Colac South West Primary School 4775

Respect Engage Achieve Care Honesty

Colac South West Primary School is a Child Safe School

PARENT PAYMENT POLICY 2026

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the Colac South West Primary School office.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Colac South West Primary is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning. We would like to advise you that while we are in our current financial position the school will fund the following for our families rather than request any voluntary contributions.

Curriculum consumables for:

- Art, Mathematics, Music, English and Physical Education
- A portion of the stationary for General Classrooms

Online Subscriptions:

- Auslan
- Essential Assessment

ICT Devices:

- Individual laptops for students onsite Grade 1 – 6
- iPad for students onsite Prep

Swimming and Water Safety:

- Swimming Grades 1 – 6

Whole School Events/Activities:

- House Athletics Sports
- House Swimming Sports
- A paid incursion per grade

We want to thank you for all your support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This makes a huge difference to what we can offer. Our Junior School Council are looking forward to making a list of priorities of what they would like to see in their school to add to the Ga-Ga Pit that they fundraised for in 2025.

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

Yours sincerely,

Xavier Davis
Principal

Kate Gorman
School Council President

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Colac South West Primary School offers a range of optional 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.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year and be provided with prior notice. All camps, excursions and incursions will be posted on Compass for consent/payment.

Financial Support for Families
Colac South West Primary 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 (SSR)
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
- We also set aside funding to support families in need.

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

Kerri McCluskey
Phone: 5232 1170
Email: kerri.mccluskey@educaiton.vic.gov.au

Payment methods

Parents can pay via:
BPay
Via Compass
Cash/EFTpos via the office

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 Payments 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 requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- 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.