

Parent Contributions

POLICY

Rationale:

The quality and variety of educational programs offered by our school are enhanced if departmental funds are supplemented by voluntary contributions for school curriculum and materials consumed by the student.

Aims:

- To provide a diverse range of high quality materials for student use in their learning and provide a cost effective provision of materials for parents and students through the opportunity to bulk buy.

Implementation:

- School council seeks to supplement DET resources with a variety of locally raised funds, including charging for book pack.
- Early in term 4 of each year, the Finance committee, after consulting with subject coordinators and other relevant staff members, will make recommendations to school council regarding proposed parent contributions for the following year.
- School council will only consider submissions for book pack consistent with Exec Memo No 2001/001: 'Parent Voluntary Contributions and School Curriculum and Material Charges'.
- The purpose and amount charged for school levies will be decided by school council, and communicated to parents as part of the school's book list during November of each year.
- Generally, costs may be charged as subject contributions (eg: class sets of texts, consumable items such as ingredients for cooking, printing etc), or as a service costs (eg: bus fares, locker charges). Any charge must not exceed the cost of providing those materials or services to students.
- Students must not be denied access to a particular subject due to their inability to contribute to the relevant subject levy or any voluntary contribution. However, unless the relevant subject levy is paid the student may not be provided with the higher cost materials or services relating to that subject.
- The provision of student reports cannot be conditional upon the payment of a book pack charge or voluntary contribution.
- Items made by students during subjects for which the parents have contributed become the property of the student.
- Where a parent pays a charge for a specific purpose, the school may not use the funds for any other purpose without the consent of parents.
- The school portion of each eligible parent's Education Maintenance Allowance can be used to pay for school book pack for materials and services that parents are normally expected to pay.
- As with all parent payments to the school, school council will provide opportunities for all parents experiencing financial difficulties to enter into alternative and confidential payment arrangements with the principal to pay school book pack.
- In addition to book pack, school council may also seek voluntary contributions.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle. The level
This policy was last ratified by School Council in 2016