



# Botanic Ridge

**Botanic Ridge Primary School**

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ABN 15 844 788 679

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Dear parents/guardians,

Botanic Ridge Primary School is looking forward to a positive and productive year of teaching and learning again in 2026!

The attached information is to advise you of Botanic Ridge Primary School's request for voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

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 continue to offer the best possible education and support for our students.

We value your contributions in supporting our school's programs and resources. The contributions go specifically towards items and activities that support and improve your child's educational experience. Your support via voluntary parent contributions allows us to:

- Provide all student stationery and resources in the classroom, rather than asking parents to purchase bookbags from external suppliers.
- Maintain literacy and library resources to ensure all students have access to high quality reading programs and materials.
- Provide hands on maths equipment in each classroom.
- Provide high quality and specific subject materials, resources and equipment for our specialist programs of Art, Music, STEM, Indonesian and Physical Education.
- Provide literacy and mathematics online digital subscriptions including Maticific
- Provide one to one shared I pads and/or Chromebooks in the classroom.
- Support staff professional development
- Provide whole school activities and celebrations, and so much more.

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

We want to thank you for your continued support, via parent contributions, fundraising or volunteering your time. This makes a huge difference to our school and the quality of programs, facilities and resources we can offer.

Yours sincerely,

Megan Comben  
Acting Principal

Melissa Hill-Thompson  
School Council President

## PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS 2026

<b>Curriculum Contributions</b> - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	<b>Amount</b>
Classroom consumables, materials & equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared classroom stationery, consumables and materials</li> <li>• Literacy – reading resources and diaries</li> <li>• Mathematics – resources and equipment</li> </ul>	\$ 145
Specialist Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art, STEM, Music, Indonesian &amp; PE resources, materials and equipment</li> </ul>	80
ICT Devices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ipad and Chromebook Class Sets program contribution</li> </ul>	10
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	15
<b>Total Curriculum Contributions per Student</b>	<b>\$ 250</b>

**If you would like to make further contributions of your choice:**

<b>Other Contributions</b> - for non-curriculum items and activities	<b>Amount</b>
ICT/STEM Resource additions (suggested amount \$20 welcomed)	\$
Outdoor Facilities Upgrades & Maintenance (suggested amount \$20 welcomed)	\$
General Contribution (suggested amount \$10 welcomed)	\$
<b>Total Other Contributions</b>	<b>\$</b>

### **Total (for your records only)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 250
Other Contributions	\$
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>

## Payment methods

**2026 Parent contribution payments can be made via the Payment Centre on Compass. Please follow the tile on the portal or app to complete your payment.**

It is suggested choosing from the following options:

1. Pay in full at any time, however it would be appreciated if contributions could be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2026.
2. Pay via two instalments, \$125 by 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2026, and \$125 by 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2026
3. Pay via four instalments, \$70 by 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2026, \$60 by 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2026, \$60 by 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2026 and \$60 by 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2026.
4. Payment of any amount of your choice at a time that suits your circumstances. The Payment Centre on Compass allows you flexibility to make **payments or instalments of your choice at any time**.

You may also make payments with cash or EFTPOS at the school office.

School Savings Bonus funding is not able to be used for voluntary contributions. These funds can be used for uniforms and extra-curricular activities.

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

Botanic Ridge 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. These include excursions and incursions, sports, camps, swimming and other whole school activities.

**The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised and charged throughout the year.**

Consent and payment for these activities will be requested through Compass as they arise.

## Financial Support for Families

Botanic Ridge Primary School 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
- Centrepay, via Centrelink

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss flexible payment arrangements, please contact the Business Manager, Trisha Brumbaugh on 5992 7900.

## 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 requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) 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.