

Upper Sandy Creek Primary School



"Our Community, Our Children, Our Future."

Dear parent/guardian,

Upper Sandy Creek Primary is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our school's voluntary financial contributions for 2023.

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 will make a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

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

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Vincent
Principal

Sheridan Arundel
School Council President

Upper Sandy Creek Primary School



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Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<i>Classroom consumables, materials & equipment</i>	\$36
<i>Online subscriptions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Reading Eggs \$24</i> 	\$24
<i>ICT devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets</i>	\$40
<i>Cooking program</i>	\$50
<i>Garden and Science program</i>	\$50
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$200

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

Upper Sandy Creek 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.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
<i>School camp (approx. (\$150 for Year 3/4 and 5/6 \$350)</i>	\$xx
<i>Excursion to be scheduled (estimated: \$15 per student per term for transport)</i>	\$60
<i>Swimming and water safety program</i>	\$70

Families will be charged on a user pays basis for School Camps, excursions and swimming. (The above table are examples of cost parents may incur if their children participate) Families will be invoiced for excursions after they have participated, however camps will be paid before students attend.

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Financial Support for Families

Upper Sandy Creek PS understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/health/CSEF-Application-Form-2020.pdf>
- *State Schools Relief (SSR)*
- *Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities*
- *The school regularly sources grants to support cost of activities.*

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

Matthew Vincent

Ph: 0437556432 | Email: matthew.vincent@education.vic.gov.au

Payment methods

Upper Sandy Creek Primary

BSB: 063754

Account Number: 10005200

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 Payments 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

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.