



SOUTHERN CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

28th November, 2016

Dear Parents,

The voluntary contributions for the year 2017 are outlined in this letter.

School Council has agreed not to change the voluntary contributions for 2017, despite cost increases over the past twelve months. Once again to keep costs to an acceptable minimum, all requisites will be purchased in bulk as in 2016. The voluntary levy is detailed on the following page.

The school aims to provide the very best educational program that our community can sustain. The voluntary levy, we ask of our community, enables us to spread the load across all families to provide the most that we can afford. The levy we ask for is well below that of secondary colleges, pre-schools and most other primary schools in our area.

We know and understand that not all parents will be able to fund the whole amount at one time. With this in mind, we offer an instalment plan.

Fundraising too is aimed at spreading the load and also to minimise the workload that fundraising inevitably causes. We would much prefer that parents work with their children in classroom learning programs, rather than spending their time raising funds for school programs. That is why we have a fundraising levy and a reduced fundraising program.

School Council has endorsed the following policy regarding students who leave the school during the year. A sliding scale of refund will be made on voluntary contributions of 0.6 for Term 1, 0.4 for Term 2 and 0.3 for Term 3, as a result of students transferring to another primary school. No refund will be given for Term 4 transfers. The contributions to the Library and Maintenance Trusts are not refundable, as the tax deduction will have already been claimed.

Payment for school books can be made from Thursday, 1st December, 2016, during school hours.

Parents who pay 2017 Student Requisites/Book List in full by Tuesday 31st January, 2017, will have their student's names entered into a Draw for refund of books for one student (\$185.00).

Averil Nunn
Principal

Jeff Khan
School Council President

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Understanding Parent Payment Categories

Schools

What does the legislation say?

The Education and Training Reform Act (2006) provides for free instruction in the standard curriculum program to all students in government schools. The Act also empowers school councils to charge fees to parents for goods and services provided by the school to a child.

In the Act, a 'Parent' includes a guardian and every person who has parental responsibility for a child including parental responsibility under the Commonwealth Family Law Act 1975 and any person with whom a child normally or regularly resides.

What do schools pay for as part of 'free instruction'?



Free instruction is the teaching staff, administration and the provision of facilities in connection with the instruction of the standard curriculum program, including reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities.

The standard curriculum for Years F-10 means implementation of the Victorian Curriculum F-10.

The standard curriculum for senior secondary schools means a program that enables a student to be awarded a VCE or VCAL qualification.

What principles govern parent payment practice?

Educational Value | Access, Equity & Inclusion | Affordability

Engagement & Support | Respect & Confidentiality | Transparency & Accountability

Parents

What may parents be asked to pay for?

Schools can request payment for Essential Student Learning Items



These are items, activities or services that the school deems **essential** to student learning of the standard curriculum.

Where practical and appropriate, parents may choose to purchase items through the school or provide their own.

These may also be either:

Items the student takes temporary or permanent possession of

- e.g.
- textbooks, activity books, exercise books
 - stationery, book bags
 - student ID cards, locks
 - cooking ingredients students will consume
 - materials for final products that students take home (technology projects, build-your-own kits, dioramas)
 - Picture Exchange Communication Systems

Activities associated with instruction that all students are expected to attend

i.e. travel, entry fees or accommodation

- e.g.
- excursions
 - incursions
 - school sports
 - work placements

Parents can be asked to pay for items, activities and services in the three Parent Payment Categories:

Essential Student Learning Items, Optional Items and Voluntary Financial Contributions.

Schools determine how items, activities and services are classified within these categories based on the learning and teaching program of their school.

Schools can request payment for Optional Items

These are items, activities or services that are **optional** and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum.

Students may access these on a user-pays basis.

These may be either:

Items the student purchases or hires

- e.g.
- school magazines, class photos
 - functions, formals, graduation dinners
 - materials for extra curricular programs
 - student accident insurance

Activities the student purchases

- e.g.
- fees for extra curricular programs or activities, such as instrumental music tuition
 - fees for guest speakers
 - camps, excursions, incursions, sports
 - entry fees for school run performances

Items and/or materials that are more expensive than required to meet the standard curriculum

- e.g.
- use of silver in metal work instead of copper
 - supplementary exam revision guides

Support for families experiencing hardship is available at every school and each school has a parent payment contact person. See your school's policy for more information.

For more information on Parent Payments and Personal Devices, visit the DET website at: www.education.vic.gov.au

Schools can invite **Voluntary Financial Contributions** for



- e.g.
- Building or Library fund (Tax deductible)
 - Voluntary contributions for a specific purpose, such as equipment, materials, services.
 - General voluntary contributions



SOUTHERN CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

STUDENT REQUISITES / BOOK LIST SUMMARY 2017

Books and stationery will be in bulk and distributed to classrooms at the beginning of the new school year, when payment for requisites has been made. All students benefit when supplies are purchased at a lower cost.

Payment of contributions can be made from Thursday, 1st December, 2016. Students whose payment has been receipted will receive their allocated supplies, in their classroom, at the beginning of 2017 school year.

School Curriculum, Extra Curricular (as listed) and Essential Classroom & Booklist Supplies

(Includes Grade Expert (Assessment & Reporting Portfolio); Grade 3-6 USB; Grade 3-6 Reading Comprehension; Grade 3-6 Maths/Literacy Skills; Cars and Stars; Grade 6 includes \$5.00 Graduation; class sets of text books,)

\$140.00

Health & Wellbeing Programs	\$ 15.00
Library Fund <i>(tax deductible)</i>	\$ 10.00
Learning Technologies	\$ 15.00
First Aid Supplies	<u>\$ 5.00</u>

\$185.00

School Council contributions – per family

Grounds Maintenance	\$10.00	
Buildings Maintenance Fund <i>(tax deductible)</i>	\$15.00	
Fundraising Levy	<u>\$10.00</u>	\$ 35.00

Balance due to school **\$220.00**

Please note: Payment can be made by cash, cheque, credit card



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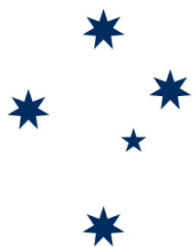
Southern Cross Primary School has always considered Social Skill Development and Extra-Curricular Activities to be of the highest importance. We provide an extensive range of Learning Experiences in the following areas:

Social Skill development at Southern Cross

Better Buddies Program	Circle Time	Tribes participation
Restorative Chats	Class Captains	Gleneagles Cup
Student Leadership	School Captain	Teddy Bears' Picnic
Tribes Leader	House Captain	Choirs
School Production/Concert	Southern Cross Has Got Talent	
Breakfast Club Monitors		

Extra Curricular Activities at Southern Cross Primary

School Production/Concert	Environmental Studies
Life Ed.	Making puppets
Meditation / Yoga	Alpha Shows
Lunchtime craft	Gardening
Swimming Program	Science Investigations
Harmony Day	Camp
Pyjama Day	Footy Day
Self Esteem building	Pancake Day
Artistic Explorations	Cooking
Breakfast Club	Melbourne Football club
Twilight sports	Melbourne Storm
Cross country	Basketball clinics
Athletics	Amaze- Autism
Market day	Deakin Body Promotion
Fundraising Activities	Rugby & Tennis skills
CHIPS Foundation	Basketball skills
Passion Project day	I See I Care
Dance / Drama	Book Club



SOUTHERN CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

PAYMENT – 2017

Payment for Student Requisites/Book List can be made from Thursday 1st December, 2016

Parent/ Guardian Name:

Name 1st Student: Year Level 2017:

Name 2nd Student: Year Level 2017:

Name 3rd Student: Year Level 2017:

Name 4th Student: Year Level 2017:

Amount Owing: *(Please circle)*

1 Child \$220.00	2 Children \$405.00	3 Children \$590.00	4 Children \$775.00
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(\$220.00 for first child and then \$185.00 for each additional child)

Payment Options Please tick your preferred option.

Option 1 Full Payment with this order.

Option 2 Payment by Instalments:

1st Instalment/Deposit

2nd Instalment

Parents who pay 2017 Student Requisites/Book List in full by Tuesday, 31st January, will have their student's name entered into a Draw for refund of books for 1 student (\$185.00)

\$185.00 per child by 31st January 2017

Balance \$35.00 by 17th March 2017

Payment Amount: _____

Parent / Guardian Signature:

Date:/...../.....

Office Use

Date:		Amt Paid:		Balance:	
Payment Type:	Paid in Full	Instalments	Rebate		
Date 2 nd Instal		Amt Paid:		Balance:	