



## **ADDITIONAL COSTS and CHARGES POLICY**

### **1. PURPOSE**

East Bentleigh Primary School, as a school operated by the Victorian Department of Education, provides most educational activities free of charge. However, in common with other government schools in Victoria, charges are made for certain special activities which are not covered by government funding.

**These include:**

- Camps / Excursions
- Swimming
- Sports Days
- Activities provided at the school from time to time by visiting performers.

### **2. AIMS**

East Bentleigh Primary School offers families the option of Steiner education as an alternative to conventional state primary teaching methods. Some Steiner education activities involve additional costs not covered by government funding. These activities are funded by the participating families.

**These include:**

- Eurythmy program (all Steiner classes),
- Dance (all Steiner classes except Prep)
- Instrumental music program (Steiner classes 3 to 6).

These activities are not optional for children and families that select the Steiner Stream. All children in the Steiner classes are expected to participate in all class activities. The costs for all class activities must be paid by families who enrol their children in Steiner classes. They agree to these conditions when they first enrol.

### **3. IMPLEMENTATION**

#### **3.1 Payment of additional costs**

For all activities which incur additional costs, the costs must be paid by the date specified by the class teacher or the School Council.

For one-off activities such as excursions and camps, the due date will be prior to the commencement of the activity.

For recurring activities such as eurythmy, dance and music, costs must be paid by the due date of the applicable school term.

#### **3.2 Discount**

A one off discount of 15% will be offered to all Steiner families for Dance, Eurthmy and Instrumental Music Fees, if the full year's account **INCLUDING** the annual Essential Student Learning Items amount is paid in full by the LAST DAY of term one of the school year.

#### **3.3 Difficulty in paying**

Families that are having difficulty in paying their costs by the due date should contact the principal or school office. In cases of genuine difficulty, it may be possible to arrange a payment plan which will permit the costs to be paid off on a regular basis.

#### **3.4 Non-payment**

- Children will not be permitted to participate in camps and excursions if the applicable costs are not paid prior to the activity.
- Children cannot participate in a Steiner class without all the costs applicable to that class being paid.
- **A place in a mainstream class** may be offered to families who are unable to pay the costs of the Steiner stream
- Children **will not be permitted** to begin a new school year in a Steiner class unless all payments are up to date by the beginning of the previous December.
- Any family having difficulty in meeting this deadline should contact the principal or school office at the earliest possible date to arrange a payment plan for the payment of all outstanding costs.
- **NO** extension of time to pay will be granted in any case where the family has not discussed the matter with the principal by the end of third term.

### **EVALUATION**

This policy will be reviewed as required

This Policy was ratified by School Council in ....

**September 2018**