Mornington Park Primary School

# PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS ARRANGEMENTS – EXTRA-CURRICULAR

## Class 1 Steiner 2027

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Dear parents and carers

Mornington Park Primary School is not inviting voluntary contributions from parents and carers for 2027. This letter provides information about other payments you can choose to make.

Victorian government schools provide free instruction. This means all students have free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability.

Some families choose to make a voluntary financial contribution to support the school, and we are very grateful for this support. Making a voluntary contribution is your choice. There is no expectation or pressure for families to contribute.

Mornington Park Primary School offers a range of items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. We want to let you know about the costs of extra-curricular items and activities, such Steiner Curriculum for 2027.

Financial help is available for extra-curricular items and activities if you are experiencing financial hardship (see further details under Financial Help for Families in the attached information). For a confidential discussion about how to access the financial help available, please contact: Jeanette Budge, Business Manager via email jeanette.budge@education.vic.gov.au to arrange a payment plan.

If you need an interpreter, please contact 03 9605 3053 and give our school's phone number 0359 75 4011. An interpreter can help you speak with us. This service is free. For more information, please see How to use an interpreter to contact your school.

For more information on the Department of Education's Parent Contributions policy please see the information attached. You can read the full policy at Parent Contributions: Policy education.vic.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Kath Lord

Mornington Park Primary School

Mornington Park Primary School PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS ARRANGEMENTS

**Voluntary contributions**

If you are the carer of a student in out-of-home care or hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card), please ignore the invitation to make voluntary contributions.

We encourage any family experiencing financial hardship to contact the school for information about the financial help available for extra-curricular activities like camps and excursions.

| **Voluntary contributions [specialist schools can note that these are tax deductible if they hold DGR status]** | **Suggested amount – parents can contribute more or less** | **Amount** |
|---|---|---|
| **Voluntary contributions** to enhance our school's range of programs, resources and environment.<br><br>LOTE, Music, Indigenous Studies, Sport and Gardening | $100 | $<br><br>Parent to complete |

| **Tax-deductible voluntary contributions** | **Suggested amount – parents can contribute more or less** | **Amount** |
|---|---|---|
| **Voluntary - Building fund:** a tax-deductible contribution to support renovations and upgrades of school infrastructure | $50 | $<br><br>Parent to complete |

Mornington Park Primary School

**MORNINGTON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS ARRANGEMENTS**

**Extra-curricular items and activities**

Mornington Park Primary School offers a range of optional items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Accessing these items and activities does require payment, but financial support is available (see further details under Financial Help for Families below).

Example extra-curricular items and activities include:

- 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, it is considered 'Extra Curricula' and is therefore considered optional and provided on a user pays basis.

We have provided confirmed costs of extra-curricular items below.

Payment for extra-curricular items with a confirmed cost can be made now or later. Payments can also be made via instalment.

Please contact the school for advice on financial help available for extra-curricular items and activities.

| Extra-curricular items and activities | Confirmed cost |
|---|---|
| Class 1 Curriculum and Materials | **$1054** |
| Craft, Eurythmy and festivals | |
| | |
| | |

**Financial help for families**

Mornington Park Primary School understands families can experience financial difficulty. Help is available, including:

- **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund** – this program provides funding for eligible students, including those in out of home care, and holders of eligible financially means-tested cards (such as health care cards), to attend extra-curricular activities like camps, sporting activities, excursions and incursions that are offered on a user-pays basis.
- **Affordable School Uniforms** - delivered by State Schools Relief, this program helps cover costs such as school uniforms, shoes, and other essential school items where families are experiencing financial hardship or short-term crisis.
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Mornington Park Primary School

Applications for support under both the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and State Schools Relief are submitted by the school - please contact us to discuss these and other financial help.

For a confidential discussion about how to access financial help, please contact:

Jeanette Budge, Business Manager Ph: 03 59754011 Email: jeanette.budge@education.vic.gov.au

**Payment methods**

Mornington Park Primary School can offer for parents to make payments for extra-curricular items and activities via set instalment dates.

1st Instalment date 10th February 2027

2nd Instalment date 1st June 2027

Payment methods

Sentral Parent Portal, BPay or Eftpos

Department of Education

# Parent Contributions policy

## Information for families

### FREE INSTRUCTION

Schools give students free instruction in the curriculum. This includes:

- Free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability.
- The Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major, and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Free access to all subjects, including elective subjects.
- Free access to select-entry and accelerated programs.

### FAMILIES CAN CHOOSE TO CONTRIBUTE

Schools can invite 2 types of voluntary contributions:

| Voluntary contributions | Tax deductible contributions |
|---|---|
| Used towards enhanced educational programs and school environment, and additional resources and opportunities offered by schools | Used towards building and/or library fund (for those schools who have such funds) |

Schools must advise the carers of students in out-of-home care and parents and carers who hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card) that the invitation to make voluntary contributions does not apply to them.

In addition, schools can invite parents and carers to pay for optional:

- Extra-curricular items and activities that go beyond the curriculum - for example, school photos, some excursions and some camps.
- Learning materials for students to individually use and own - for example, textbooks, stationery, and in secondary schools only, digital devices. If these items are not bought or provided or provided from home, schools must provide students with free access to what they need for curriculum delivery.

### FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

Each school has a contact person who can discuss with parents and carers the financial supports that are available.

Schools must publish their Parent Contributions arrangements on their school website, along with a link the department's Parent Contributions policy.