

PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

REQUESTING PARENT PAYMENTS FOR DIGITAL DEVICES – ONE PAGE OVERVIEW

WAYS PARENTS CAN CONTRIBUTE



Requesting contributions for school-owned devices

- Schools can invite Curriculum Contributions from parents for school-owned devices.
- This includes devices that the school has either purchased or leased and which are shared, loaned on a one-to-one basis, or given to students to keep.
- Schools can also request Curriculum Contributions for other ICT equipment, infrastructure and support.

Inviting parents to supply or purchase devices

- Schools can invite parents to supply or purchase digital devices to use and own.
- This includes devices that parents purchase or loan from a third party, or devices that parents already own.
- Schools can specify an exact device, a range of preferred devices, devices that meet minimum standards or allow any device.
- Schools can specify bundled insurance, apps, software and peripherals for their recommended device.

IMPLEMENTING YOUR DEVICE PROGRAM



- Parents are not obliged to provide a device. If a student does not provide their own device, the school must ensure the student has free and equitable access to what is needed to access the school's delivery of the Curriculum.
- Schools are not required to ensure students have free access to devices on a one-to-one basis. However, schools must determine a reasonable level of resourcing to ensure students have access to the relevant items for the duration they are required, including items required for homework.
- Curriculum Contributions are voluntary, and students will not be disadvantaged whether contributions are made or not. For example, if a school is allowing a cohort of students to take home or keep school-owned devices, the same arrangements must apply for the entire cohort, not just for those who have made a contribution.

COMMUNICATING YOUR DEVICE PROGRAM

When communicating to parents about any device program, including school-owned devices and devices brought from home:



- Schools must not state that any payment to the school or a third party is compulsory, required, mandatory or any other equivalent.
- Schools must not indicate that it is compulsory for students to purchase their own digital devices.
- Schools must not invite parents to contribute to or pay for department-funded ICT services or software.
- The school must ensure all students have equitable access to what they need to access the school's delivery of the Curriculum.

If schools have questions about the application of the Parent Payments Policy to digital devices or require further support they can call **1800 955 913** or email parent.payments@education.vic.gov.au