



VERMONT SOUTH SPECIAL SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers

Vermont South Special School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Vermont South Special School's parent payment arrangements for 2022.

Vermont South Special School will **not** request parent payment for Essential Student Learning Items.

Vermont South Special School can request payment for Optional Items. These are items, activities or services that are optional and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum. Items can include school photos and camps, excursions and incursions, graduation books.

Vermont South Special School invites general tax deductible Voluntary Contributions.

Vermont South Special School appreciates that not all families are in the same financial position and has therefore given parents the flexibility to choose the amount of their donation and the most suitable time and method for payment.

Financial Support for Families

Vermont South Special School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- Second hand and low cost options e.g. school clothing pool, low cost suppliers
- State Schools Relief
- Local community supports

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact:

Jane Henderson

Principal

Ph: 03 98028199 | Email: vermont.south.ss@education.vic.gov.au

Payment Methods

Please call the school office to make payments

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

Yours sincerely,

Jane Henderson

Principal

Jodi Vale

School Council President

Optional Items

Vermont South Special School offers a range of optional items and activities that are additional to the delivery of the standard curriculum. These items and activities are designed to broaden the school experience for your child. If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child, please indicate on the table below.

Optional Item	Amount
<i>Camps (for Middle section and Senior section)</i>	<i>To be advised</i>
<i>Graduation book</i>	<i>To be advised</i>
<i>Excursions</i>	<i>To be advised</i>

Voluntary Contributions

Vermont South Special School continues to welcome your voluntary contributions to support our school.

You can make a general voluntary contribution that goes towards all of our school's important priorities for 2022 as well as providing additional activities and services for all students.

Alternatively, you can make a voluntary contribution to any of the specific priorities outlined in the table below:

Your child will not be disadvantaged if you do not make a voluntary contribution. All records of voluntary contributions are kept confidential as well as your decision about whether to make a contribution or not.

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.