



KEW EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL

No. 3161

14 November 2024

PARENT PAYMENTS 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Kew East Primary School (KEPS) has commenced planning for the 2025 school year, exploring a range of exciting opportunities to ensure every student enjoys a positive experience at our school. In 2024, KEPS once again achieved outstanding NAPLAN results and continued its proactive efforts to improve school facilities for the benefit of all students, including the upgrade of the senior school building and a planned upgrade to the senior and junior school playgrounds.

We are pleased to share that School Council has approved the parent payment charges for 2025. These funds will once again play a key role in supporting student learning and enriching the educational environment.

Kew East Primary School is recognised as one of the leading schools in Victoria, dedicated to providing an exceptional teaching and learning program. To sustain this high standard, we rely on the generous support of parents and carers through Voluntary School Council Contributions. These contributions are vital in ensuring we have the resources, equipment, and facilities needed to deliver a high-quality education experience for all students.

Contributions from parents and carers allow us to provide additional materials, resources and equipment, as well as maintain and improve our school facilities, ensuring the best possible education for your child.

School Council has again decided to purchase all student curriculum consumables in bulk in 2025. This approach helps reduce the ordering burden on families, keeps prices competitive, and ensures we provide the highest quality materials for our students.

In 2024, we were named in the top 50 primary schools (Government, Catholic and Independent), **being 34th out of all 1576 Victorian primary schools**, based on 2023 Year 5 NAPLAN data. This is because we deliver above just a standard education and to do this, we continue to rely on parent support to be able to offer such quality programs to our students.

Parent and Carer payments are made under three categories, Curriculum Contributions (for bulk ordered curriculum consumables), Other Contributions (previously known as voluntary contributions), along with Library and Building Trust donations (**trusts contributions are tax deductible**). In addition, Extra-Curricular Items and Activities are sent out via Compass throughout the year, including incursions, excursions and camps.

In accordance with Department of Education (DE) policy, regarding notification to parents of Curriculum Contributions and Other Contributions, parents are required to receive the financial contributions information 6 weeks prior to the end of the current school year.

School Council is responsible for developing and approving a school level parent payment arrangement that is compliant with the Department's policy. Parent payments for the 2025 school year will be **\$635**. This represents an approximate 2.5% increase on 2024 Curriculum Contribution fees. **Curriculum Contributions will be \$375, Other Contributions \$260. A suggested amount of \$100 per family or some other amount has been suggested for each of the Library Trust and Building Trust Contributions.**



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In determining the 2025 parent payments, the School Council Finance sub-committee has collaborated closely with the Principal Team to ensure these payments align with the school's projected budgetary needs for the year. Every effort has been made to keep these payments affordable for all families, while ensuring value for money.

Financial Support for Families

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

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)* - contact Karen Geddes, to discuss this option
- second hand uniform shop – contact office on 9859 2903
- negotiated payment plans – contact Principal, Matt O'Hern, should you wish to discuss this option

*The Camps Sports & Excursion Fund (CSEF) is available for eligible families who hold a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents. Contact the office for an application form. Parents who currently receive the CSEF and who remain eligible will automatically have their 2025 application processed by the school.

The \$400 school saving bonus cannot be used to pay curriculum contributions, however, there will be many other opportunities to use this bonus throughout the year.

If you wish to explore other payment options or if you have any queries about the above payments, please do not hesitate to contact the Principal, Matt O'Hern to discuss your concerns either by phone, 9859 2903 or email: kew.east.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Method of Payment

- **Payment can be made through the Compass Parent Portal. Please login to Compass and follow the prompts.**
- **Payments may be made for 2025 prior to the end of this year.**
- **Payment in full** must be received no later than **Friday 7 February 2025**

Refunds

Please view our refunds policy online. Please note that refunds are only available for excursions/incursions/camps where the supplier also agrees.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payment Policy please see a one page overview attached [here](#).

In anticipation, Kew East Primary School Council thanks you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Matt O'Hern
Principal

James Waterworth
School Council President



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1. Curriculum Contributions

- At Kew East Primary School, each year the school purchases essential goods, on behalf of parents/carers. These items are made available to students and avoid the need for parents to supply them. By purchasing these items on behalf of students we are able to obtain substantial discounts and provide a simple system where every child receives the required stationery.

Curriculum Contributions	Cost
Essential Stationery Exercise books, pencils, sharpener, ruler, pens, markers, crayons, textas, highlighters, erasers, glue sticks, scissors, display books, post-it notes, personal white board, sheet protectors, laminating pouches, sticky tape, masking tape, hand writing conventions book. Items may vary at each year level but typically include many of the above items along with other level specific items.	\$125
Art/Integrated materials	\$130
Paper (e.g. coloured, cartridge, cover lined)	\$75
Online subscriptions (PM eCollection, Sunshine online, teacher resource sites)	\$45
Total	\$375

Total Costs: \$375

2. Other Contributions

School Council invites parents to make a voluntary contribution to support the school for a number of services/programs, some of which are unique to KEPS. These programs are as follows:

Information Communication Technology (ICT)

- Although we receive some support from DE to fund ICT, we still need to contribute significant additional funds, if we wish to continue to provide state of the art technology for all students.
- Your contributions help us to provide the latest technology through the provision of classroom computers, iPads, iPad apps, and sets of laptop computers and STEM equipment.
- In 2024 we purchased 30 iPads and 10 new laptops for our four specialist learning areas of Art, Music, PE & Italian. We also continued to make leasing payments on 113 laptops across the school, at a total combined cost of \$90 000. Furthermore, 9 new digital TV screens were installed in the Senior Building uplift project, totalling close to \$25 000. Total spending in ICT in 2024 was close to \$150 000.
- In 2025, 80 new iPads will be purchased to replenish end-of-life iPads that need updating, as well as continuing laptop lease arrangements.
- We will continue to employ an additional local ICT technician, above what is provided by DE, to maintain our computers, laptops and iPads in good working order; provide IT support, and configure new equipment and loading of new software.

English and Mathematics

- On a yearly basis, we expand and replace sets of books for the teaching of reading and take-home books, beyond what is required for the standard curriculum. Constantly building up Maths resources



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including concrete materials, to be used for the teaching of the understanding of mathematical concepts.

First Aid

- KEPS provides a staffed first aid room, covering recess and lunch breaks. Very few primary schools provide such a service as this to their students but School Council has recognised and supported the importance of this service for a number of years now. This service is funded by voluntary contributions.

Music and Performing Arts Program

- The Music/Performing Arts Program at KEPS is unique in both the quality and the opportunities that it provides for students, far beyond the standard music program offered in primary schools across Victoria. Students are given the opportunity to experience the use of a large range of tuned and percussion instruments such as, marimbas and xylophones, and the use of technology, such as iPads, for creating compositions and recording performances. These instruments need replacement and upkeep to ensure they remain serviceable.

School Grounds and Buildings

Contributions provide resources to maintain and improve the physical surroundings of the school grounds and playground equipment.

In 2025 our main facility improvement works will include:

- Classroom and external building painting
- Further upgrades to lighting
- Enhancing play spaces through the purchasing of new playground equipment in the junior and senior school
- Replacement of the synthetic oval
- Replacing classroom furniture, whiteboards and pinboards
- Upgrading outdoor seating and drink fountains
- Employment of maintenance and gardening staff to maintain our school grounds

Total Other Contributions per student is **\$260**

Trust Donations – FULLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Voluntary donations to the KEPS Library Trust and KEPS Building Trust are greatly appreciated and further support school operations.

Kew East Primary School – Library Trust

The Library Trust Fund is used for the maintenance of the Library and for the purchase of library books and resource to enhance education.

- In 2025, furniture will be upgraded to ensure the space has increased functionality for students.
- Refurbishment works will be undertaken to reduce the space of the office, increasing floor space and functionality of the library.
- All donations to the library trust **are tax deductible.**

School Council recommends a donation of **\$100 or any other amount** per family with any extra amount being most welcome.



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Kew East Primary School – Building Trust

This trust has supported the school to complete several projects in 2024 including:

- Upgrading the senior school building, including replacing carpet, lights, interactive whiteboards, new cabinetry, extensive painting and upgrading electrical and data points.
- In 2025, funds from this account will support the renewal of student furniture, enhancing playground equipment and replacing the synthetic oval.
- Funds will also support the development of a KEPS STEM Centre
- All donations to the building trust **are tax deductible**.

School Council recommends a donation of **\$100 or other amount per family** but any extra amount would be most welcome.

3. Extra- Curricular Items and Activities

These items, activities or services are optional and are in addition to the standard curriculum. Extra Curriculum Items and Activities are offered on a user-pays basis where parents/carers may choose whether their child accesses or participates in. Examples of these activities include, camps, F-2 swimming, sport, excursions and band. These costs are issued either on a semester basis (Band) or per event or activity.

2025 OPTIONAL BAND PROGRAM

This program is optional for families to choose to participate in and is only available for Year 3-6 students. Program fees must be paid before your child commences band tutorial lessons.

Band Fees	Semester 1	Semester 2
Concert Band Social Band (Years 4 – 6)	Band Program Fees - \$365 *Instrument usage Hire Fees - \$ 275 (Annual) Percussion Hire - \$190 (Annual)	Band Program Fees - \$365
Beginners (Year 3)	N/A	Band Program Fees - \$365 *Instrument usage Hire Fees - \$165 Percussion Hire - \$100

*Should parents choose to hire instead of buying an instrument of their own