

## 2021 Parent Payment Arrangements



Dear Parents/Carers,

Balwyn North Primary School is looking forward to a great year of teaching and learning in 2021 and would like to advise you of the school's parent payment arrangements for the upcoming school year.

Please find the fee schedule attached. Please complete this form and return to the school by **12th February 2021**, so the school can prepare accordingly.

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 of our students. The School Council recognises the importance of requesting parent payments and contributions to maintain this high quality. The State Government funded Student Resource Package is provided to fund the standard operational requirements of the school. However, with parent support, we are able to continue to provide enhanced learning opportunities, rich experiences and a diverse range of resources for our students. Please note that the total of the requested contributions remains the same as in 2020.

### ***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) at (03) 9859 4258 or by email at [Stephanie.Crawford@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Stephanie.Crawford@education.vic.gov.au).

### ***Payment Methods***

Please find attached a 2021 Parent Payment and Financial Voluntary Contributions invoice, outlining your required payment for Essential Education Items for 2021, together with the opportunity for you to support the school through a further monetary contribution (which is tax deductible). You may choose one of three methods of payment:

1. *Compass*
2. In Person (Credit Card, Cash or Cheque)
3. Payment Plan (3 instalments by Cheque, Credit Card or *Compass*).

Please return the attached invoice with your preferred method of payment as soon as possible.

**Refunds:** Refunds may be requested under limited circumstances. 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 the School Office.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payment 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.

Yours Sincerely,

Bill Young

School Council President

Lan Tran

Treasurer

Tony Stokes

Acting Principal

## **Fee schedule – All Year Levels**

Please find the itemised list of Essential Student Learning Items for your child. Balwyn North Primary School also continues to welcome your voluntary contributions for 2021.

Please complete this form and return to the school by **12th February 2021**, so the school can prepare accordingly.

### **Essential Student Learning Items**

Below is a list of items and activities that are essential for your child to learn the standard curriculum. You may choose to purchase these items through the school or provide your own. Please indicate which items you would like to purchase through the school on the table below:

Essential Student Learning Items	Amount
Balwyn North Primary School Student Diary	\$ 7
Consumables for Visual Arts Program (includes plaster, paints, craft paper, glitter, glue, cardboard, clay, decorative craft materials, sequins)	\$50
Online Learning Subscriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mathletics (Online Mathematics Portal)</li> <li>• <i>Bug Club</i> (Online Reading Portal)</li> </ul>	\$14 \$6
Consumables for LOTE Program (includes craft materials, calligraphy items)	\$18
International Baccalaureate Affiliation	\$25
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)	\$40
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 160</b>

### **Voluntary Contributions**

Balwyn North Primary School continues to welcome your voluntary contributions to support our school. You can make a general voluntary contribution that goes towards all of our school’s important priorities for 2021, as well as providing additional activities and services for all students. Alternatively, you can make a voluntary contribution to any of the specific priorities outlined in the table below:

Voluntary Contribution	Tax deductible?	Suggested Voluntary Contribution	Amount
<b>General Contribution</b> <i>English, Mathematics, Physical Education, Performing Arts, ICT</i> 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. 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 wifi upgrades. 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. This contribution supports students with access to the latest tools in Music and to maximise their opportunities for creating, making and reading music. The PE program requires ongoing replacement of sporting equipment to provide students with opportunities to experience a range of physical activities.	No	<b>\$240</b>	\$ _____

Voluntary Contribution cont.	Tax deductible?	Suggested Voluntary Contribution	Amount
<p><b>Balwyn North Primary School Building Fund</b></p> <p>To ensure we have optimal learning facilities for our children, we ask families to contribute to the BNPS Building Fund. A focus in the coming years will be continuing to modernise our learning and withdrawal spaces, to support targeted group learning experiences, with re-carpeting and refurbishment of under-utilised areas. In recent years, Building Fund contributions have been put towards such things as painting the school, purchasing of air-conditioning throughout the school, developing a newly refurbished arts precinct, and renovating the toilets. A financial contribution of \$250 per child is requested to help in meeting future costs.</p> <p><b><i>School council has established tax-deductible gift recipient status with the Australian Taxation Office for the Building Fund.</i></b></p>	Yes	<b>\$250</b>	\$ _____
<p><b>Balwyn North Primary School Library Fund</b></p> <p>In recent years, the library has continued to be an important priority for the school. New shelving and furniture have been purchased and the school continues to commit to purchasing books and other resources to ensure the library is a major learning and resource hub of the school and supports the development of a love of literature in our students. A financial contribution of \$150 per child is requested to help in meeting future costs.</p> <p><b><i>School council has established tax-deductible gift recipient status with the Australian Taxation Office for the Library Fund.</i></b></p>	Yes	<b>\$150</b>	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$</b>

Your child will not be disadvantaged if you do not make a voluntary contribution. All records of voluntary contributions are kept confidential as well as your decision about whether to make a contribution or not.

<b>Parent Payment Charges</b>	
Essential Student Learning Items	Amount: \$ <input type="text"/>
Voluntary financial contribution	Amount: \$ <input type="text"/>
	TOTAL: \$ <input type="text"/>





## ONE PAGE OVERVIEW

The following is a summary of the main principles of the Parent Payments Policy:



### FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.



### PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

- Schools do not ask parents to pay for school operating costs (e.g. utility costs) or general and unspecified charges.
- Schools request payments from parents under three categories:

#### Essential Student Learning Items

- Items and activities which the school deems essential for student learning.
- Parents may choose to purchase essential items through the school or provide their own.

#### Optional Items

- Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum.
- These are provided to students on a user-pays basis.

#### Voluntary Contributions

- Voluntary contributions support the school to continue to be the best local school for all students and can be for general or specific purpose.
- Students will not be disadvantaged in any way if parents do not make a contribution.



### 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 obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and upload their arrangements on their school's public website for transparency.