

Voluntary Financial Contributions 2022



Dear Abbotsford Primary School families,

We are looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the voluntary financial contributions for 2022.06

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's through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

The Department of Education and Training has recently conducted major reforms to the Parent Payments Policy. For further information on the Department's latest Parent Payments Policy please see a one-page overview attached.

SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2022

Voluntary contributions from families account for approximately 25% of the school's annual operating costs (excluding staff salaries.) The contributions play a vital role in ensuring that the school can continue to offer an excellent teaching and learning program, as well as an array of activities and opportunities for students.

Abbotsford Primary School appreciates that the pandemic may have impacted families in different ways. In the spirit of diversity and inclusion, we recommend families make voluntary contributions in consideration of one's own circumstance, as well as that of others in the community where there is capacity.

The following table summarises the suggested amounts for each category of contributions.

CATEGORY	SUB-CATEGORY	SUGGESTED AMOUNT
Curriculum Contributions	Standard	\$ 330.00
	For Chinese Heritage (Native) Speakers only*	(+ \$ 50.00)
Other Contributions	Non-Curriculum Items and Activities	\$ 120.00
	"Make a Difference" Fund	(+ \$ 50.00)
	APS Building Fund (Tax Deductible)	(+ \$ 200.00)
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities		TBA

For a detailed breakdown of the contribution amounts, please see Page 3.

MAJOR CHANGES & KEY INITIATIVES FOR 2022

- In light of the improvements made to our teaching and learning program during remote learning, a significant portion of curriculum contributions will now be used to fund the school's **technological equipment** and **digital subscriptions** (including online libraries.)
- To support the ongoing monitoring of student progress in both English and Chinese, the school is now investing in new **assessment tools** to gain more accurate data.
- In 2021, APS introduced an extension program for ***Chinese native-speaker students**, but significant investment in staffing resources is required to ensure the continuing success of this program.
- The digitalisation of administrative processes and student management through **Compass**.
- Investment in **Oliver**, a new library and borrowing system for tracking of school assets.
- **Enhanced wellbeing support** planned for the new Wellbeing Centre, including the Fathering Project.

PAYMENT METHODS

We offer the following payment methods to assist our families:

1. Payment in full: Compass, EFTPOS, direct deposit (available upon request)
2. Compass instalment plan via a valid/debit card (4 x equal instalments debited on the following dates):
26/11/2021 26/01/2022 26/02/2022 26/03/2022
3. Personalised payment plans via Compass are available. Please contact Marianna Karagkounis on 03 9428 5977 or abbotsford.ps@education.vic.gov.au to help set up this payment plan.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Abbotsford 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)
- Payment by instalment

For a confidential discussion about accessing any of these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact our Business Manager (from 2022), Marianna Karagkounis on (03) 9428 5877 or abbotsford.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Kind Regards,



Stanley Wang
Principal



Melissa Hii
School Council President

Voluntary Financial Contributions 2022



**ABBOTSFORD
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Name of Child: _____

Year Level / Class (2022): _____

CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS – Items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum. ^Key 2022 Initiatives		
ITEM	SPECIFICATIONS	AMOUNT
General Classroom Materials	Shared classroom stationery, paper, craft items, readers, posters/charts	\$ 100.00
Photocopying and printing	Printed learning resources	\$ 40.00
Subject Specific Materials and Equipment	Equipment for Specialist Subjects (Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Science, PE & Digital Tech / Vietnamese, Wellbeing)	\$ 50.00
Digital Subscriptions for Learning^	ArchChinese, Inquisitive, MAPPEN, Maths 300, Top Maths, Seesaw	\$ 20.00
Library Subscriptions for Chinese and English^	Animated Story House, Mandarin Matrix*, OverDrive*, Renaissance* (*Exact subscription TBC)	\$ 40.00
Technology and IT Equipment^	Provision and upkeep of (old and new) school devices, peripherals, and ICT	\$ 50.00
Testing and assessment^	PAT Reading, Youth Chinese Test, Children’s Chinese Competency Certification	\$ 30.00
		SUB-TOTAL
		\$ 330.00
Chinese Heritage Speaker Support	Additional resources and staffing (outside of standard provision)	\$ 50.00
		CONTRIBUTION

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS - For non-curriculum items and activities ^Key 2022 Initiatives # Suggested contribution per family, ALL contribution amounts will be accepted *Tax Deductible		
ITEM	SPECIFICATIONS	AMOUNT
Compass Software^	Student financial and administration software, management tool and communication platform	\$ 30.00
Oliver Software^	New library management software	\$ 10.00
First aid and Hygiene	Contribution towards, first aid and hygiene consumables	\$ 20.00
Enhanced Wellbeing Support^	Equipment and in-house programs for the new Wellbeing Centre	\$ 20.00
School Garden	Upkeeping of garden beds, chicken coops and student-led Gardening Club	\$ 10.00
Chinese Cultural Program	Chinese New Year, Dragon Boat Festival, Moon Lantern Festival celebrations	\$ 30.00
		SUB-TOTAL
		\$120.00
“Make a Difference” Fund #	For families in need of support with school fees	\$ 50.00
Abbotsford Primary School Building Fund* #	Acquiring, constructing, or maintaining the school building	\$ 200.00
		CONTRIBUTION

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum. Students access these on a user pays basis.		
ITEM	SPECIFICATIONS	AMOUNT
Camps, Sports, Activities and Excursions	Camps, excursions, incursions, sporting days, interschool sport. (These will all be published on Compass for payment and consent as they arise.)	TBA

Total Contributions: \$ _____

Payment Method: _____

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.