



BASS COAST SPECIALIST SCHOOL No. 8859

PO Box 640,
Wonthaggi, 3995
Phone: 03 5672 4474
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ABN: 56 707 345 164

31st January, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Bass Coast Specialist School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Bass Coast Specialist School's voluntary financial contributions for 2022.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum 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 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.

Within our school this support has allowed us to provide students with a wide offering of special curriculum experiences, enhanced digital learning, communication opportunities and extensive sensory supports.

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

Yours sincerely,

Rob Sands
Principal

Karen Pearce
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Classroom consumables, materials & equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper etc. (\$15.00) • Science & Technology – gardening tools, plants etc. (\$15.00) • Food Tech – food ingredients such as flour, butter etc. (\$25.00) • Mathematics – numeracy blocks (\$10.00) • English – readers, etc (\$5.00) • Sports – equipment (\$15.00) • Sensory items (\$5.00) 	\$90.00
Online Subscriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seesaw (\$12.50) • Sunshine Online (\$3.50) • Soundtrap (\$6.00) 	\$22.00
ICT Devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets	\$20.00
Communication tools - Assistive technology devices, displays	\$10.00
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$18.00
Whole school events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Houses Days (\$5.00) • School production (\$5.00) • Local Excursion Bus Travel Expenses (\$15.00) 	\$25.00
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
First aid	\$ 5.00
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$10.00
Total Amount	\$200.00

Educational items for students to own

We recognise that our students have personalised learning plans and as such, some students will use more of one particular item and less of another. Ultimately, we have averaged the items generally used and based our costing on this so that all students are supported. If you have any concerns regarding this approach, please contact the school office.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Bass Coast Specialist 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 in order 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 return slip on page 4 and return this to the school by Friday, 25th February 2022.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount	Purchase (Please tick)
<p>Optional swimming lessons</p> <p><i>This is an optional and additional program to the swimming and water safety program that we provide students for free as part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum. This is designed to further support students with their progress to learn to swim.</i></p>	<p>\$ Nil</p> <p>No cost for 2022</p>	
<p>Other optional camps and excursions to be scheduled</p> <p><i>Optional camps and excursions as scheduled throughout 2022. The cost of these excursions will be advised throughout the year.</i></p> <p>If your family qualifies, CSEF (Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be used)</p>	<p>TBA</p>	
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities		\$

Financial Support for Families

Bass Coast Specialist School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- contact the school for flexible contribution options

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact:

Christina Burns

Ph: 03 5672 4474 | Email: christina.burns@education.vic.gov.au

Total

Category	
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 185.00
Other Contributions	\$ 15.00
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – TBA	

Payment methods

Payments may be made either in cash, cheque, BPay, Compass Pay using the Compass Portal or via Direct Deposit. If you are depositing the money directly into our bank account, please use the student's name as a reference.

Direct Deposit Details:

Account Name: BC Specialist School Council
 BSB: 313140
 Account Number: 12003938
 Bank: Bank Australia

Refunds

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and made on a case-by-case basis. Refunds will be provided where the school deems it is reasonable and fair to do so, taking into consideration whether a cost has been incurred, the Department's Parent Payment Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy and any other relevant information.

Return Slip:

To assist with our record keeping, please complete that attached slip when making a payment:

✂.....

Child's Name: _____

Voluntary Financial Contributions for 2022

Curriculum Contributions - \$185.00 Amount \$ _____

Other Contributions - \$15.00 Amount \$ _____

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities (Optional Items) Amount \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

I have paid by: Cash (enclosed) Cheque (enclosed) BPay
 Compass Pay Direct Deposit

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.