



Parent Payment Policy 2023

Dear parent/guardian,

Jacana School for Autism is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Jacana School for Autism's voluntary financial contributions for 2023.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum 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. 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.

Within our school this support has allowed us to;

- Purchase digital subscriptions for the maths and reading
- Increase access to ICT devices to enhance digital learning opportunities
- Increase communication tools
- Special Incursion experiences aligned with Science and Humanities programs

Jacana School for Autism is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth) with the result that any donations made by you will be tax deductible. To be tax deductible, your donation needs to be made voluntarily. We have suggested an amount to be contributed under "Curriculum Contributions" and "Other Contributions" below, but please feel free to contribute an alternative amount. Amounts paid under "Extra-Curricular Items and Activities" are not donations and are not tax deductible.



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

Yours sincerely,

Corinne Pupillo
Principal

Lisa Sette
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions – suggested tax-deductible contributions for items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Classroom consumables, materials & equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper etc. (\$7.00) ● Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ gardening tools, plants etc. (\$15.00) ○ food ingredients – butter, flour, milk etc (\$15.00) ● Mathematics – numeracy blocks, counters, dice, calculators, etc. (\$6.00) ● Sports – equipment (\$6.00) ● Sensory items – playdough, shaving cream, therapy tubes, textured cushions etc (\$12.00) 	\$61.00
Digital Online Subscriptions, Software & Licences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SeeSaw (\$7.50) ● Reading eggs (\$7.50) ● Mathseeds (\$7.50) ● Essential Assessments (\$7.50) 	\$30.00
ICT Devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets	\$75.00
Communication tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student Planner Communication books ● Aided language Displays & assistive technology apps and devices 	\$19.00
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$10.00
Whole school events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cultural Calendar Days ● School performances ● House Group Celebration Days ● Hands On Science ● Jacanarama ● Colour Run 	\$80
Total tax-deductible Curriculum Contributions	Suggested \$275.00 <i>\$(parent to complete)</i>

Other Contributions – suggested tax-deductible contributions for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School Sports Victoria affiliation	\$25.00
Student wellbeing programs	\$25.00
First aid and hygiene equipment & supplies	\$25.00
<p>School grounds maintenance and improvements: Our school are investing in two exciting additions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 360° Projection in the Sensory Room  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Birds Nest Swing  <p>To support these two exciting additions, the suggested tax-deductible contributions for the non-curriculum additions is \$500.00, however any tax-deductible contribution towards these additions will be greatly appreciated by all students at JSA.</p>	<p>Suggested \$500.00</p>
Total tax-deductible Other Contributions	Suggested \$500.00 <i>\$[parent to complete]</i>



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

Jacana School for Autism 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. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

In any given year it is not possible for all students to be able to participate in camps, and the school maintains a schedule to ensure that over your child’s educational journey they will have an opportunity to attend camps. An example of the camp types and costs are as follows;

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Camps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day visit at camp (\$30.00) • 1 night camp (\$90.00) • 2 nights camp (\$120.00) • 3 nights camp (\$150.00) 	\$[parent to complete]
JSA 2023 Year Book	\$15.00
Excursions & Incursions (can vary from class to class and year to year)	TBA
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	\$[parent to complete]

Financial Support for Families

Jacana School for Autism understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- 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:

Renée Ruuska, Finance Manager

Ph: 03 9309 6258 | Email: account@jacanaschoolforautism.vic.edu.au

Total

Category	Total recommended amount	Total payment
Total tax-deductible contributions	\$775.00	\$[parent to complete]
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$100.00	\$[parent to complete]
Total	\$875.00	\$[parent to complete]



Payment methods

Jacana School for Autism has transitioned to a cashless school. The preferred payment methods are;

- QKR 
- EFTPOS (debit/credit card)

Refunds

Parent/carer 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.

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.