



2021 Parent Payments 3-6

Dear Parents and Carers,

Gilgai Plains Primary is looking forward to another wonderful year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Gilgai Plains' voluntary financial contributions for 2021.

This letter provides information about voluntary contributions you can make to support Gilgai Plains for 2021 and other payments you can choose to make.

Victorian government schools provide free instruction. This means all students have free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability. Some families choose to make a voluntary financial contribution to support the school, and we are very grateful for this support. Making a voluntary contribution is your choice. There is no expectation or pressure for families to contribute. In 2021, we move into our sixth year of operation and continue to welcome new students and families.

Gilgai Plains offers a range of items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Financial help is available for extra-curricular items and activities if you are experiencing financial hardship (see further details under Financial Help for Families in the attached information). For a confidential discussion about how to access the financial help available, please contact our school office or refer to the contact details below.

If you need an interpreter, please contact (03) 9605 3053 and give our school's phone number (03) 8779 0000. An interpreter can help you speak with us. This service is free. For more information, please see How to use an interpreter to contact your school.

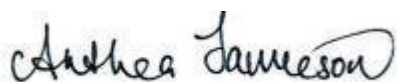
We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support, whether that is through financial contributions, fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

This year, parents are requested to

1. purchase educational items for students to own, via a Book Pack through KAKA KIDS
2. contribute to Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum that cannot be purchased through the Book List.

For more information on the Department of Education's Parent Contributions policy please see the information attached. You can read the full policy at Parent Contributions: Policy | [education.vic.gov.au](https://www.education.vic.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,



Anthea Jamieson
Principal



Nigma Mehdi
School Council President

Educational items for students to own (Book Pack through KAKA KIDS)

You can choose to buy learning materials for your child to individually use and own. These items can be bought from any supplier.

Gilgai Plains has an arrangement with the following supplier for the materials that you can buy through KAKA Kids.

If you do not buy these items, your child will still be provided with what they need, however they may not be provided with these items to own, or keep, on an individual basis. If you wish to buy items through the supplier, please follow the instructions below.

Attached is a list of items included in the book packs that the school recommends you purchase from KAKA Kids for your child to individually own and use. Please follow the instructions on the attachment to purchase the book packs **directly** from KAKA Kids.

All individual packs will be clearly named and delivered to the student's classroom for classroom teachers to organise. Orders must be placed by Friday the 4th of December to avoid a late surcharge of \$14.95 and ensure it is delivered to the school for the beginning of 2021.

Kaka Kids Student Book Pack Ordering Instructions

Paid directly to KAKA Kids by following the ordering instructions:

- Visit: www.shopgpps.com
- Go to: PURCHASE BOOKLISTS in menu heading
- Enter: GP8779 in the Guest Area
- Select the pack(s) you require for the 2021 School year
- Enter the student's name and then add pack to the cart
- Proceed to checkout and complete personal and payment details
- An order confirmation will be sent to your email address

When placing an order for your child through the KaKa Kids website, you are required to put in their Compass Student ID. You can find this code by clicking on your child's profile, and listed in their personal information will be their Student ID. This Student ID will be 2 letters and 4 numbers, for example: ABC0001. If your child is new to the school and you do not have a Student ID, this section can be left blank.

Curriculum Consumables & Other Contributions (Please note: this amount is heavily subsidised by Gilgai Plains Primary School. Parents are asked to contribute a small percentage of the total cost)

These include resources for Maths (PRIME) and PRIME assessment platform, DIBELS assessment platform, Little Learners Love Literacy, Resilience Project Program,, AUSLAN online platform, Numbots subscription, Decodable Readers Australia subscription, Story Champs Program, Essential Assessment platform, and Specialist programs.

Financial Support for Families

Gilgai Plains Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- CSEF - The Camps, Sports, and Excursions Fund. – This program provides funding for eligible students, including those in out of home care, and holders of eligible financially means-tested cards (such as health care cards), to attend activities like camps, sporting activities, excursions and incursions that are offered on a user-pays basis.
- State Schools Relief (SSR) - Assisting with affordable school uniforms, shoes, and other essential school items where families are experiencing financial hardship or short-term crisis.
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities.

Applications for support from the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and State Schools Relief are submitted by the school - please contact us to discuss these and other financial help.

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

Business Manager: Kara Wilson

Finance Manager: Leanne Dalton

Ph: 03 8779 0000 | Email: gilgai.plains.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Payment methods

Curriculum Consumables & Other Contributions

Paid to Gilgai Plains Primary school via,

1. Compass
2. Eftpos at the school office
3. Directly through KAKA Kids.

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. All requests for refunds must be made in writing within a reasonable time frame.

Voluntary contributions

If you are the carer of a student in out-of-home care or hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card), please ignore the invitation to make voluntary contributions.

We encourage any family experiencing financial hardship to contact the school for information about the financial help available for extra-curricular activities like camps and excursions.

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum				Amount
<u>Classroom consumables, materials & equipment</u>				\$20
Classroom				
- Maths - calculators, stationery, mathematical concrete materials, Time Table Rockstars online platform, PRIME online platform & assessment portal, Essential Assessment online platform. - English - Writing: Mentor texts, English Novels:				
Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	
- Matilda	- The One and Only Ivan	- Wild Robot	- Once	
- Charlotte's Web	- Uncle Xbox	- Tom Appleby: Convict Boy	- Can You See Me?	
			- Us Mob	
Wellbeing - Resilience Project online platform.				
Specialists & Extra Curricular				
- Art - paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, glue, card, wool, material, wood, beading, scissors, erasers, pencils, textas, ribbon, paper, posters. - Innovation & Design - robotics, typing program, cooking supplies, books, classroom shared materials, resources. - Science - ingredients, books, shared classroom materials, paper, posters. - Sport - equipment. - Auslan - stationary, online subscription. - Performing Arts - instruments, books, pens, markers, and folders, paper, posters.				
ICT Fund				\$10
<u>The Information Communication Technology funds</u> will ensure we can continue to invest in ICT for all students to have 21st century learning opportunities in the classroom.				
Primary schools (unlike secondary schools) do not receive Commonwealth funding for technology.				
Gilgai Plains Primary School already spends a large portion of its budget on ICT, however additional support will enable us to grow our ICT program.				
Total Curriculum Contributions				\$50

Extra-curricular items and activities

Gilgai Plains offers a range of optional items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Accessing these items and activities does require payment, but financial support is available (see further details under Financial Help for Families below). Payment for extra-curricular items and activities with a confirmed cost can be made now or later. Payments can also be made via installment. The cost of extra-curricular items and activities (excursions, incursions etc) will be advised and invoiced throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	
School Photos	The cost of these Extra-Curricular Items and Activities will be advised throughout the year
Optional School Camp (selected years only)	
Optional Interschool Sports, Cross Country, and Athletics	
Other optional Incursions and Excursions to be scheduled	
Special Uniform (Year 6)	
Graduation/Yearbook (Year 6)	

Parent Contributions policy

Information for families



FREE INSTRUCTION

Schools give students free instruction in the curriculum. This includes:

- Free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability.
- The Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major, and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Free access to all subjects, including elective subjects.
- Free access to select-entry and accelerated programs.



FAMILIES CAN CHOOSE TO CONTRIBUTE

Schools can invite 2 types of voluntary contributions:

Voluntary contributions

Used towards enhanced educational programs and school environment, and additional resources and opportunities offered by schools

Tax deductible contributions

Used towards building and/or library fund (for those schools who have such funds)

Schools must advise the carers of students in out-of-home care and parents and carers who hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card) that the invitation to make voluntary contributions does not apply to them.

In addition, schools can invite parents and carers to pay for optional:

- Extra-curricular items and activities that go beyond the curriculum - for example, school photos, some excursions and some camps.
- Learning materials for students to individually use and own - for example, textbooks, stationery, and in secondary schools only, digital devices. If these items are not bought or provided from home, schools will provide students with free access to what they need for curriculum delivery.



FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

Each school has a contact person who can discuss with parents and carers the financial supports that are available.

Schools must publish their Parent Contributions arrangements on their school website, along with a link to the department's [Parent Contributions policy](#).