

John Henry Primary School Parental Contributions 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

The *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* provides that instruction in the standard curriculum program is delivered free to all students in Victorian Government schools; this is referred to as 'free instruction'. The Act also grants school councils the power to charge fees for goods and services to support the delivery of free instruction and to raise funds. Free instruction includes learning and teaching, instructional supports, materials and resources, administration and facilities associated with the provision of the standard curriculum program..

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development *Parent Payments in Victorian Government Schools* policy provides advice on the different types of payments that schools can request from parents and outlines the procedures and protocols schools must adhere to. This policy is available from the Department's School Policy and Advisory Guide (www.education.vic.gov.au/spag).

School councils are responsible for developing and approving a school-level parent payment policy that is compliant with the Department's policy.

There are three areas for which parents may reasonably be requested to make a payment or contribution:

- **Essential Education Items** which parents/guardians pay the school to provide or may provide themselves, if appropriate (for example, stationery, text books and excursions (travel and entry costs));
- **Optional Education items** which are offered on a user-pays basis and which parents/guardians may **choose** whether their child accesses or participates in (for example, school magazines or extracurricular programs or activities); and
- **Voluntary financial contributions** which parents/guardians may be invited to donate to the school.

Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that their children are provided with essential education items. The school makes every effort to keep the cost of items that need to be purchased at a minimum. Parents/guardians also have the option of providing essential education items themselves.

2017 Payments will be accepted at the School Administration Office between Friday 20th of January and Tuesday 31st January, 2017.

Alternative payment arrangements are also available by contacting the school.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss your circumstances and the options available to you, please contact the school to make an appointment.

Yours sincerely,

Tanya Roberts

Principal

2017 Parent Contributions

ESSENTIAL EDUCATION ITEMS

Student Learning	Testing and reporting costs for all students Purchase of fiction and non-fiction books for the school library Students will participate in a range of paid activities during Education Week (May), Literacy Week (July) each year Access to online programs. Coloured dotted thirds for students in prep and grade 1
Student Wellbeing	In-School Activity - Children will participate in an activity / presentation that has a wellbeing focus; in 2017, the focus will be anti-bullying, the program will be 'BULLY BUSTERS' First Aid - Provision of first aid equipment and supplies for all students
Specialist Area	Learning Technology – Pakenham South West Primary School strives to provide technology-rich learning environments where students have access to technology when and where they need it. In 2017, the school will invest in technology by purchasing 1:2 ration of iPads in prep to grade 2, classrooms, plus desktop computers to provide students to both flexible technology and banks of computers Art Media - Provision of the visual arts and media program. Physical Education – In addition to a weekly physical education session, students will participate in Tabloid Sports (p-2) and Coach Approach sessions (3 – 6), run by elite and professional athletes All students will participate in school swimming program in Term 4. Performing Arts – Students will participate in Footsteps Dance Program During Term 1, 2017.
OPTIONAL EXTRAS	
School Magazine	A full colour, annual publication that features a range of events and activities held throughout the year. The magazine is published and distributed in December.
VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS	
Curriculum	The government provides a curriculum allowance for each student. This allowance provides limited funds to provide a basic level of teaching materials, specialist programs, welfare, furniture, equipment and staff. Funds received through this voluntary levy allow the school to provide a better level of resourcing to support the programs for each student
School Improvements	Funds are used solely to maintain and improve school grounds and facilities
Fundraising	A one-off payment in lieu of fundraising activities

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Parent Contributions 2017

Essential Educational Items Whole school activities, access to Studyladder and Sunshine online, resources for testing and reporting (Compass), sick bay and specialist areas, establishment of school library hubs, containing fiction, non-fiction and viewing text at all reading levels	Student Learning	\$87.00	\$210.00
	Student Wellbeing	\$11.00	
	Specialist Program	\$65.00	
	Individual Student Booklist	\$47.00	
Optional Items	School Magazine	\$20.00	\$
Voluntary Contributions The government provides a curriculum allowance for each student. This allowance provides limited funds to provide a basic level of teaching materials, specialist programs, welfare, furniture, equipment and staff. Funds received through these voluntary contributions allow the school to provide a better level of resourcing to support the programs for each student.	Curriculum Development	\$50.00	\$
	School Improvements	\$30.00	\$
	Fundraising	\$20.00	\$