



Mornington Park Primary School

Steiner Class 1, 2025

Dear Steiner Families,

We are looking forward to 2025 with greater anticipation for a wonderful year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Mornington Park 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.

*However, the Steiner component is considered an **alternative form of instruction**. It is the delivery of the Curriculum through non-standard instructional methods and is considered 'Extra Curricula.' This means that it is therefore considered **optional** and provided on a **user pays basis**.*

Steiner parents will also receive a specific Steiner enrolment letter which outlines the costs of enrolment in the Steiner stream.

The Department of Education and Training have made some significant changes to Parent Payments moving forward. These changes will affect the way we manage fee paying in the Steiner Stream.

You will see from the Parent Payment template below that we have divided the payments into 2 sections. One will be voluntary as is promised by the Education Department. The other part is specific to Steiner.

The voluntary component which is the intention of this letter is because all children are entitled to a free education. Any voluntary contributions that parents do pay are used by the school to provide high quality programs and specific subject materials and equipment for: English, Mathematics, Science, Art, Music, Inquiry, Language and PE;

- *Maintain and develop the school grounds;*
- *Ensure the upkeep of our computer devices to enhance learning opportunities;*
- *Maintain sufficient class sets of books for students to develop their reading skills;*
- *Provide hands on maths equipment i.e.: measuring materials for teaching purposes;*
- *Facilitate Literacy and Mathematics online digital subscriptions;*
- *Arrange for individual student supplies and class bulk supplies;*

The school will always provide free access to our Mainstream Curriculum using standard instruction methods and materials. To assist families, we have made the payments as low as we possibly can without compromising the curriculum and the programs.

Should the Steiner program no longer be a financial option for families we can offer the support options listed, a shift to our free Mainstream program or assistance to enrol at your local Mainstream school.



Mornington Park Primary School

Financial Support for Families

Mornington Park Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- *the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund*
- *Centre Pay Payments*
- *Local Community supports*
- *State school's relief support available for uniforms/footwear/calculators/textbooks*

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

Ph: 03 59 75 4011 | Email: mornington.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au

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

Yours sincerely,

Kath Lord

Principal



Mornington Park Primary School

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<i>Classroom consumables, materials & equipment</i> • Classroom supplies (\$21) • Library (\$15) • LOTE (\$5) • Sports – equipment (\$10)	\$51
<i>Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials</i>	\$25
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$76

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<i>Sentral</i>	\$32
<i>Essential Assessments</i>	\$16
<i>First aid equipment</i>	\$10
<i>School grounds maintenance and improvements</i>	\$10
Total Other Contributions	\$68.00

Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure (Suggested - \$50).	\$

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

A Steiner Curriculum

Alternative forms of instruction

The school will provide free access to our Mainstream Curriculum using standard instruction methods. An alternative form of instruction, ***such as Steiner***, is the delivery of the Curriculum through non-standard instructional methods, is considered 'Extra Curricula' and is therefore considered optional and provided on a user pays basis. Parents will receive a separate letter detailing the costs of enrolment in the Steiner stream

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	
Steiner Curriculum and Materials Craft Eurythmy Woodwork Gardening	\$1000



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Total

Category	Totals	Parent to select
Curriculum Contributions	\$76	
Other Contributions	\$68	
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$1000	\$1000
Total	\$1144	

Payment methods

Payment methods

Parents will be permitted to make payments in instalments and be provided with several methods of making payment arrangements including, cash, Bpay and eftpos. Parents are able to enter into confidential payment arrangements by contacting the Business Manager 59754011 or mornington.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Refunds

Parent requests for refunds for extra curricula activities, 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.

Student's Name _____

Parents signature _____

Must be returned by the 29th November 2024



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

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.