

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

## RIVER GUM PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS 2021



Dear Parent/Carer,

River Gum Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of River Gum Primary School's payment arrangements for 2021.

The River Gum Primary School Council has now approved the school's parent payment charges for 2021. Please find the fee schedule for your child's year level attached.

River Gum Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents.

### Financial Support for Families

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

- The Camps Sports & Excursion Fund (CSEF) is available for eligible families. Application forms will be sent out at the start of 2021 for new families or newly eligible families. Parents who currently receive the CSEF and who remain eligible will have their 2021 application automatically processed.
- Second hand uniform, if available
- State Schools Relief support is available for uniforms/footwear (via the School Wellbeing Team)
- Information regarding support options is also available from the general office and will be advertised periodically in the Newsletter and on the website.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, families are invited to contact the Wellbeing Team for information regarding support options, or the Business Manager if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, on 9799 1216.

### Payment Methods

Parents may choose to make payments in full or in instalments, and will be provided with several methods of making payment including:

- BPAY Biller Code 87361 Reference No:(refer to family statement or contact office)
- EFTPOS card at office, or over telephone 9799 1216
- Cash payment at Office, during office hours

Parents are able to enter into confidential payment arrangements by contacting the Business Manager on 9799 1216 or [river.gum.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:river.gum.ps@education.vic.gov.au).

### Refunds

Please refer to our Parent Reimbursement Policy located on the River Gum Primary School website.

### Department Parent Payment Policy

For further information on the Department's Parent Payment Policy please see a summary of the main principles in the one page overview.

Yours sincerely,

Roma McKinnon  
Principal

Ben Goetjens  
School Council President

# PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

## ONE PAGE OVERVIEW

The following is a summary of the main principles of the Parent Payments Policy:



### FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.



### PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

- Schools do not ask parents to pay for school operating costs (e.g. utility costs) or general and unspecified charges.
- Schools request payments from parents under three categories:

#### Essential Student Learning Items

- Items and activities which the school deems essential for student learning.
- Parents may choose to purchase essential items through the school or provide their own.

#### Optional Items

- Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum.
- These are provided to students on a user-pays basis.

#### Voluntary Contributions

- Voluntary contributions support the school to continue to be the best local school for all students and can be for general or specific purpose.
- Students will not be disadvantaged in any way if parents do not make a contribution.



### 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 obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and upload their arrangements on their school's public website for transparency.