



12 December, 2025

Dear parents/carers,

We are looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Footscray City Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements 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 benefit enormously from the active engagement of our families at FCPS, and we thank you for this support. Whether this participation is through membership of the School Council and sub-committees, Parent/Carer classroom helpers, connecting us with local organisations and events or through fundraising and volunteering your time - this all makes a significant difference to our connectedness as a community and to the learning and wellbeing programs that we can offer.

For many years we have benefited from the high rate of return on parent payment requests for curriculum contributions which has allowed us to:

- source quality stationery resources through a bulk purchasing process at a reduced price. This ensures all students have consistent items and removes the need for families to source their own resources.
- allocate resources to support our specialist programs such as art materials, musical instruments and sport equipment.
- enhance our science learning program to comprise incursions with specialised teachers covering topics such as chemistry, biology, robotics and physics.
- Include a range of supporting assessment programs and data analysis software that supports the implementation of our assessment schedule, enabling us to efficiently and accurately track student learning growth (growth over 12 months is measured by this assessment package)
- purchase subscriptions for apps such as Mathletics and Seesaw that complement our homework and digital learning portfolio implementation.



Our families have also made generous financial contributions to:

- the Student Engagement and Wellbeing Fund which has enabled us to support all children to participate in learning programs and experiences such as camps, incursions and excursions. We have also used these funds to purchase additional learning resources (board games, puzzles, chess sets) as part of our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) Framework that acknowledges and celebrates expected behaviours.
- the Grounds Fund: The resurfacing of the synthetic turf sporting facilities has been a priority over the last two years. Having reached our target funds, we look forward to prioritising other projects such as the removal and replacement of asphalt areas.
- the Buildings Fund which we will use in consultation with the School Council for projects such as the refurbishment of our school library in the Peppercorn building.

We look forward to your ongoing support and collaboration and invite you to view the Department's Parent Payments Policy for further information (see a one-page overview attached).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jessie Hand".

Jessie Hand
Principal

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Angela Glover".

Angela Glover
School Council President



Parent Payment Arrangements – 2026

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount \$
General classroom materials and equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● General stationery items – pens, pencils, textas, exercise books, scissors, pencil case, ruler, glue stick, erasers, whiteboards, whiteboard markers, and craft materials. ● Student diary or reader bag to support the homework program. 	\$75 [F - 2] \$76 [3 – 6]
Subject specific materials and equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● English – Little Learners Love Literacy, classroom library and book club materials. ● Maths - numeracy resources such as counters, dice, playing cards, calculators and clocks. ● Science – equipment for studying chemistry, physics, biology and robotics. ● Art - display books, paints, paintbrushes, crayons, charcoal, and clay, etc. ● Music - display books, pens, and instruments, etc. ● Language - display books, exercise books, and pens, etc. ● PE - sports equipment. 	\$141 [F - 2] \$160 [3 – 6]
Digital and online subscriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mathletics ● Seesaw 	\$29 [F - 2] \$21 [3 – 6]
Information and Communications Technology (ICT) - provision and maintenance of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● devices for classroom use including iPads and Chromebooks ● printers/photocopiers/servers 	\$120 [F - 6]
Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SPA Tracker ● Essential Assessments 	\$25 [F - 6]
Photocopying and printing of learning materials.	\$22 [F - 6]
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$412 [F - 2] \$424 [3 – 6]



Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount \$
Affiliations - School Sports Victoria membership	\$2 [F – 2] \$7 [3 - 6]
Parent communication tools - Compass, website	\$21 [F – 6]
First aid supplies and equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunscreen, sanitiser, cold packs, band aids, bandages, slings, etc 	\$12 [F – 6]
Total Other Contributions	\$34 [F – 2] \$38 [3 - 6]

Total Curriculum and Other Contributions for Foundation Students	\$446 [F – 2] \$462 [3 – 6]
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Non-Tax-Deductible Contributions	
<p>Student Engagement and Wellbeing Fund</p> <p>By contributing to this fund you are supporting every child to fully participate in extracurricular activities at school. Equitable opportunities for all students regardless of the socio-economic situation of their family aligns with our objective of children being healthy, happy and active members of an inclusive and connected learning community.</p>	\$Parent discretion
<p>Grounds Fund</p> <p>The Buildings and Grounds Sub-Committee and School Council are committed to delivering ongoing improvements to the grounds at FCPS, enabling us to maximise the gardens, play spaces and sporting facilities for the whole community to enjoy.</p> <p>In 2026 we look forward to prioritising projects such as the removal and replacement of asphalt areas.</p>	\$Parent discretion
Tax-Deductible Contributions	
<p>Buildings Fund</p> <p>The Buildings Fund will serve as a vital reserve to be spent on learning and communal spaces in consultation with the School Council. It will provide the flexibility to address unforeseen capital works and other project-related needs across our four buildings at FCPS. In 2026 we will prioritise the refurbishment of our school library with input from students and community. Your contributions are crucial in ensuring our school can maximise the students' experiences and make the most of our learning opportunities.</p>	\$Parent discretion
Total Amount	



Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Footscray City Primary School offers a range of optional items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis, the details of which will be communicated to families throughout the year.

If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child, please speak to the staff in the school office.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Estimated Amount
<p>School camp: Costings for the school camp program will be finalised once student numbers have been confirmed. Currently, the camp programs are estimated to cost:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yr 2 camp experience day \$10 - \$15 • Years 3, 4, 5 and 6: 2-night camp program \$450 - \$550 	TBA
<p>Swimming and water-safety program: Extends upon the curriculum and delivers quality swimming and water safety education so that all students have the opportunity to learn how to swim, through which they develop lifelong skills in water. The Department of Education provides funding to subsidise this program. Costs to be finalised once student numbers have been confirmed. Currently, the swim programs are estimated to cost:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F – 2: 5-session intensive swim program \$30 • Years 3, 4 and 5: whole day swim program \$30 • Year 6: Lifesaving Victoria whole day beach and swim program \$70 	\$30 - \$70
<p>Interschool sports program</p> <p>Years 3 – 6 participate in school-wide and interschool sports programs.</p> <p>Students who are successful in their events may go on to participate in additional interschool sport events, also on a user-pays basis, which are not included in this estimate.</p>	\$70
<p><i>Class and specialist incursions and excursions to be scheduled</i></p>	\$100 - \$150
<p>Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities</p>	

Financial Support for Families

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

- The Camp, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF). Open to families who hold an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card or are asylum seekers. We will notify you via Compass when applications open during term one.
- State Schools Relief. A not-for-profit organisation supporting students experiencing hardship with provision of uniforms, shoes and educational resources.
- Payment plans for extra-curricular activities.
- Student Engagement and Wellbeing fund is used for families experiencing financial hardship to ensure their child/children can experience equity in access to learning experiences.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact:

Brianna Ellis
 Business Manager
 Ph: 03 9687 2826 | Email: brianna.ellis@education.vic.gov.au



Category		Totals [parent to complete]
Curriculum Contributions		\$
Other Contributions	(Non-tax deductible)	\$
	(Tax-deductible)	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities		\$
Total		\$

Payment methods

Contribution payments can be made online through CompassPay (using your Compass Parent Portal). We also accept payments via BPay, EFTPOS, direct credit and in cash. Please contact the school office for further details.

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 requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) 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	Other Contributions	Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.	Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.	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.