



4th November 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Parent Payments 2021

At Truganina South Primary School, we are committed to providing the very best education for all our students through high-quality programs and facilities. In Term 4 each year, School Council is required to develop a budget to ensure the adequate provision of resources for our educational programs, student wellbeing and physical resource development. Truganina South Primary School Council strives to keep the cost and number of items required to a minimum, ensuring they represent excellent value for money. The parent payments listed below are the minimum amount considered necessary to enable our school to provide the range of services, activities and resources that benefit all students at our school. Without payments from our families, our school would not be able to deliver the high-quality programs that our community deserves.

The Truganina South Primary School Council has approved the school's 2021 parent payment charges in line with DET guidelines. For further information on the Department's Parent Payment Policy please see the one page overview attached.

In light of COVID-19, we have made a number of important changes to our parent payments for 2021:

- Student wellbeing will be an even stronger focus with the Resilience Project and a GEM (Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness) Journal being introduced as part of our curriculum. The Resilience Project runs programs in schools around Australia. The aim of these programs is to develop students' resilience and improve their mental health. Next Year TSPS will take on the 'Partnership' Program. Teachers will undergo a professional development session, students will attend a fun presentation and a parent night will take place which will provide strategies for parents to support the development of a resilient child at home. As part of this program all students will receive a journal with activities to match the teaching that will take place. The Resilience Project curriculum is closely aligned to the personal and social capabilities in the Victorian Curriculum. This is a really exciting opportunity for our school to be part of this program. As wellbeing and mental health is a high priority and this program will support this work.
<https://theresilienceproject.com.au/education/>
- Introduction of individualised book pack items for students to minimise the need for shared resources
- Access to a variety of online learning apps

Please find attached an itemised list that includes Essential Student Learning items (those items that your child needs for school). Please note that additional school charges may arise during the year (eg. P-2 Swimming Program, camps and excursions that will support your child's learning).

Whilst payment is not required until the start of the 2021 school year, the first day of school is an extremely busy day for students. For this reason, we provide parents with the option to pay their **schools fees via Compass (our preferred method)** or in person prior to the end of Term 4, 2020 (Thursday 17th December). Please note that this will avoid any disruption to your child's first day of school for the 2021 year as well as ensuring sufficient book packs are ordered and delivered directly to your child's community in readiness for learning.

IMPORTANT: If paying in person, please be aware that there may be a long wait due to social distancing restrictions and the Department of Education's COVID Safe Guidelines currently in place. Therefore, we strongly recommend payment via EFTPOS, not CASH.

As a school, we appreciate that families may sometimes experience financial difficulty in meeting payment requests. A number of support options are available to parents who have difficulty making payments such as Centrepay. Other services provided are school based second-hand uniform shop and State Schools Relief.

In addition to this, the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund is a State Government initiative that provides assistance to eligible families with the cost of excursions and camps. Please note that an application form is attached.

If you feel you will have trouble in making the requested payments, please contact our Business Manager, Heather Johnson. Families who are experiencing hardship and feel they need further assistance are encouraged to contact either our Principal (Linda Danese) or Leading Teacher Wellbeing (Alex Wren). Any information in regards to your financial circumstances, payment arrangements and status will always be kept strictly confidential.

Additional Items:

1:1 iPad Program – Bring Your Own Device- (Not included in Essential Education Items)

Truganina South Primary School is promoted as a 21st Century School providing all students with the opportunity to engage with technologies that enhance their learning. To support your child/children's learning, this device must be brought to school, fully charged every day.

As part of this program, all families are strongly encouraged to equip their child with an iPad. These can be either an iPad Mini or full sized iPad.

The recommendations for 2021 are any of the current 2020 iPad models such as iPad Pro, iPad Air, iPad and iPad Mini. This would maximize the longevity of the device, however, the minimum requirements are an "iOS compatible" or "iPad 5th Generation" onwards. For storage purposes – minimum storage of 32GB is recommended so that your child can store photos and videos as well as their school work.

Our school has created a list of apps that are utilised to enhance your child's learning. Please visit our school website for this information.

Please visit our school website for the following information www.truganinasouthps.vic.edu.au:

- Refunds Policy
- CSEF Policy – Camps, Sports and Excursions Funding
- BYOD Policy – Bring Your Own Device
- DET Parent Payment Policy

It is also requested that you provide your child with the following items:

Art Smock for Visual Art Years 1 - 6

Gardening Gloves for Science/Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden

Apron for Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden

To ensure you are kept up to date with the many exciting developments happening at Truganina South Primary School, please ensure you regularly check Compass and your emails as this will be our preferred method of contact.

We thank you in advance for your support of our school and we look forward to working with you and your child in 2021.

Yours sincerely,

Linda Danese
Principal

Rhonda Velkovski
School Council President

2021 Truganina South Primary School Parent Payments

Please find attached the itemised list that includes Essential Student Learning Items (those items that your child needs for school) and Optional Items (that you can choose whether your child participates in or accesses).

We would appreciate payment by Thursday 17th December 2020, to enable book packs to be delivered directly to your child's community in readiness for the first day of school. However, payment is not required until school returns in January 2021

Payment Options

(a) PAYMENT ONLINE VIA COMPASS – Preferred Payment Option

Payments online via COMPASS can be made at your convenience at any time, no forms are required. Please be advised COMPASS payments must be received no later than Monday the 25th January 2021 in order for your child/children's book pack to be delivered to their community by the first day of school. There will be a delay in the delivery of book packs for payments made after this date.

OR

(b) PAYMENT VIA the SCHOOL OFFICE

Prepayments can be made at the office up until the Thursday 17th of December 2020.

IMPORTANT: If paying in person, please be aware that there may be a long wait due to social distancing restrictions and the Department of Education's COVID Safe Guidelines currently in place. Therefore, we strongly recommend payment via EFTPOS, not Cash.

The office will be open on Thursday 21st January 2021 between 8.30am and 4pm.

FAMILY SUPPORT OPTIONS

Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund (CSEF)

The Victorian Government has again committed to providing eligible students with Camps, Sports & Excursion funds (CSEF). These funds are paid to the school to use towards excursions, incursions and camps for eligible students. To be eligible for the funding, a parent or legal guardian must be the holder of a current Healthcare card or Pension card, or be a temporary foster parent on the first day of Term 1 or Term 2. Parents who are eligible for CSEF will be required to complete the CSEF application form attached. Applications close at the end of Term 2, 2021.

Centrepay

Centrepay is a free bill paying service offered by Centrelink to assist eligible Centrelink families to arrange for nominated payment amounts to be deducted at regular intervals. Should you chose this payment method, please contact our school office for further information.

It has always been the policy at Truganina South Primary School that our students should not miss out on opportunities due to financial hardship. No child is denied anything from the basic curriculum. If you have any questions, please contact the school on 03 9296 1800.