



03 November 2024

Dear parents and carers,

2025 Curriculum Contributions

Thornhill Park Primary School is looking forward to a great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our Curriculum Contribution (formerly Parent Payment) arrangements, which includes the Voluntary Financial Contributions for 2025. Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students.

Within our school this support has allowed us to organise and coordinate the best possible programs outside of the traditional teaching and learning classroom structure. This includes and is not limited to:

- the purchasing of Art, Physical Education, STEM and AUSLAN equipment and resources, which in turn, supports them to be exemplary programs.
- Classroom Library Books and Class sets
- Maintenance of school buildings, grounds, and gardens
- Employ Education Support Staff to provide extra classroom support and other targeted literacy learning support extension and intervention programs.
- Provide all students access to up-to-date laptops for use in the classroom, without asking parents to purchase and provide these at their own cost.

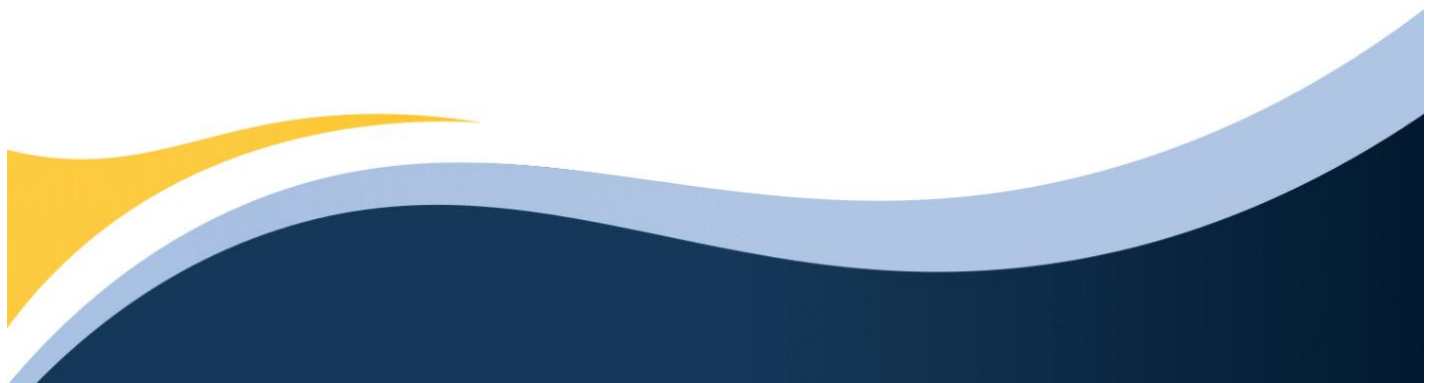
Please find attached an overview of how your financial contribution will support our school.

Thornhill Park Primary School wants to thank you in advance for your support, whether that's through financial contributions, fundraising or volunteering your time. This not only contributes immensely to your child's education, but also towards the upkeep of our grounds and facilities to ensure we have a well-maintained school which our students can respect and proud to be a part of.

Yours sincerely,

Darryl Spiteri
Principal

Victoria Johnson
School Council President

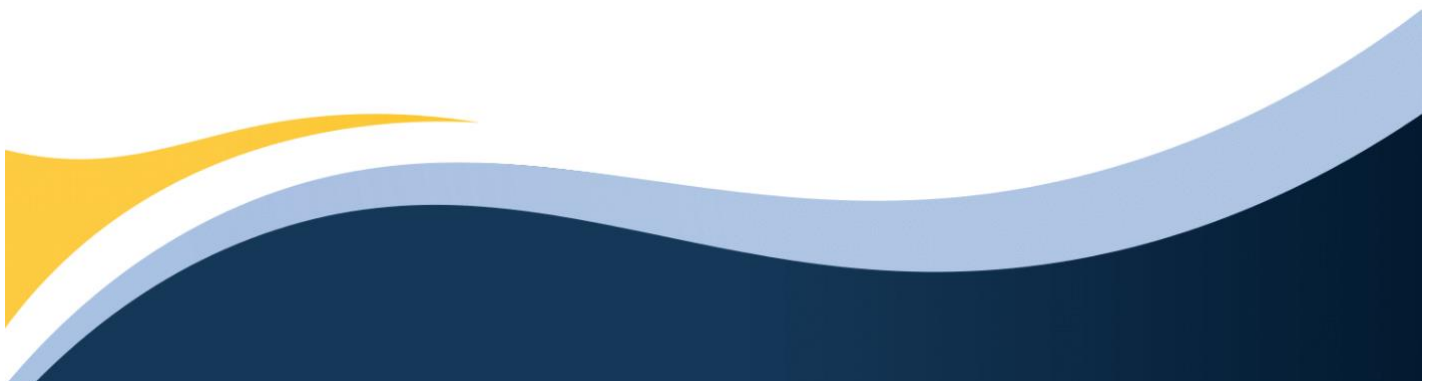




| Curriculum Contributions <i>Items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum</i> | Amount |
|---|-----------------|
| Consumables / Materials / Equipment (Classroom) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing, scrap and grid books• Pens, pencils, sharpeners, erasers, ruler, scissors• Display folders• Mathematics – numeracy blocks, calculators, teaching resources, concrete materials• English – book boxes, guided reading books, take home readers• Inquiry – mentor texts | \$45.00 |
| Consumables / Materials / Equipment (Specialist Subjects) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ART – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, wood, wool, beading• STEM – equipment and devices – robotics, Lego education• AUSLAN – mentor texts and speech developmental play props• SPORTS – equipment, ribbons• PERFORMING ARTS / DIGITAL / MULTIMEDIA – equipment, workbooks | \$55.00 |
| Online Subscriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading Eggs• Matifics | \$37.00 |
| ICT Devices (<i>partially subsidised by the school</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• contribution to support our technology program allowing all students access to shared classroom sets | \$83.00 |
| Printing and photocopying <ul style="list-style-type: none">• worksheets and learning materials | \$10.00 |
| Total Curriculum Contributions | \$230.00 |

| Other Contributions <i>For non-curriculum items and activities</i> | Amount |
|--|----------------|
| First Aid equipment | \$10.00 |
| School grounds, maintenance, and improvements | \$10.00 |
| Total Other Contributions | \$20.00 |

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





Educational items for students

These will be ordered by the school on your behalf and put in the classroom ready for your child to use when they return to school in Term 1. Upon request, a list of stationery supplies can be provided should you wish to source your own items for your child, however this is not recommended.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – User Pays

Thornhill Park PS will offer a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis. Examples of these items and activities include excursions, incursions, camps, Swimming, Interschool Sports, Year 6 / Graduation Items, Instrumental Music Program.

The costs for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities will be advised throughout the year as they arise.

Financial Support for Families

Thornhill Park PS understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:




- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) for Health Care or Pension Card holders
- Individual payment plans available, set up directly with the school
- State Schools’ relief – helps with the cost of new school uniforms and shoes.
- School Saving Bonus

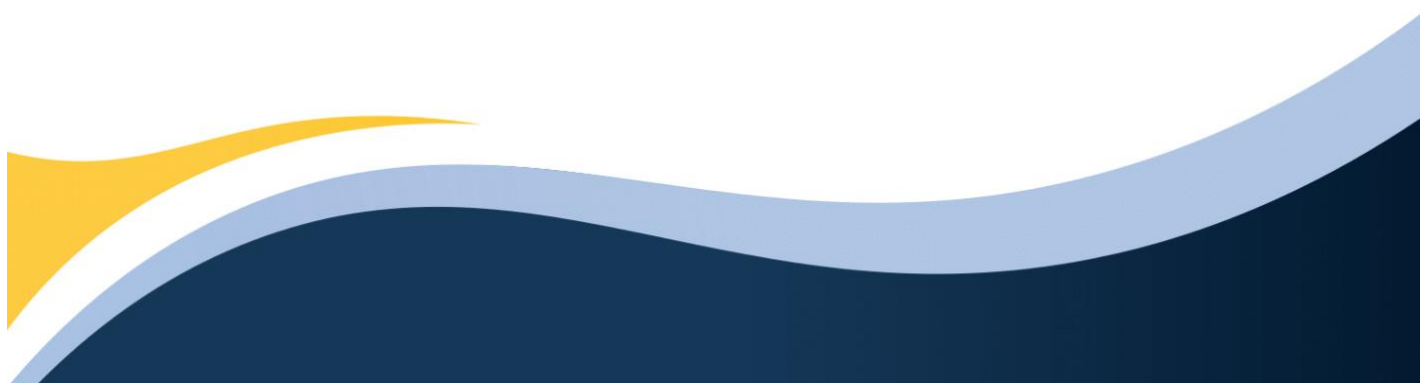
For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact Jo Atkinson or Donna Payton Ph: 03 8764 9330 | Email: thornhill.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

Total

| Category | \$ |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Curriculum Contributions | \$230 |
| Other Contributions | \$20 |
| TOTAL PAYABLE | \$250 |

Preferred Payment Methods:

| | | |
|---|--|---|
|  <p>BANK TRANSFER (please request details from the school office)</p> |  <p>CARD PAYMENTS WELCOME (in person or via phone)</p> |  <p>CompassPay (please pay through your Compass Education Login – these details can be obtain from the school office)</p> |
|---|--|---|





Transfers & 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 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.

If a family is exiting the school, within two weeks of their departure, the balance of their account (if in credit) will be either, transferred to their new school, transferred to a bank account of their choice (please submit a request, complete with bank account details to thornhill.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au, alternatively call the school directly to arrange reimbursement). Any remaining CSEF will be transferred to their new school.

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

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.

