

8th November 2023

2024 Parent Payment Arrangements and Voluntary Financial Contributions

Dear parents/guardians,

River Gum Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

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 would like to thank you for all your support, whether that's through fundraising activities or attending school events and activities. Your contributions have made a significant difference in the quality of programs we are able to offer.

Your support in 2023 has allowed us to provide:

- A wider offering of high-quality specialist subjects and equipment for Music, Art, PE and Science.
- Digital learning subscriptions and equipment to enhance and personalise learning opportunities in English & Mathematics
- Standardised curriculum consumables for student learning
- Essential Wellbeing and Engagement activities for students and families
- Extra-curricular swimming, excursion and camping programs
- Facilities upgrades including the resurfacing of our oval, and installation of a new mini-futsal oval and senior playground shade sail.

Additionally, our School Council is proud of the high-quality facilities and resources we are able to provide to our students through your valuable voluntary contributions.

Please find attached River Gum Primary School's voluntary contributions schedule for 2024.

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

Yours sincerely,



Robyn Trzeciak
Principal



Nicole Miles
School Council President

2024 VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEDULE

Curriculum Contributions	Amount
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum - Classroom consumables will be provided to students within the classrooms throughout the year as required. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Consumables, shared resources, materials and equipment • Student Diary – Berry Street Wellbeing Program • Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials • Art Scrapbook and art supplies 	\$70
Digital Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision and upkeep of 1:1 school devices, peripherals and ICT 	\$20
Online Subscriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seesaw (\$7) • mClass Amplify - reading application (\$10) • Essential Assessment (\$13) 	\$30
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$20
Total Amount	\$140

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES

River Gum Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

Additional information will be distributed regarding these items and activities.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
YEAR 4 - Optional City Camp - 27-28 th March (CSEF may be used if eligible)	\$180
YEAR 6 – Optional Philip Island Camp – 8-10 th May (CSEF may be used if eligible)	\$330
Other optional excursions to be scheduled throughout the year	To be advised

School Photos will be offered through an external company.

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 2024 for new families or newly eligible families. Parents who currently receive the CSEF and who remain eligible will have their 2024 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:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| - QKR app | Preferred method of payment |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Download QKR app• Instructions attached• Please contact office if you would like assistance |
| - BPAY | Biller Code 87361 Reference No:(refer to family statement or contact office) |
| - EFTPOS | Present card at office, or call telephone 9799 1216 |
| - Cash | Payment at Office during office hours 8am – 4pm |

Parents are able to enter into confidential payment arrangement plans by contacting the Business Manager on 9799 1216 or river.gum.ps@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. Please refer to our Parent Payment Reimbursement Policy located on the River Gum Primary School website.

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) including the VCE Vocational Major 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.



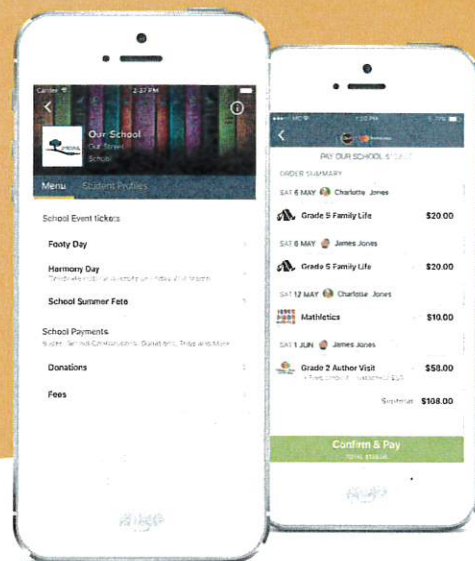
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For quicker, hassle-free school payments, try Qkr! today

Introducing Qkr! (pronounced 'quicker') by Mastercard, the secure and easy way to order and pay for school items from your phone at a time and place that suits you.

With Qkr you can:

- Pay for a variety of school items;
- See your receipts on the app and get them sent by email if required.



Getting started is easy - try it yourself today

Step 1 Download Qkr!

on your Android phone or iPhone. iPad users can download iPhone app



Step 2 Register

Select your Country of Residence as 'Australia' and follow the steps to register

Step 3 Find our school

Our school will appear in 'Nearby Locations' if you're within 10kms of the school, or search for our school by name.

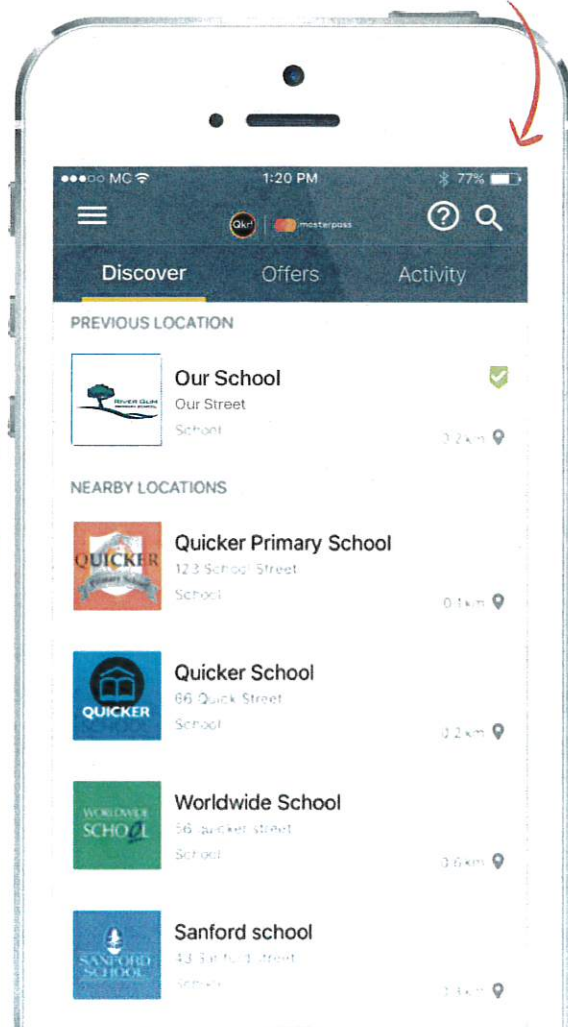
Step 4 Register your children

When first accessing our school you will be prompted to add a student profile for your child. This allows you to make orders and payments for them.

If you have made a purchase you can select our school from 'Previous Location'

If you're within 10 kms of the school, you can select our school from 'Nearby Locations'

Search for our school name

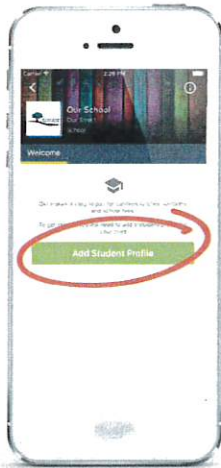




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Add your children's details in Student Profiles

Select
'Add student profile'



Add each
child's details

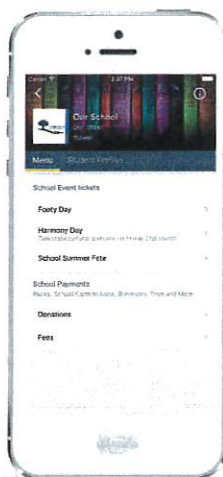


Manage each
child's details in
Student Profiles



Purchase school items

Select a menu
from our school

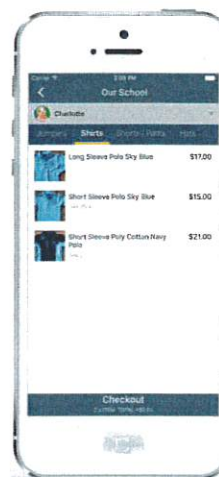


Select child
you are
ordering for



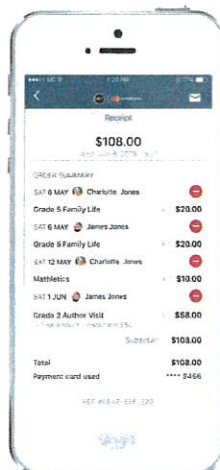
Select your items

Tap 'Checkout'
then confirm and pay



Making payments

Add up to 5 cards to your wallet



At checkout select which card to
pay with.

Pay with any cards accepted
by the school.

Once your payment is approved you
can continue to the home page, or
view your receipt.