



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

IF YOU NEED HELP TO UNDERSTAND THE INFORMATION IN THIS POLICY, PLEASE CONTACT SHAUN WELLS PRINCIPAL ON (03) 9481 0009.

2026 Parent Payment Arrangement

10 December 2025

Dear Northcote Families,

Northcote Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Your financial contributions make a significant impact on the programs we offer and the education of our students. Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. While the Department of Education funds a standard curriculum program, many of the highly valued programs and resources at Northcote Primary School go beyond this funding. Family contributions enhance these opportunities, and any assistance is appreciated.

Your contributions enable us to provide the programs, resources and materials that foster strong learning outcomes and meaningful educational experiences. They also support our efforts to strengthen digital learning, increase classroom resources and upgrade curriculum equipment across numeracy, literacy, science and technology. This assistance allows us to coordinate opportunities that complement the standard curriculum and reinforce core learning areas such as Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Together, these efforts help create a balanced and rigorous education for your child.

As highlighted in the Department of Education's Parent Payments Policy (please see the one-page overview linked to this document), there are three categories for parent payment requests. These are outlined below, and the policy is also available on the Northcote Primary School website.

- Curriculum Contributions:** Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities 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 and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are user pays and include optional excursions, camps, sporting or music programs, and materials that do not relate to the curriculum such as school magazines.

At Northcote Primary School we make every effort to keep the cost of items and activities affordable for all parents. The School Council determines parent payments each year in line with Victorian Department of Education guidelines. These payments enhance the educational opportunities available to our students. Parent contributions in all forms are highly valued as they ensure students can access a broad range of learning experiences. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Shaun Wells
Principal

Jo Pitt
School Council President



Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<p>Classroom Consumables (materials and equipment, including back to schoolbook pack)</p> <p>These items will be used throughout the year by your child. Please note that all students will have the necessary materials and resources required in the classroom ready for the first day of school.</p> <p>These items include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Numeracy – numeracy blocks, calculators, grid books, stationary, maths kits -Literacy – book boxes, class sets, novels, readers, classroom materials -Classroom materials - pens, pencils, textas, glue sticks, writing, graph and scrapbooks, highlighters, post it notes, folders, display books, scissors, rulers, whiteboards, headphones. -Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, glue, card, wool, clay, pottery etc -Science – materials and supplies for experiments, shared books and classroom materials. -Sports/Physical Education – sports equipment -Italian – books, pens, markers, and folders -Library – books, subscriptions -Bulk items - Coloured paper, cardboard, stickers, post it notes, whiteboard markers, laminating sheets purchased during the year. -Printing and Photocopying of learning materials 	\$255.00
<p>Online Subscriptions and ICT Applications</p> <p>Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Compass -Mathletics – whole school -Story Box Library -Essential Assessment – Literacy -Essential Assessment – Numeracy -Talking the talk -The Resilience project -SREAMS (SPA) -Cyber Safety - Evolve 	\$65.00
<p>ICT Infrastructure and provisions of devices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provisions of shared devices (setup and ongoing maintenance) -Class Interactive whiteboards 	\$40.00
<p>Total Amount</p>	\$360.00



Northcote Primary School

33 Helen Street Northcote Vic 3070
Email northcote.ps@education.vic.gov.au
Website www.northcoteps.vic.edu.au
Ph (03) 9481 0009

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
First Aid and equipment	\$ 10.00
Total Amount	\$ 10.00
Support our <i>School Grounds Maintenance and Improvements</i> or <i>Library Fund</i> with an optional, tax-deductible contribution. Adjust the amount to suit and download your receipt from Compass to claim your deduction.	
Thank-you for your support.	
Northcote Primary School – Building Fund A tax-deductible voluntary contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure. Suggested amount \$50 or Northcote Primary School – Library Fund A tax-deductible voluntary contribution toward the purchase of books for the School Library and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource. Suggested amount \$50	\$ 50 \$ 50
Total Amount	\$



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Educational items for students

Families wishing to purchase these items themselves can contact the school office for a list of recommended items.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Northcote Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enrich the schooling experience and sit beyond what is required to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user pays basis. Early in the 2026 school year we will share an overview of extra-curricular activities with families, including estimated costs where possible. Participation in these activities will be managed through Compass so that parents and carers can provide consent and make payments in one place. This helps create a more streamlined and efficient process.

Other Contributions

Other contributions are voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relates to the schools' functions.

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports, and Excursions Fund
- State Schools Relief – which is available to support families in need with devices and uniform
- Flexible Payment Arrangements

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

Caterina Carnovale (Business Manager) or Shaun Wells (Principal)

Phone: 03 9481 0009

Email caterina.carnovale@education.vic.gov.au

or shaun.wells@education.vic.gov.au



Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 360.00
Other Contributions <i>(Non-tax deductible)</i>	\$ 10.00
Tax deductible contributions on Compass <i>(Tax-deductible)</i>	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities at Northcote Primary School are charged Via Compass for Camps and Excursions during the year.	

Payment Methods

Northcote Primary School's preferred method of payment is via the Compass parent portal. Where families choose not to use the Compass portal, they can make payment at the school office in person with Cash/EFTPOS. Please do not hesitate to contact the school's office should you require to set up a more individualised payment plan.

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 reasonable and fair to do so, taking into consideration whether a cost has been incurred, the Department Parent Payment Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy, and any other relevant information.

For Further information on the Departments Parent Payments Policy please see the below a one-page overview or visit

www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal.parent-payment/resources



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.