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November 11, 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Lyndhurst Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Lyndhurst Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

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 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.

We have endeavoured to keep costs down as much as possible, yet ensuring we deliver the best possible educational experience for our students.

The environment and resources that we enjoy today represent the contributions made by our parent/carer community over many years. Parent/carers voluntary contributions make a significant difference to the quality of our programs. This financial support ensures that we can continue to provide an excellent range of facilities and resources for your children. Your support in 2024 allowed us to:

- World class digital and classroom resources
- Extensive play-based learning resources
- Digital resources such as 3D printers, audio and video production facilities
- Online learning support programs
- Comprehensive kitchen garden
- A dedicated wellbeing team and partnership with Berry Street
- Additional resources and equipment to enhance our specialist programs
- Comprehensive music instrumental programs

Quite simply, without your contributions these and other initiatives, are not possible.

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

Yours sincerely,

Monique Corcoran PRINCIPAL

Aden Hogan SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

# 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 noncurriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.

#### Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

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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.