



# Karoo Primary School

Karoo Road, Rowville 3178

Telephone: (03) 9759 6222

Facsimile: (03) 9759 6211

Email: [karoo.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:karoo.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

## **2021 Parent Payments & Voluntary Contributions**

By providing a stimulating, learning and caring environment, Karoo Primary School challenges and supports each student to achieve their personal best. This is reflected in the school's excellent academic results including Karoo's arts, science and sporting programs.

Karoo Primary School is very proud of the quality programs we have put in place to cater for the needs and interests of our students. On an annual basis School Council spends much time and effort in considering the school's financial position and aims to keep costs to families at a minimum whilst also enabling the school to continue to provide the high quality standard of learning that we have come to expect at our school. **The contributions provided by our parent community are a vital element within this process.** We are looking forward to a great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our school's parent payment arrangements for 2021.

To reflect on your 2020 Voluntary Contributions and fundraising efforts, the following projects have begun rolling out from your donations – the installation of new air-conditioners and carpet into classrooms, hot & cold running water to the science room and a new retaining wall around the Foundation playground. We thank you for your ongoing support to achieve these goals.

The Department of Education and Training (DET) *Parent Payments Policy* provides advice on the different types of payments that schools can request from parents and outlines the procedures and protocols schools must adhere to. For further information on the Department's Parent Payment Policy please see a one page overview on our website.

There are three areas for which parents may reasonably be requested to make a payment or contribution:

- **Essential Student Learning Items** are items and activities which the school deems as essential for student learning, without which, students would be unable to access the school's delivery of the standard curriculum. Where practical and appropriate, parents may choose to purchase essential items through the school or provide their own. Where a child cannot provide an essential student learning item or participate in an essential activity, the school must make alternative arrangements e.g. make the item available through the school or provide alternative financial support options.
- **Voluntary Financial Contributions** - School Councils can invite parents to make a voluntary contribution to support the school. Voluntary Contributions can be for general or clearly explained specific purposes that relate to the school council's functions and objectives. Where a Voluntary Contribution is requested for a specific purpose, the funds may only be used for that purpose.
- **Optional Items** are items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum. Students access these on a user pays basis. Optional Items include non-curriculum-based school events, optional excursions and camps, optional sporting or music programs and materials that don't relate to the standard curriculum such as school magazines.

### **Financial Support for Families**

We are conscious of the current economic situation. School Council spends much time and effort in considering the school's position and would like to stress that the amount requested has been kept to an absolute minimum.

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply for CSEF (Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund). Applications for this funding will be available from the school office. Payments will go directly to the school and be allocated to each student. This and remaining funds from 2020 will be available to be expended in 2021 against camps, sports and excursions/incursions.

For a confidential discussion about your individual circumstances and the options available to you, please contact the school's Principal or Business Manager on 03 9759 6222 or email [karoo.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:karoo.ps@education.vic.gov.au).

**Payment Methods**

An instalment payment plan is available for those who wish to pay by quarterly instalments. For those families who receive Centrelink payments, a direct deposit payment option is also available. Please contact the office if you wish to proceed with either of these options.

Payments can be made via Compass as the preferred option, Credit Card (filling in details on the attached form), Cash or Cheque and returning this form with your child during school hours between now and **Tuesday 8th December**. The following day, Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, book packs will be distributed to your child/ren to take home. An additional book pack distribution day has been organised for **Wednesday 16th December** for any payments received after December 8th.

For any payments made after Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December, a third distribution day is planned for **Thursday 21st January 2021** for collection between **10am and 1pm** (presuming parents/carers can come onto the school grounds due to COVID19 restrictions easing).

**Refunds**

Should your family/child leave the school at any point during the 2021 school year, the essential educational items purchased will be given to your child to take to their next school. A pro-rata refund will be processed for any remaining essential items.

We thank you for your support through the payment of our 2021 contributions.

Yours faithfully



**Leanne Vines**  
Acting Principal



**Andrea Haley**  
School Council President

## Essential Student Learning Items

Below is a list of items and activities which are essential for your child to learn the standard curriculum. This is made up of a book pack, consumable items plus Online learning subscriptions. You may choose to purchase the book pack through the school or provide your own. If you choose to purchase the items in the **book pack** yourself, please contact the office for an itemised list by **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020**.

**PLEASE NOTE** – if you decide to purchase the items in the book pack yourself, you will still be required to pay the balance in relation to curriculum consumables and Online learning as detailed below.

Essential Student Learning Items	Cost per child
<b>Curriculum Consumables Classroom</b> <i>Varied over year level e.g. paper, cover paper, glue, paint, glitter, copy paper, laminating pouches for certificates/special work &amp; home learning sheets, specialty pens/papers/books, tissues, ribbons &amp; other craft items, consumables for cooking.</i>	\$60
<b>Consumables for English</b> <i>e.g. specialty writing papers, pens, laminated alphabet sheets</i>	\$5
<b>Consumables for Maths</b> <i>e.g. stickers, icy pole sticks, craft materials for pattern making, laminated number sheets</i>	\$5
<b>Consumables for Performing Arts</b> <i>e.g. song sheets, scripts</i>	\$5
<b>Consumables for Art</b> <i>e.g. speciality paints &amp; papers, clay &amp; glazes, ceramic pens, various craft items</i>	\$20
<b>Consumables for LOTE – Chinese Languages – Mandarin</b> <i>e.g. Cultural day, craft activities</i>	\$10
<b>Consumables for Physical Education</b> <i>e.g. medals, ribbons, certificates, awards</i>	\$5
<b>Consumables for Science</b> <i>e.g. batteries, pipe cleaners, clips, straws, balloons, plants, seeds, candles</i>	\$10
<b>On Line Learning</b> <i>Mathletics, Essential Assessment – Numeracy &amp; Reading</i>	\$35
<b>Individual Book Pack</b> <i>Items include (varied over year levels): Exercise books, scrapbooks, handwriting book, writers notebook, take home bag, pens/pencils, crayons, rulers, erasers, sharpener, highlighters, whiteboard markers, scissors, glue sticks, chair bags, Karoo zippy bag, document wallets, Kluwell My Home Reading Book and diaries</i>	\$50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$205</b>

## Voluntary Contributions

Karoo Primary School continues to welcome your voluntary contributions to support our school. You can make a general voluntary contribution that goes towards all of our school's important priorities for 2021 as well as providing additional activities and services for all students. Alternatively, you can make a voluntary contribution to the specific priorities outlined in the table below:

Curriculum Contribution	Suggested Voluntary Contribution	TOTAL
<b>Subject Resources</b> <i>Building our resources in the 8 standard curriculum areas including: English class sets and take home books, Maths equipment, Music textbooks and instruments, Library books, PE equipment, LOTE, Integrated Learning, Science and Technology. <b>Proposed \$30</b></i>	\$30	<b>\$100</b>
<b>ICT &amp; Digital Technologies e.g. Laptop and iPad classroom sets, interactive touch screens <b>Proposed \$30</b></b>	\$30	
<b>Grounds Maintenance e.g. replenish soft fall mulch in playgrounds, tree maintenance, mowing, and where parents are unable to assist at Working Bees. <b>Proposed \$30</b></b>	\$30	
<b>School Funded Services e.g. Student Welfare Officer, Quick smart support program. <b>Proposed \$10</b></b>	\$10	
<b>Additional Contribution - Your additional family contribution is much appreciated; this year we will be focusing and raising funds towards repairs/replacement of our artificial turf oval/track, plus the replacement of old box window mounted classroom air-conditioners.</b>	\$.....	\$.....
<b>TOTAL Contribution</b>		\$.....

Your child will not be disadvantaged if you do not make a voluntary contribution. All records of voluntary contributions are kept confidential as well as your decision about whether to make a contribution or not.

### Optional Items

Karoo Primary School offers a range of optional items and activities that are additional to the delivery of the standard curriculum. These items and activities are designed to broaden the school experience for your child. These activities include but are not limited to Camps, Life Education, Excursions/Incursions, Swimming Lessons, Cross Country, School Sport Victoria Sport (District, Regional, State) Competitions, State Schools Spectacular and Graduation. These items and activities are provided to students on a user-pays basis and do not need to be paid for as part of the annual Parent Payments process.