



## 2026 Parent Payment Arrangements

Dear Parents/Carers,

Lethbridge Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Lethbridge Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Your contribution of **\$200 per student** covers all of this and more!

- **Student Book Pack** – we have elected to purchase the student book boxes in bulk to keep the price as low as possible for families.
- **Literacy and Numeracy supplies**
- **ART, STEM, LOTE and PE supplies**
- **MARC Van**
- **Online subscriptions**
- **Incursions**

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, 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 is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Payment can be made the following ways:

- Over the phone or in person at the office;
- Via Compass from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026;
- By electing to use your Conveyance Allowance funds (for those eligible). Please email the school advising you wish to do this;
- Via BPay. Please contact us for your reference numbers;
- Via payment plan. Options include weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments. Please see Meagan in the front office if you wish to set up a payment plan.

Under the Department of Education [Parent Payments](#) policy, Victorian government schools are required to provide transparent information to their school community on voluntary parent contributions. Please find below our parent payment arrangements for 2026. For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see the one-page overview attached.

Yours sincerely,  
Chelsey Marks  
Principal

Mandy Humpage  
School Council President

<b>Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<p><b>Classroom consumables, materials &amp; equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Book Pack - exercise books, scrap books, pens, pencils, crayons, glue sticks, highlighters, whiteboard markers, scissors, ruler, rubber, sharpener</li> <li>• Mathematics – mathematics resource kits, counters, calculators</li> <li>• Art – ART supplies, paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper</li> <li>• STEM – coding equipment, science equipment</li> <li>• LOTE – language resources</li> <li>• Literacy – shared book sets, mentor texts</li> <li>• Physical Education – sports equipment</li> <li>• Printing and photocopying of learning materials</li> </ul> <p><b>Other items specific to each year level include</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reader cover, pencil case, grid books, display books, headphones/ear buds, whiteboard</li> </ul>	\$150
<p><b>Online subscriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essential Assessment</li> <li>• Compass</li> </ul>	\$10
<p><b>MARC Van</b></p> <p>The Mobile Area Resource Centre (MARC Van) is a small mobile library. The Van visits a small group of schools on the outskirts of Geelong on a two-week rotation. The MARC Van is filled with picture books, fictional novels, non-fiction books for students to borrow.</p> <p>MARC lessons allow students to share a book and connect their thinking with other areas of the curriculum.</p> <p>Our teachers work closely with the MARC Van teacher to communicate learning foci from the classroom to ensure this can be revisited during MARC sessions.</p>	\$20
<p><b>Incursions</b></p>	\$20
<p><b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b></p>	<b>\$200</b>

### Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Lethbridge 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 to deliver the Curriculum.

The cost of these excursions will be advised throughout the year and are provided on a user-pays basis.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Optional Camp (Years 3-6)	\$350 (approximate)
Optional District and Regional Sporting Events	\$10 (approximate, per event)
Optional Interschool sports program	\$TBC
Optional Year 6 Commemorative T-shirt	\$40 (approximate)
<b>Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities</b>	<b>\$TBA</b>

### Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (for eligible families);
- State Schools Relief (for eligible families); and
- Payment plans

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, please contact Meagan Whiting, Business Manager, on 5281 7214.

### Total

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 200
Other Contributions	\$ N/A
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$ Variable cost, user-pays basis
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$200</b>

### Payment methods


Payments can be made via Compass, BPay, over the phone or in person at the office. Please see page 1 for further details.

### Refunds

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and made on a case-by-case basis. 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	Other Contributions	Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.	Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.	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.