



NEWMERELLA PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARENT PAYMENT CONTRIBUTIONS 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Newmerella Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Newmerella Primary School's Voluntary Financial Contributions for 2025.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian Curriculum 2.0 obligations, 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 wellbeing support for our students. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that's through our request for financial contribution, fundraising or volunteering your time. This makes a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Our school's income is currently funded from two sources:

Department of Education and Training (DET) Student Resource Package (SRP) - Provides for the teaching of the standard curriculum and basic operational costs such as school administration, utilities and services, staff salaries, urgent works, maintenance, cleaning and general school operations.

The payments and contributions provided by our parent community- As outlined in the curriculum and extra-curricular items and activities which is an essential component to our overall funding.

Within our school this support has allowed us to provide 2024:

- High quality programs and specialist class materials and equipment in Numeracy, Literacy, Physical Education, Spelling Mastery, STEAM, Art and Auslan.
- Enhanced learning opportunities through the upkeep of our computer and IPAD devices and purchase of IT literacy and numeracy apps.
- Sufficient class sets and take-home readers for students to develop their reading skills.
- Online digital subscriptions.
- Allied Health Services (Play Therapy, Speech Pathologist and external professionals and resources).
- Medical support and first aid for all students throughout the day.
- School bikes and sporting equipment.
- Special occasion/celebrations.
- Cleaning contract.

The total Curriculum Contribution for 2025 is **\$300** per student.

Extra-Curricular Items & Activities

Newmerella 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. These are provided on a user-pays basis. All extracurricular activities will be charged to families as they occur such as camps, excursions, and incursions.

In Term 4, 2024, families with a child enrolled in a government school from Prep to Year 12 in 2025 will receive the one-off \$400 School Saving Bonus. The \$400 School Saving Bonus provides families with support for education-related costs, such as school activities and/or uniforms and textbooks.

Families may wish to allocate part or all of the School Saving Bonus towards the payments of excursions or activities.

Payment Methods

Cash or Cheques can be received at the school office

Direct Deposits - NAB BSB 083 001 Account 427881521

BPay - Contact the school office for BPAY codes

Centrepay deductions (centrelink) - Can be set up at the school office.

- An initial invitation for curriculum contributions will be sent 6 weeks prior to the commencement of the school year and requests will be sent out no more than once per term.
- All students have access to the standard Victorian Curriculum 2.0.
- Parents will be made aware of alternative payment options and an invitation to discuss these options on request to our office staff.
- Any record of payment or contributions by parents and guardians is to be kept confidential.

Refunds

Newmerella Primary school will consider requests for partial or full refunds of payments made by parents on a case-by-case basis taking into account the individual circumstances. Generally, we will not be able to refund payments made for costs that have already been paid where those funds have already been transferred to a third party. For example, camp costs when a child becomes unwell and cannot attend in circumstances where the payment has already been made or committed to a third party and no refund is available to the school.

Students Leaving Newmerella PS

If a student transfers to another Victorian school including Secondary, the unspent portion of the CSEF (for students who are eligible) will be forwarded to the student's new school so the student has access to the full value of the payment.

If a student leaves the Victorian school system, the CSEF receipt will remain with the school and may be used towards the expenses for siblings, or school incurred costs associated with operating camps, sports or excursion activities for students.

Credit amounts of parent payments (ie: Cash, Direct Deposit, Centrepay, BPay instalments) held at the time of the student leaving Newmerella Primary School will be refunded back to the parent.

For further information on our school curriculum contributions, extra-curricular items and the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see a one-page overview.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Walker
Principal

Joanne Austin
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<p>Year Prep-Grade 6 classroom consumables, materials and equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stationery and Classroom Materials - shared classroom stationery, paper, posters/charts, classroom libraries, craft items, readers. Textbooks. Art, Science and Book Week supplies and resources - paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, modelling materials, construction /assemblage materials, drawing equipment. Kitchen/Garden/Cooking ingredients. STEAM Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials for class and at home. Laminating pouches. 	\$155.00
<p>Year Prep-Grade 6 Subscriptions/ Affiliations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathletics. Spelling Mastery. IT Apps for literacy and/or numeracy/Communication School Sports Victoria Affiliation. MARC Van. 	\$40.00
<p>Year Prep-Grade 6 Whole school curriculum events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local class minor excursions which can include transport to and from all local events: - Examples- Swimming sessions, RSL - ANZAC, Winter sports practice, House Athletics, Athletic sports practice, Orbost Library, Coastal School, Cape Conran, Farm visits, OCC transition, Emergency Services Day, Landcare, cross country, The Arts etc. 	\$50.00
<p>Swimming Program at Lakes Entrance Aquadome and Orbost Outdoor Pool</p> <p>10 Lessons plus travel to Lakes Entrance</p>	\$55.00
Total Amount	\$300.00

Educational items for students to own

Our school purchases all stationery and student supplies in bulk and distributes them to the classrooms in preparation for the school year. These items are included in the Curriculum Contributions.

Financial Support for Families

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

- The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) (\$150)
- State School's Relief (SSR)
- School Breakfast Program
- Payment by instalments
- Centrepay - a free voluntary service for Centrelink customers to pay expenses as regular deductions from their Centrelink payments. Centrepay can help families to pay for many types of bills such as education expenses, childcare, rent, electricity, gas, water bills or medical services.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements please contact Sarah Walker or Wendy Matthews.

Phone: 03 5154 1620 Email: newmerella.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Please return this page to nominate your child's Extra Curricular Items for 2025

Student Name (s) _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Newmerella PS offers a range of items and activities that enhances or broadens the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child, please indicate on the table below and return this to the school by **the start of school 2025**.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities - opt in and user pays	Approximate Amounts	Purchase (Please tick)
Optional Grades 3 to 6 school camp Cottage by the Sea.	\$150.00 TBC	
Optional Grades 1 and 2 sleepover, day excursion and meals.	\$60.00	
Optional Grade Prep Day dinner and excursion.	\$40.00	
Optional Interschool Sports Program usually for Grades 3-6 students- bus fares- Usually around 4 per year.	\$15 - \$20 per trip	
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities – Payment not due to later during the year.		\$

Total

Category	
Curriculum Contributions	\$300
Other Contributions	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities amounts to be confirmed – (these are not due until during the 2025 year)	TBC



Please tick if you would like to use your CSEF, Centrepay or Bpay credits for 2025

Curriculum Contributions as well as Extra Curricular Activities.

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.