Sydenham Primary School
Learning | Responsibility | Respect | Safety

November 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians

2026 Voluntary Financial Contributions

This letter is to advise you of Sydenham Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum, 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, either through fundraising or volunteering your time. This makes a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer. Within our school this support has allowed us to provide a wider offering of subjects and special curriculum experiences; enhanced digital learning opportunities; the upgrade of our playgrounds; faster WIFI and internet.

Please see attached for more details regarding the 2026 Voluntary Parent Payment schedule and further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy.

We look forward to working with you next year to support your child's growth in 2026.

Yours sincerely

Rosa Marchionda
Acting Principal

Ryan Cross
School Council President

Sydenham Campus
Community Hub
Sydenham Vic 3037
Ph: 9361 5300
Fax: 9390 2869

Website: www.sydenham.vic.edu.au

2026 VOLUNTARY PARENT PAYMENT SCHEDULE

PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED PAGE WITH YOUR PAYMENT IN 2026

Curriculum Consumables - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Prep to Year 6 classroom consumables, projects, materials & equipment that students take possession of. Example: Materials for art/maths/science and other subjects that students take home.	$100.00
Total Amount	**$**
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	**Amount**
Library, technology and school grounds maintenance and improvements - suggested amounts, $20, $40, $50, $75	$
Total Amount	**$**

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	**Amount**	**Purchase** (Please tick)
Not applicable for 2026		
Total Extra-curricular Items		**$0.00**

Student Name:		**Date:**	
		2026 Year Level:	

Payment Methods

Sentral	**Preferred method of payment**. Download the App to your mobile device.
In Person	Please visit the General Office - we accept Credit Card or EFTPOS
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.

Educational Items for Students to Own

Attached is also a separate list of items that the school recommends you purchase directly from COS for your child to individually own and use.

Financial Support for Families

Sydenham 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) (for eligible families)
- Various alternative payment options
- Access to State Schools Relief Committee via our Assistant Principals to assist with clothing/uniforms.

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

Sarah Zammit or Sarah Johns
Ph: 03 9361 5300
Email: sydenham.ps@education.vic.gov.au

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 standard curriculum requirements in Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.
- 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.

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