

November 2022

**Primary**

Dear parent/guardian,

Rushworth P-12 is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Rushworth P-12's 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. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that's through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

To ensure that all Primary students have equal access to stationary items, stationary will be distributed by the classroom teacher at the beginning of each term. Parents are not required to purchase stationary items from an external supplier.

### **Financial Support for Families**

Rushworth P-12 College understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund - CSEF
- Payment plans with weekly/fortnightly/monthly regular BPay payments
- School State Relief - Uniforms

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

The Business Manager, Ph: 03 5856 1230  
or email the school: [rushworth.p12@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:rushworth.p12@education.vic.gov.au)

### **Payment methods**

BPay  
CSEF  
EFTPOS/Credit Card  
Cash/Cheque

### **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.

### **Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund (CSEF)**

School camps provide students with experiences in team building and the outdoors, Excursions provide an opportunity to explore the world outside of school and home and Sports promote exercise, discipline and leadership. CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your student. The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

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

Yours sincerely,

Chris Eeles  
Acting Principal

John Meguyer  
School Council President

<b>Curriculum Contributions</b> - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	<b>Amount</b>
<p><i>Year P-6 classroom consumables, materials &amp; equipment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stationary items – pencils, exercise books, scrap books, coloured pencils, pens, highlighters, markers</li> <li>• Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper</li> <li>• Classroom activities – flour, vinegar, salt, butter, milk</li> <li>• Mathematics – grid books, counting tiles</li> <li>• English – book boxes</li> </ul>	\$65
<p><i>Year P-6 Online Subscriptions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘Wushka’ online reading licence</li> <li>• Smart Spelling</li> </ul>	\$20 \$5
<i>Year P-6 Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials</i>	\$10
<b>Other Contributions</b> - for non-curriculum items and activities	<b>Amount</b>
<i>Student wellbeing programs</i>	\$10
<i>First aid equipment</i>	\$10
<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>\$120</b>

**Total**

<b>Category</b>	
<i>Curriculum Contributions</i>	\$100
<i>Other Contributions</i>	\$ 20
<i>Extra-Curricular Items and Activities</i>	\$ TBA

# 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.