be made by *cash, cheque, BPAY, EFTPOS or Direct Deposit* into the school's bank account.

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

Yours sincerely,

R. Fletcher

Rhonda Fletcher
Acting Principal

Tim Pulling

Tim Pulling
School Council President

PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

ONE PAGE OVERVIEW

The following is a summary of the main principles of the Parent Payments Policy:



FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.



PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

- Schools do not ask parents to pay for school operating costs (e.g. utility costs) or general and unspecified charges.
- Schools request payments from parents under three categories:

Essential Student Learning Items

- Items and activities which the school deems essential for student learning.
- Parents may choose to purchase essential items through the school or provide their own.

Optional Items

- Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum.
- These are provided to students on a user-pays basis.

Voluntary Contributions

- Voluntary contributions support the school to continue to be the best local school for all students and can be for general or specific purpose.
- Students will not be disadvantaged in any way if parents do not make a contribution.



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 obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and upload their arrangements on their school's public website for transparency.

FEE SCHEDULE

Essential Student Learning Items are essential for your child to learn the standard curriculum. Dandenong Valley SDS also offers a range of optional activities that are additional to the delivery of the standard curriculum for your child.

Essential Student Learning Items

Juniors - \$300.00 (\$270 per year if full amount paid in term 1- 10% discount)

Middles - \$340.00 (\$306 per year if full amount paid in term 1- 10% discount)

Seniors - \$380.00 (\$342 per year if full amount paid in term 1- 10% discount)

Essential education items are items which parents/guardians pay the school to provide. These items are essential to support instruction in the standard curriculum program and include:

- materials that the individual student takes possession of such as student communication diary, yearbook, sunscreen etc.
- materials for learning and teaching where the student consumes or takes possession of the finished articles
(e.g. home economics, catering, activities for special celebrations e.g. mother's day/father's day)
- activities associated with, but not part of instruction in the standard curriculum program, such as costs associated with swimming, community access programs and therapy programs
- Low tech communication tools - PECS, PODD, Managing Behaviour displays, printing.
- Student ID cards and Wristbands
- Horticultural activities - planting, cooking or taking home of grown produce

Optional Items

Optional activities are designed to broaden the school experience for your child. They are provided on a user-pays basis and if parents/guardians choose to access them for students, they will be required to pay for them.

- Payment for optional education items will be requested nearer the activity date
- Approximate dates and cost to be advised with individual Parent Payment Charges letter
- School events and concert
- Camps and excursions
- School Photos

2021 PARENT PAYMENT CHARGES

JUNIOR SCHOOL

OPTION 1 - \$270 per year - includes a 10% discount for paying the full amount in term 1

OPTION 2 - \$300 per year - when paid in or after term 2

OPTION 3 - \$ 75 per term - i.e. 4 payments x \$75 = \$300

MIDDLE SCHOOL

OPTION 1 - \$306 per year - includes a 10% discount for paying the full amount in term 1

OPTION 2 - \$340 per year - when paid in or after term 2

OPTION 3 - \$ 85 per term - i.e. 4 payments x \$85 = \$340

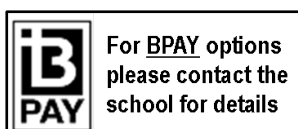
SENIOR SCHOOL

OPTION 1 - \$342 per year - includes a 10% discount for paying the full amount in term 1

OPTION 2 - \$380 per year - when paid in or after term 2

OPTION 3 - \$ 95 per term - i.e. 4 payments x \$95 = \$380

Payments can be made by *cash, cheque, BPAY, Direct Deposit* into the school's bank account or *EFTPOS*.



Direct Deposit Details		
Bank:	Bank Aust	NB: Please use your child's first initial and surname as a reference/description
BSB:	313-140	
Account:	12042298	

This arrangement was approved by school council on 19/08/2020 and is scheduled for review in August 2021.

The updated arrangement was approved by school council on 18/11/2020 and is scheduled for review in August 2021.