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November 2025

Dear parent/guardian,

Ardeer South Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Ardeer South'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. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support has allowed us to offer students a vast array of extra curricula experiences and ensure our buildings and grounds are maintained to a high standard that our ASPS community deserves and expects. We have been able to offer students special curriculum experiences and have upgraded many areas of our grounds.

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

Please note that our voluntary contribution has been decreased significantly for next year, in the hope of making it much more affordable for our families. Our usual payment of \$240 has been cut to \$100.

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Yours sincerely,

Andrea Markham
Principal

Julie Winter
School Council President

2026 Parent Payment Form

Student Name: _____ Year Level for 2026: _____

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Classroom consumables, materials & equipment Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper	\$20
Online Subscriptions - Compass – online portal and communication, student reporting - Essential Assessment	\$20
ICT devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets	\$10
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$10
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$60

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$20
Student Wellbeing Programs	\$20
Total Other Contributions	\$40

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	
Ardeer South Primary School offers a range of optional items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students. These are provided on a user-pays basis. No payment is required for these items or activities at this time, permission forms and payment requests will be sent out to families throughout 2023. - Optional Incursions, Excursions and school camps that are additional to the delivery of the standard curriculum. - Optional Whole School Photos - Optional Interschool Sports Program - Optional Year 6 Bomber Jacket	
Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$0

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 60
Other Contributions	\$ 40
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$ 0
Total	\$ 100

Payment Methods

- *Cash*
- *EFTPOS available at the school office.*
- *Direct deposit to the school's bank account.*

Commonwealth bank: 063 172 - 10166979

Payment details:

\$ _____ cash enclosed

\$ _____ EFT (payment at office)

\$ _____ Direct Deposit

Financial Support for Families

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

- *the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF). Eligible to Health Care Card holders*
- *State Schools Relief (SSR)*
- *Individual Payment Plans*

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

Lucy Caserta, Business Manager | Ph: 03 93632768 | Email:
ardeer.south.ps@education.vic.gov.au

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) 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.