SWAN HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

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PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS 2024

Dear parent/guardian,

This document provides you with information regarding your child/ren's parent payment arrangements for 2024, including payment methods and assistance available. Swan Hill Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all families.

Swan Hill Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Swan Hill Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

In an endeavour to reduce costs to our families and simplify the back-to-school process, we are pleased to advise that families will have the option to place their stationery orders online with <u>Education Plus</u>.

Payments for Stationery Packs for 2024, as well as Curriculum Contributions and Other Contributions can all be made via Education Plus's online Booklist ordering system. Further information on the ordering process is provided on the following page.

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 is through financial contributions, supporting fundraisers or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support allows us to

- provide enhanced digital learning opportunities within all subjects
- employ additional classroom support in literacy and numeracy
- continue our Instrumental Music Program
- upgrade of our schools' provisions and facilities
- refurbish school grounds
- run enhanced Art and Science activities, above the standard curriculum
- provide enhanced extra-curriculum experiences
- provide enhanced student health and wellbeing support
- purchase extra readers and numeracy resources
- administrate intervention programs
- arrange extra sporting events

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

Yours sincerely,

Principal

Melanie Bennet

School Council President

Educational items for students to own:

Swan Hill Primary School recommends families purchase the required educational items for their children, in the form of a Stationery Pack, from **Education Plus.**

These items are for your child to individually own and use. All prices include GST

| Item | Prep | Yr 1 | Yr 2 | Yr 3 | Yr 4 | Yr 5 | Yr 6 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Stationery Pack (approx. prices) | \$70 | \$75 | \$80 | \$65 | \$65 | \$70 | \$65 |

Families are encouraged to place their orders for Stationery Packs online using Education Plus's website, where they can also make Curriculum Contributions and Other Contributions to be passed onto the School (more information on Contributions on the following page).

Stationery Packs will be delivered direct to classrooms ready for the first day of school. Items required to be named, covered, etc. will be sent home during the first week of school.



TO ENSURE DELIVERY PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, PLEASE PLACE YOUR ORDER BY FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER.

If you cannot order before Friday 15th December, please contact the School to make arrangements.

Online Ordering Information:

For a fast, simple and secure way to place your order visit www.edplus.com.au and follow these steps:



All other schools login with the code supplied by the school or

the login number on the front of your printed booklist.

Click on the 'Booklist' button.

• Enter the <u>code</u> below, for your child's 2024 year level then click continue:

YEAR 4 - SHP42024S

YEAR 5 - SHP52024F

YEAR 6 - SHP62024B

- Tick the box in the blue banner beside 'B- Curriculum Contributions' to add contributions, then enter amount/s against your relevant items.
- Click Add to Cart, to review your cart and then Click 'Go to Checkout.
- Enter details and click 'Confirm Order' and then 'Place Order'
- Proceed to Payment by credit card.

You will receive an order confirmation via email

PREP - SHP02024R **YEAR 1 - SHP120240 YEAR 2 - SHP22024P YEAR 3 - SHP32024Y**

Parents are welcome to source their items from other suppliers, please see the Office for a list of recommended items.

Code *:

Curriculum Contributions:

Items (additional to the Stationery Pack) and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum:

| Year Level | Prep | Yr 1 | Yr 2 | Yr 3 | Yr 4 | Yr 5 | Yr 6 |
|--|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total recommended Curriculum Contribution | \$85 | \$85 | \$85 | \$260 | \$240 | \$230 | \$230 |

| Detailed break-down of recommended Curriculum Contributions | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Classroom consumables, materials & equipment • Classroom & Specialist subject consumables | Prep-Year 2: \$35 Year 3-6: \$40 | | | |
| Online subscriptions • Reading Eggs • Essential Assessment | Prep-Year 4: \$20 Year 5 & 6: \$10 | | | |
| Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials | <u>Prep-Year 2</u> : \$20 <u>Year 3-6</u> : \$10 | | | |
| Swimming and water safety program Supports the provision of Swimming Instruction sessions through the year | \$10 (CSEF can be used) | | | |
| ICT Devices Provision of a Netbook for individual use for the 2024 School Year. | Year 3: \$180 Year 4-6: \$160 | | | |

Other Contributions:

| Non-curriculum items and activities | Recommended Contribution |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Canteen Donation Due to increased running costs, loss of income due to COVID-19 and difficulty in having sufficient volunteers to assist our Canteen Manager, we request financial assistance to sustain a full five-day service. The Canteen is not a fundraising undertaking but strives to provide a service to parents at neutral running cost to School Council. | \$20 Per family |
| School grounds maintenance and improvements We are continually improving the school grounds and hope parents will support this request with a donation to help us to create and maintain the best possible outdoor environment for our students. | \$50 Per family |
| Total Other Contributions | \$70 Per Family |

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

(provided on a user-pays basis)

Swan Hill 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.

These are the approximate costs to expect for 2024, to assist families with planning:

| Extra-Curricular Items and Activities (optional) | Prep | Yr 1 | Yr 2 | Yr 3 | Yr 4 | Yr 5 | Yr 6 |
|--|---|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| School Photos | Individual student packages ranging from approx. \$25 to \$70, Family packages from \$10 to \$50. | | | | | | |
| School Camps | | | \$100 | \$270 | \$400 | \$350 | \$350 |
| Visiting Performances | 2 Performances for the year totalling approx. \$12 | | | | | | |
| Excursions | | \$50 | | | | | |
| SSV Summer Sports | | | | | | \$5 | \$5 |
| SSV Winter Sports | | | | | | \$5 | \$5 |
| Instrumental Music Tuition | | | | | | \$160 | \$160 |
| Year 6 Polo Shirt | | | | | | | \$30 |

Payment Methods

We offer a variety of payment options to assist our families -

Preferred Payment Method for Stationery Packs, Curriculum Contributions & Other Contributions:

Education Plus website – Stationery Pack Third-Party Supplier
 (Available from Monday 13th November – Friday 15th December 2023 only.

Other Payment Methods available:

- Payment at our General Office (EFTPOS/Cash) or use of Credit Funds held at Office (contact School)
- BPay (Biller Code & Reference No. available from school)
- Direct Deposit (BSB 063-529 Account 10043033)
- Centrepay (contact the School for details)

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) for parents/carers holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents which is current on the first day of school.
- Centrepay (a free payment option provided by Centrelink for families in receipt of a Centrelink payment. It allows families to select a one-off or continuing payment which is deducted from Centrelink benefits. Applications can be made online or over the phone quoting Swan Hill Primary School's CRN 555099468V).
- State Schools Relief -Assistance

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact Hayley Doyle on 03 5032 1336 or Hayley.Doyle@education.vic.gov.au,

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 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.