



Caledonian Primary

A TRIBES COMMUNITY

Thompson Street, Brown Hill, 3350

Post Office Box 1172, Mail Centre Ballarat 3354

P: 5332 6955 F: 5332 4445 caledonian.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

10th December, 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

2019 Parent Payments & Voluntary Contributions

At Caledonian Primary School, we aim to provide a stimulating learning environment where students have access to the necessary resources and facilities to support their development as life-long learners and prepare them for the future. This encompasses our digital technologies as well as other learning resources, grounds and facilities.

On an annual basis, School Council prepares a budget to provide resources for educational programs, administration, facilities development and maintenance, and classroom supplies. The contributions provided by our parent community are a vital element within this process.

The Department of Education and Training (DET) Parent Payments in Victorian Government Schools policy provides advice on the different types of payments that schools can request from parents and outlines the procedures and protocols schools must adhere to.

This policy is available from the Department's School Policy and Advisory Guide at www.education.vic.gov.au/spag.

School Councils are responsible for developing and approving a school-level Parent Payment Policy that is compliant with the Department's policy. This is available on the school website.

There are three areas for which parents may reasonably be requested to make a payment or contribution:

Essential Student Learning Items are essential to support student learning of the standard curriculum.

These are items which students take temporary or permanent possession of and activities or services that all students are expected to attend.

Optional Items are those items, activities or services that are offered in addition to or support instruction in the standard curriculum program.

These are provided on a user pays basis so that if parents choose to access them for students, they are requested to pay for them.

Voluntary Financial Contributions are where parents can be invited to make a donation to the school for a general or specific purpose, eg. School grounds projects, new equipment etc.

We are conscious of the current economic situation and that the costs incurred can create financial difficulties. School Council spends much time and effort in considering the school's position and aims to keep costs to families at a minimum whilst also enabling the school to continue providing the high quality learning and standards that we have come to expect at our school.

We wish to make the payment process as user friendly and supportive as possible. Payments can be made by credit card, cash, cheque, Bpay or eftpos. An instalment payment plan is also available for those who wish to pay by instalments. Please contact the office if you wish to proceed in this way.

We ask that all payments are made by the **28th February**, unless other arrangements have been made. In 2019 the student's books will be delivered directly to your child's classroom at the start of the year.

Headphones will **not be included** in the book packs this year and we ask parents/carers supply a pair for the start of the year. The headphones will need to have an auxiliary cable and sit over the ears.



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Please see a list of the Parent Payment charges for the 2019 school year.

Category	Items Included	Charge for P-2 in 2019	Charge for 3-6 in 2019
Essential Education Items	Stationary including items such as books, writing materials, erasers, glue sticks, paper, tissues, Home reading diaries Art, Science and STEM levies for consumable materials Use of 1:1 Chromebook in Years 3-6 Access to banks of iPads in P-2 Resilience Project Journal	\$140	\$215
Optional Educational Items	Extra-curricular programs or activities offered in addition to the standard curriculum such as instrumental music tuition; fees for guest speakers; optional camps and excursions; incursions, entry fees to school-based performances, productions and events.	To be advised throughout the year as events come up.	To be advised throughout the year as events come up.
Voluntary Financial Contributions	Garden & Grounds maintenance & beautification.	\$20 per family	\$20 per family

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply for CSEF (Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund). Applications for this funding will be available from the school office. Payments will go directly to the school and be attached to each student. Any remaining funds from 2018 will be available to be expended in 2019 against camps, sports and excursions/incursions.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss your circumstances and the options available to you, please contact the school's Business Manager Pam Thacker or myself.

We thank you for your support through the payment of our 2019 contributions.

Kind regards,

Brea Terris
Principal