



Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are excited to be preparing for another fantastic year of learning and growth at Gardenvale Primary School in 2026. As we plan for a new year filled with engaging, high-quality educational experiences, we'd like to share some important information about financial contributions for the year ahead.

The Victorian Department of Education provides funding to support the core requirements of the standard curriculum, ensuring every child has access to free instruction. However, to enrich our students' learning and provide a broader range of opportunities, we rely on the generous support of our school community.

Why Your Contributions Make a Difference

Family contributions help us offer a wide variety of resources, specialist programs, and learning experiences that go beyond the basics. These contributions enable us to continue providing exceptional programs such as STEM, Performing and Visual Arts, additional Technology, Physical Education, and Japanese; areas that Gardenvale is proud to be recognised for. Over the last couple of years, the voluntary parent contributions have reduced which puts significant pressure on our budget and ability to continue offering the above extra-curricular programs. We do continue to offer support for families experiencing financial difficulties, please see information below.

While core teaching is funded by the Department, it's your support that allows us to maintain the vibrant, diverse, and high-quality education we value so highly. Without this, many of the enriching experiences that make Gardenvale unique would not be possible.

We're incredibly grateful for the continued support of our families. Whether through financial contributions, volunteering, or participating in school events, your involvement helps nurture the strong community spirit that defines Gardenvale.

How to Contribute

*Parent financial contributions for 2026 will be available via Compass from **Monday 3rd November 2025**, and you'll receive a notification when they are open. Attached, you'll find a detailed breakdown of contribution categories, along with an overview of the Department of Education's Parent Payments Policy.*

*If you have any questions or would like further information, please don't hesitate to contact the school office on **9596 2871***

Yours sincerely,

Janine Hall
Principal

Nicola Martin
School Council President

Financial Support for Families

Gardenvale Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- * CSEF – Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund**
- * State Schools Relief**
- * Payment plans for Extra Curricular Items and Activities**

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative arrangements, contact the Business Manager, Maree Prosser on 9596 2871.

Refunds

Refunds will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and we will readily refund where it is reasonable and fair.

Fee Schedule – 2026

Please find the itemised list of Curriculum Contributions and Other Contributions for your child.

Gardenvale Primary School also continues to welcome your voluntary contributions for 2026.

We request that stationery packs for 2026 are purchased directly via our supplier KAKA for students to individually own and use. A Compass message will be sent when the portal is open.

The closing date for this is Monday 15th December 2025.

A detailed list of stationery pack items is available on the website and at both offices. Please contact the office if you would like more information on the cost of Online Learning Subscriptions.

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<i>Curriculum Contributions Prep – Year 2: Classroom consumables, materials & equipment</i> • Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper • Stem – consumables, electronics • Mathematics – numeracy materials • English – Reading Books, consumables • Sports – equipment • ICT – support with laptops and iPads • Online learning subscription for Maths programs etc • Japanese – Online subscriptions and class materials • Photocopying and printing for students • Wellbeing materials for classrooms	
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$421.50
<i>Curriculum Contributions Year 3 – Year 6: Classroom consumables, materials & equipment</i> • Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper • Stem – consumables, electronics • Mathematics – numeracy materials • English – Reading Books, consumables • Sports – equipment • ICT – support with laptops and iPads • Online learning subscription for Maths programs etc • Japanese – Online subscriptions and class materials • Photocopying and printing for students • Wellbeing materials for classrooms	
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$480.50

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<i>Student and Parent Communication Tools e.g. Compass</i>	\$37.50
<i>Student wellbeing programs & Whole School In visits</i>	\$62.50
<i>First aid equipment and Hygiene costs</i>	\$32.50
<i>Building & Grounds maintenance and improvements</i>	\$50.00
Total Other Contributions	\$182.50

Tax deductible contributions

Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support major projects enhance our facilities and contribute to long term improvements benefiting students, beyond the scope of regular maintenance projects. (Suggested amounts \$100,150,200, \$500).

\$

The Building Fund supports major projects that enhance our facilities and contribute to long-term improvements benefiting students, beyond the scope of regular maintenance. Past projects have included the COLA (Senior and Junior), the Art room and the Athletics track. We are now seeking donations to fund future initiatives.

***Please note donations to the Building Fund are tax deductible. A receipt will be issued via compass for your records. The amounts above are suggested amounts only.**

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

Gardenvale 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 extracurricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities		Amount
Year Level	Optional Items	TBA
Prep	Excursions/Incursions	TBA
	Swimming	TBA
Year 1	Excursions/Incursions	TBA
	Swimming	TBA
Year 2	Excursions/Incursions	TBA
	Swimming	TBA
Year 3	Excursions/Incursions	TBA
	Swimming	TBA
	Athletics Carnival	TBA
	Year 3 Camp	TBA
Year 4 & Year 5	Excursions/Incursions	TBA
	Swimming	TBA
	Athletics Carnival	TBA
	Year 4 or Year 5 Camp	TBA
Year 6	Excursions/Incursions	TBA
	Swimming	TBA
	Athletics Carnival	TBA
	Swimming Carnival	TBA
	Interschool Sports	TBA
	Year 6 Camp	TBA
	Graduation	TBA
	Year 6 Hoodie	TBA

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$
Other Contributions <i>(Non-tax deductible)</i>	\$
<i>(Tax-deductible)</i>	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$
Total	\$

Payment methods

The school's preferred method of payment is via the Compass app.
Payments can also be at either school office via Eftpos.

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

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.