

CHALCOT LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

21st November 2023

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Chalcot Lodge is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Chalcot Lodge's 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. Chalcot Lodge makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents and 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's through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Without these contributions, the school would be unable to provide the comprehensive curriculum program that is currently available to students including the Well-being Program, STEM Program, coding and robotics, garden and kitchen classroom, Resilience Project (mindfulness) and to maintain a 1-to-1 ratio of devices.

Financial Support for Families

Chalcot Lodge understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports, and Excursions Fund
- individual payment plans

Camps, Sports, Excursion Fund (CSEF)

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps, and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:

\$125 for primary school students

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact: Narelle Coyne on 9700 4455.

Payment Methods

Payment in full via Compass Pay will be available from Wednesday 22nd November and all through the school holidays. Payments will also be accepted at the office from Wednesday 22nd November until Tuesday 19th December 2023. Families wishing to make payments via instalments need to visit the office to facilitate this arrangement.

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

Yours sincerely,

Paul Poliviou
Principal

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School Council President

CHALCOT LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL - No 5231

Parent Payments and Voluntary Financial Contributions for 2024

CHILD'S NAME: _____ YEAR LEVEL: TWO

<p><i>Curriculum Contributions - items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.</i> <u>Year 2 classroom consumables, materials, and equipment:</u> Megaspace Scrapbooks, Marker Faber-Castell Connector Pens Pk/12, Hexagonal Lead Pencils, pencil sharpener, ruler, eraser, Exercise Books Dotted Thirds 64pg 18mm, Display Books, A4 Refillable Green, Coloured Maxi Pencils Asst Pk/12, Scissors, Cover paper, A4 & A3 laminating pouches, transparent sheet protectors, A4 & A3 coloured paper, writing paper dotted thirds, glue sticks, circles assorted paper large & small, paper, whiteboard marker, red checking pencil. Handwriting First for Victoria Workbook, Mindfulness student book Printed learning resources Seesaw / Skooville <u>Subject specific material and equipment:</u> Student Well-being Program, STEM Program, Visual Arts Program, Performing Arts Program Items for use in Mathematics, English, Inquiry / Investigations, PE, Laptops & iPads for ICT Program</p>	\$250
<p><i>Other Contributions – contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.</i> Environmental Sustainability – kitchen garden, Coding & Robotics Programs Enhanced wellbeing support programs – psychologist Administrative & communication software – Compass, Grade Expert, Essential Assessment School Sports Vic Affiliation Grounds maintenance & improvements to school grounds Upgrades to student toilets, First Aid & hygiene</p>	\$50
<p>TOTAL SOUGHT PER STUDENT</p>	\$300

Extra-curricular Items and Activities

Chalcot Lodge 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.

It is estimated that during 2024 extra-curricular items which include: in-visits, excursions, Swimming Program, etc. will cost approximately \$200.

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 standard curriculum requirements in Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.
- 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.