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golden.square.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Ph 5443 6877

27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear parent/carer/guardian,

Golden Square Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Golden Square Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2024. Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements 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.

Within our school this support has allowed us to:

- Provide high-quality programs and specific subject materials and equipment for English, Mathematics, Integrated Studies (includes Science and Humanities), Visual Arts, Performing Arts (includes Music, Drama and Dance), Health and Physical Education, Literature in the Library, Digital Technology, and Chinese)
- Maintain and develop the school grounds and buildings
- Purchase of an audio visual system for our gymnasium
- Arrange for individual student supplies and class bulk supplies which support families in our community
- Offer effective first aid for all children

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

We want to thank you for all your support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leanne Miller".

Leanne Miller  
Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Castles".

Lisa Castles  
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions Grade 1 - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Classroom consumables, materials & equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper (\$20.00)</li> <li>• Mathematics – concrete materials (\$15)</li> <li>• English – take home readers, classroom books (\$15)</li> <li>• Sports – equipment (\$10.00)</li> <li>• Digital Technology – specialised technology equipment and supplies – (\$10)</li> </ul>	\$ 70
Grade 1 ICT devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets	\$ 25
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$ 10
<b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 105</b>

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
Cultural Inclusiveness – supporting us to recognise and celebrate our cultural diversity.	\$20
Student wellbeing supports	\$20
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$20
<b>Total Other Contributions</b>	<b>\$60</b>

#### Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Golden Square Primary School offers a range of optional 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.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year. An estimated cost range has been provided to assist you with budgeting for this extra-curricular item or activity. Paying by instalments in the lead up to an event can be discussed and arranged dependent on the item or activity and the provider's conditions attached to this. Please contact Leanne Miller (Principal) or the Business Manager to discuss.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Excursion(s) and Incursion(s) to be scheduled and communicated throughout the year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estimated range for gymnastics program is \$45 to \$60</li> <li>• Estimated range for the Grade 1 excursion is \$50 to \$65</li> <li>• Estimated range for the Grade 1 Dinner &amp; Disco is \$5 to \$10</li> </ul> There is no charge for the additional swimming program days in 2024 due to additional funding received from the Department covering this expense for families. Other costs associated with excursions or incursions that arise throughout the year will be communicated in the timeliest manner possible.	TBA
<b>Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities</b>	<b>\$TBA</b>

### Educational items for students to own

Attached is a list of items that the school recommends you purchase from *Education Plus* for your child to individually own and use.

Please go to [www.edplus.com.au](http://www.edplus.com.au) and enter in our school login code: **GSPS12024G** to place your order online.

Orders must be completed **before Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December**. If you need assistance with lodging this order online, please don't hesitate to make contact with us and we will support you to do so.

The booklist items will be available for collection at the school on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

### Financial Support for Families

Golden Square 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)
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact Jo Jacobs (Business Manager) or Leanne Miller (Principal) either by phone on Ph: 03 5443 6877 or via email at [Joanne.Jacobs@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Joanne.Jacobs@education.vic.gov.au) or [Leanne.Miller@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Miller@education.vic.gov.au)

### Total

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 105
Other Contributions	\$ 60
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$ TBA
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 165 (plus extra curric. items and activities)</b>

### Payment methods

Payments can be made using any of the following methods:

- Payment in person by cash or card at the front office
- Electronic payment via Compass portal
- Electronic payment by direct credit.

**Account Name:** Golden Square Primary School  
**BSB Number:** 063 093  
**Account Number:** 1000 1872

**Please check  
bank account  
details match.**

Please indicate in the reference section whether the payment is for Curriculum Contributions and/or Other Contributions and ensure the name of your child is included so a receipt can be provided.

### 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 Payments Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy, and any other relevant information.

# 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.