



Dear parent/guardian

Mount Martha 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 2023.

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.

Following recent clarifications of the Department of Education and Training's Parent Payments Policy, schools are no longer able to collect the booklist payment on behalf of the supplier, e.g. Paperchase. Parents wishing to purchase the booklist pack pay the supplier directly. Curriculum Contributions will be processed separately, directly to the school through Compass.

Within our school this support from families with the **Curriculum Contributions** has allowed us to provide a wider variety of engaging educational experiences within the Victorian Curriculum. It has also enhanced the digital learning area by the continual leasing and upgrading of ICT devices for all students to use in classrooms and across specialist subjects.

We want to thank you for all your support, whether that is through curriculum contributions, fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

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

Yours sincerely

*Karen Walker,
Principal*

*Jeanette Phillips,
School Council President*

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
These contributions provide consumables, resources, equipment, worksheets, learning materials and online subscriptions to learning programs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential Assessment to support and enrich the classroom; • Specialist areas; and • Wellbeing programs throughout the school. e.g. maths, English, inquiry/science, digital technologies, art, music, library, Japanese and physical education. 	Prep -\$139 Year 1-\$129 Year 2-\$109 Year 3-\$110 Year 4-\$110 Year 5-\$108 Year 6-\$108
Total Amount	\$

Educational items for students to own

Mt Martha Primary School invites parents to supply or purchase education items to use and own, e.g. textbooks and stationery. The school recommends a list of items that you can purchase from **Paperchase Office National** for your child/children. **The link to Paperchase is available on the 2022 Booklist Supplies and Curriculum Contribution/Essential School Agreements newsfeed.**

Financial Support for Families

Mt Martha Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty. The school has in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child/children does not miss out. For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, please contact Karen Walker, Principal on 5974 2800 or via mount.martha.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

Payment methods

All payments are made through Compass Online Portal.

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.

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	Other Contributions	Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.	Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.	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.