The Education & Training Reform Act 2006 empowers school councils to charge parents for goods and services used in the course of instruction of their children, as well as to raise funds. As the quality and variety of educational programs offered by our school are enhanced, School Council requests payment from parents for certain student materials and services charges, and for modest voluntary financial contributions.

PURPOSE:

1.1 To provide high quality learning opportunities for all students, by supplementing limited government funds with approved financial contributions and payments from parents

GUIDELINES:

2.1 School Council supplements Department of Education funds by requesting payments from parents for the following items:-

A, Essential Education Items which parents and guardians are required to provide or pay the school to provide eg: stationary booklists, text books and uniforms etc

B, Optional Extras which are offered on a user pays basis and parents can choose whether or not their child participates eg: religious education, instrumental music tuition, camps, extra curricula activities such as UNSW academic competitions, etc.

2.2 In addition, School Council invites parents to make donations by means of:-

C, Voluntary Financial Contributions which are non-compulsory donations for specific projects eg: buildings and grounds.

2.3 Parents will be made aware of the costs associated with Essential Items payments and voluntary contributions by December of the previous year, along with a recommended payments schedule.

2.4 The payments schedule will include details relating to all payments, essential payment dates, clear definitions of the category of any payments (ie: Essential or Voluntary), and advice to parents to contact the principal if they require support or additional information.

2.5 All payments and non-payments will be strictly confidential. The public identification of students or their parents where payments have or have not been received will not occur.

2.6 All costs and processes associated with parent payments and voluntary contributions will be reasonable, will be defensible in relation to Department of Education requirements, and will be within the expectations and capacity of the school community.
ALBANY RISE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Parent Payments Policy

RATIFIED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: 12th March 2014  REVIEW DATE: 2015

2.7 As with all parent payments to the school, Council will provide opportunities for all parents experiencing financial difficulties to enter into alternative and confidential payment arrangements with the principal.

2.8 Invoices for unpaid Essential Items and Optional Extras will be mailed to all parents entering into payment plans with the school, with requests for Voluntary Financial Contributions to occur in February each year.

2.9 Unpaid Essential Items payments will not result in any detriment by the school to the student or family. Unpaid Optional Extras payments may compromise a student’s ability to be involved in the optional activity in question. Unpaid Voluntary Financial Contributions do not constitute a non-payment and will not result in any detriment by the school to the student or family.

2.10 Where school payments for Essential Items are not fully paid at the commencement of the school year, a payment schedule for the year will be agreed to between parent/s and the school.

2.11 No collectors of any type, including debt collectors, will be used to obtain funds from parents or students. Requests for voluntary financial contributions are limited to the initial notice to all parents and guardians and one reminder notice. It is not acceptable to use coercion or to harass parents and guardians for any payments.

2.12 The principal will ensure that all staff are aware of this policy and adhere to it.

References:


Principal: ____________________________
School Council President: ____________________________
Date ratified by School Council: ____________________________
To be reviewed: ____________________________