

2025 Parent Payment Arrangements



Friday 1st November 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Balwyn North Primary School 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 2025.

As a government school, Balwyn North Primary School provides 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. This support continues to make a significant difference to our school and the programs we offer.

Within our school this support has allowed us to continue to provide enhanced learning opportunities, rich experiences and a diverse range of resources for our students. Balwyn North Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents. We are proud of the outstanding programs and learning environment we provide for all students. The School Council recognises the importance of requesting parent payments and contributions to maintain this high quality. Please note that the total of the requested contributions remains the same as in 2024.

Payment Arrangements Schedule

Please find attached a 2025 Parent Payment Arrangements schedule, outlining your voluntary payment for Curriculum Contributions (essential items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum), together with the opportunity for you to support the school through a further monetary contribution (which is tax deductible). Our preferred method of payment is via the Compass portal.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see a one-page overview attached. Thanking you in advance for your support in assisting us to provide an excellent education for your child.

If you have any queries, please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Tony Stokes in black ink.

Tony Stokes
Principal

Handwritten signature of Bill Young in black ink.

Bill Young
School Council President

Handwritten signature of Chris Thelwell in black ink.

Chris Thelwell
Treasurer

Fee Schedule – All Year Levels

Please find the itemised list of Curriculum Contributions for your child. Balwyn North Primary School also continues to welcome your voluntary contributions for 2025. If you have any queries please contact the school office.

Curriculum Contributions

Below is a list of items and activities that are necessary for your child to learn the standard curriculum.

Curriculum Contributions	Amount
Items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Balwyn North Primary School Student Diary	\$10
<p>General classroom materials and equipment English, Mathematics & Inquiry Learning</p> <p>These programs need a significant resource commitment, specifically the purchase of new books, ongoing replacement of reading materials for home and classroom use and numeracy resources. Consumables for Inquiry Learning (includes inquiry “maker” materials- plasticine, fabric, poster paper, split-pins, food-stuffs, paper plates, gardening materials, pipe-cleaners, wheels, paper-mache glues, axles, batteries, book ring-binding, photo & portfolio printing)</p>	\$175
<p>Provision and upkeep of school devices, peripherals and ICT</p> <p>The school has a significant commitment to ICT infrastructure and devices for student use e.g. classroom netbooks, iPads, work stations, projection screens, cameras, networking and Wi-Fi upgrades.</p>	\$80
<p>Subject specific materials and equipment Performing Arts Program</p> <p>The Performing Arts Program is dedicated to providing every student with hands-on experiences, playing a wide variety of instruments, which are continually upgraded and maintained. Our recent works have included the purchase of equipment for our sound recording studio.</p>	\$30
<p>Subject specific materials and equipment Visual Arts Program</p> <p>Consumables for Visual Arts Program (includes plaster, paints, craft paper, glitter, glue, cardboard, clay, decorative craft materials, sequins)</p>	\$50
<p>Subject specific materials and equipment Physical Education Program</p> <p>The PE program requires ongoing replacement of sporting equipment to provide students with opportunities to experience a range of physical activities.</p>	\$25
<p>Subject specific materials and equipment LOTE Program</p> <p>Consumables for LOTE Program (includes craft materials, calligraphy items, audio-visual aides)</p>	\$15
<p>Online Learning Subscriptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics 	\$15
Total Amount	\$400

Other Contributions

Balwyn North Primary School continues to welcome your contributions to support our school. You can make a general voluntary contribution that goes towards our school's priorities for 2025, as well as providing additional activities and services for all students. Alternatively, you can make a contribution to any of the specific priorities outlined in the table below:

Other Contributions	Amount
For non-curriculum items and activities	
International Baccalaureate Affiliation	\$25
School Grounds Maintenance	\$25
Tax deductible contributions	
<p>Balwyn North Primary School Building Fund</p> <p>To ensure we continue to have optimal learning facilities for our students, we ask families to contribute to the BNPS Building Fund. In 2024 Building Fund contributions supported the enhancement of our STEAM Shed learning space, the building of a storage facility for our BNPS bike fleet for our bike education program and outdoor painting. In 2025, our focus will be on refurbishment of junior student amenities, staged painting maintenance of learning areas and the refurbishment of learning spaces as required. A financial contribution of \$300 per child is requested to help in meeting future costs.</p> <p><i>School council has established tax-deductible gift recipient status with the Australian Taxation Office for the Building Fund</i></p>	\$300
<p>Balwyn North Primary School Library Fund</p> <p>In 2024 we commenced an extensive refurbishment and upgrade of our library space and facilities to create a major learning and resource hub within our school. A financial contribution of \$50 per child is requested to continue upgrading library resources to support students with their learning.</p> <p><i>School council has established tax-deductible gift recipient status with the Australian Taxation Office for the Library Fund.</i></p>	\$50
Total Amount	\$400

Total

Category	Amount	Contribution Amount
Curriculum Contributions	\$400	
Other Contributions (Includes tax deductible Building and Library Funds contributions)	\$400	
Total	\$800	

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Balwyn North Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the Curriculum. Further information regarding these items and activities will be communicated throughout the school year.

Financial Support for Families

Balwyn North Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including, the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund. For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact Stephanie Crawford (Business Manager) on 03 9859 4258 or via email at stephanie.crawford@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. Please see the refunds policy on the school website at <https://www.balwynnorthps.vic.edu.au>. If you believe you require a refund for any reason please contact, Stephanie Crawford (Business Manager) on 03 9859 4258 or via email at stephanie.crawford@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 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.