# parent paymentS policy

## one page overview

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

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|  | 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.
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|  | 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:

**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.

**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.
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|  | 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.
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|  | SCHOOL PROCESSES* Schools obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and upload their arrangements on their school’s public website for transparency.
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