

A Respectful and Responsible Learning Community
2021 Parent Payments

4th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

At Great Ryrie Primary School, we are proud to offer our students a comprehensive, well-resourced education program, which meets their individual needs and aspirations. We provide rich and diverse learning experiences which extend well beyond the standard curriculum.

In our quest to provide exceptional student learning opportunities, Great Ryrie Primary School Council has approved the school's parent payments for 2021, consistent with associated school-level and "Department of Education and Training" (DET) policies. These policies may be viewed on our website (www.greatryrieps.vic.edu.au).

There are a few areas for which parents may be asked to make contributions:

- **Essential Education Items** are those deemed essential for student learning. Parents/guardians are **required** to pay the school for these items or may choose to provide their own. Great Ryrie Primary School purchases **Student Packs** and bulk classroom supplies, enabling considerable savings to families due to our bulk purchasing power and GST benefits. Essential items include:
 - a) those for which students take temporary or permanent possession.
 - b) materials for learning and teaching where students construct, consume or taken possession of finished articles.
 - c) online subscriptions designed for essential learning.
 - d) activities that all students are expected to attend.
- **Voluntary Financial Contributions** are those which parents/carers are invited to help fund resources, equipment, materials, services and facilities, in addition to those funds provided by the Department of Education and Training. For 2021, these will include an expanded range of voluntary contributions which will value-add to your child's educational experience.

We encourage families to consider contributing towards the Education Contribution.

As schools only charge for items that students take possession of, this contribution goes towards all other classroom resources. Jo Bell, the Foundation Teacher describes this as, '**All the things that make students feel like they belong, are invited and engaged in their classroom**'.

Great Ryrie Primary School greatly appreciates and values the longstanding generosity of our wonderful school community.

Supporting policies regarding Parent Payments can be found on the school website. www.greatryrieps.vic.edu.au. For further information on the Department's Parent Payment Policies please see a one page overview attached.

TIMING OF PAYMENTS

Payments are due Thursday 28th January 2021. We recognise that many parents/guardians will prefer to make their school payment for 2021, before the end of 2020. We are able to receive any parent payments for 2021, at any time during the school day, from now until the end of term 4.

A Respectful and Responsible Learning Community
2021 Parent Payments

There are several payment options available to families:

1. Pay the full amount via Compass before the end of Term 4, 2020
2. Pay via a payment plan on instalment dates via Compass - please see below.
3. Pay the full amount by the due date via Compass - Thursday 28th January 2021.
4. Apply for Hardship Support (eligible families only) through consultation with the Business Manager.

COMPASS PAYMENT PLAN OPTION

At Great Ryrie Primary School, we understand that it is not always possible to pay for everything in full. It is for this reason that we are introducing a **COMPASS Payment Plan Option**. The payment plan has set dates and enables you to pay for the 2021 Parent Payments in six, monthly instalments.

The payment plan dates are as follows:

1 st Instalment	Friday 29 th January 2021
2 nd Instalment	Friday 26 th February 2021
3 rd Instalment	Friday 26 th March 2021
4 th Instalment	Friday 23 rd April 2021
5 th Instalment	Friday 28 th May 2021
6 th Instalment	Friday 25 th June 2021

Payment plans must be set up on Compass before Thursday 28th January 2021. If the payment plan above does not suit your situation, please contact the Business Manager to create a payment plan that is tailored specifically to you.

COLLECTION DATES FOR STUDENT PACKS

All student packs can be collected from the office in January on the following dates:

21st January, 22nd January and 27th January from 8.30am to 3.30pm

Please note, Essential Education Items must be paid for in full before packs can be collected, unless there is Parent Payment Plan in place. If you have paid for Essential Education Items, but do not collect your child's student pack, the student pack will be taken to your child's classroom ready for the first day of school.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

School Council appreciates that families at times may experience financial difficulty or hardship. Every effort has been made to keep costs to a minimum to ensure affordability for families.

Where financial hardship occurs, families are encouraged to contact the Business Manager on 9870 6098 or by email great.ryrie.ps@education.vic.gov.au for a confidential discussion and formulation of a support plan, consistent with our school's Hardship Policy.

REFUNDS

Refunds are uncommon and will be considered on a case by case basis in consultation with the Business Manager.

Kind regards,



Karen Rouda
Principal



Richard Bailey
School Council President