

SCHOOL FEES POLICY

1. Introduction

Government schools (also known as public schools) are free to attend for Australian citizens and permanent residents. This means that the Government provides the building and grounds and the staffing. However, in addition to attendance fees, core curriculum resources, stationery, textbooks, uniforms, school camps and other schooling costs are not covered under government funding.

Mount Waverley North Primary School (MWNPS) is reliant upon the payment of School Fees by parents or guardians of students to enable the school to provide the essential educational items required to assist it to achieve the level of education expected of primary schools.

MWNPS School Council has resolved to develop a fee payment policy to promote and encourage the payment of School Fees fairly throughout the MWNPS school community.

2. Aim

The aim of the policy is to clearly define the School Fees required by MWNPS and to set out guidelines to assist in the balance between the School Fee payment requirements and student welfare.

3. Definitions

Compulsory Fees – These fees cover the payment of essential educational items and student requisites or materials required for use by students in the class room for LOTE, music, physical education, art and other school curriculum related activities throughout the school year.

School Fees – Compulsory Fees and Additional Contributions (either one and/or both)

Additional Contributions – These contributions are voluntary contributions covering other items required by the school to provide a better learning experience for the students including amongst other things Library material, the Digital Technologies program, building and grounds maintenance.

Extra Curricular Activity Fees – These fees include the cost of extra curricular activities which are offered to compliment the educational program on a user-pays basis e.g. camp, swimming

4. Guidelines

- 4.1. To ensure the school has the funds to provide the level of education expected of primary schools.
- 4.2. To comply with the requirements of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development policy for the collection of School Fees.
- 4.3. To assist in the balance between the School Fee payment requirements and student welfare.
- 4.4. To ensure that the funding of this level of education is fairly distributed throughout the school community.
- 4.5. To differentiate between the payment of School Fees and fees for extra curricular activities offered to compliment the educational programs provided by MWNPS.

5. Implementation

- 5.1. MWNPS shall notify all parents of the School Fees and the date for payment of those fees not less than six weeks before the due date for payment.
- 5.2. Payment is preferably made by one lump sum payment but can be made by two payments over the year. Those families experiencing difficulty with the payment of School Fees are encouraged to make an appointment with the Principal to confidentially discuss alternative payment methods.
- 5.3. If the Compulsory Fees have not been paid and no alternative payment arrangements made with the Principal, it will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian of the student to discuss with the principal alternative arrangements to provide the essential educational items and requisite materials.
- 5.4. If School Fees have not been paid, MWNPS may provide a statement of outstanding accounts.
- 5.5. The status and details of any payments by parents or guardians of students is confidential.
- 5.6. Payment may be made by cash, cheque, EFT, Bpay or a credit card approved by MWNPS.

6. Further Information

Any questions regarding this policy may be directed to the Principal.

The Department's policy may be viewed at: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/Pages/parentpayments.aspx>

Policy Approved by:	Education & Finance Committee – School Council
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