

## What families/whānau need to know about school/kura donations

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1. If your child attends a **decile 1 to 7 school or kura**, the school board of trustees **needs to decide whether it should opt in or not** to the Government's new school donations scheme.
2. The Government will pay your school or kura \$150 per student per year if the school board agrees to opt in to the scheme **AND** to not ask you for any donations (gifts/ koha), except for overnight camps.
3. You can ask to attend the board meeting where they will discuss whether to opt in or not.

### School/kura donations schemes

#### 1. If your school/kura opts in to the donations scheme:

The board of trustees cannot ask you to make a donation **unless** it is for an overnight **school/kura camp** – and then you can **choose** if you **want** to pay none, some or all of the donation. If you choose not to make a donation, your child cannot be stopped from attending a camp if it is part of the school's core learning programme (curriculum).

You cannot be asked to make either a general or specific donation e.g. a donation for a day trip to a museum or a field trip to a hiking track.

#### 2. If your school/kura doesn't opt in to the donations scheme:

They will not receive additional funding, so they can ask you to make a donation.

You can be asked to make either a general or specific donation (e.g. a donation for a day trip to a museum or a field trip to a hiking track). Donations are voluntary, and so you can **choose** if you **want** to pay none, some or all of the donation. If you choose not to make a donation, your child cannot be stopped from attending a camp or field trip if it is part of the core learning programme (curriculum).

### Information for all parents/caregivers/whānau whether your school/kura is in the donations scheme or not

- Your school or kura cannot charge you for anything involved in the core learning programme (curriculum), including "subject fees."
- Your school or kura can ask you to pay for goods they provide that are optional (for example pens, lunches) but it is up to you whether you buy them from the school/kura or elsewhere.
- If the school or kura has a uniform, you need to provide your child with one but you can choose to buy it from the school/kura or, if available, to buy a new or second hand uniform elsewhere.
- You should not be pressured to buy goods or services from a school or kura **but if you agree to buy a good or service, you must pay for it.**
- If your child is involved in weekend sports teams or after hours' cultural activities (extra-curricular activities), these are optional. If you choose for your child to participate, you may be asked to cover the costs of these activities.
- You can make a voluntary donation to your school or kura at any time and if you choose to do this, GST is not payable on the donation and you can claim a tax credit.



## State integrated schools/kura attendance dues

- State integrated schools, and kura that are state integrated, have the same core learning programme as other schools and kura (the New Zealand Curriculum) but also their own special character (usually a philosophical or religious belief).
- You must pay attendance dues to the proprietor of a state integrated school or kura to cover the cost of property-related matters – they are compulsory.
- Attendance dues cannot be increased without the approval of the Minister of Education.



## Donations are voluntary, no matter who asks for them.

You never have to make a donation to your school or kura but you can give any size donation any time if you want to. If your school or kura decides to opt in to the donations scheme, it cannot ask you for any donations except for overnight camps.

If you have questions regarding payments contact your board of trustees or your local Ministry office. You can also email any questions to [school.donations@education.govt.nz](mailto:school.donations@education.govt.nz)

## What you can expect if your school/kura opts in to the donations scheme

Schools/kura that are not in the donations scheme may ask parents for a donation for any purpose.

### Key:

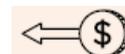
If my school has opted into the donations scheme, I can be asked for a donation but I don't have to pay.



If my school has opted into the donations scheme, I cannot be asked for a donation and I don't have to pay.



I must pay for this if I agree to buy it.



## Enrolment

Item	Item category	
Application fee	Other	⊗ ⊗
Enrolment fee	Other	⊗ ⊗
Out-of-zone ballot fee	Other	⊗ ⊗
Bond	Other	⊗ ⊗

Fees for enrolment are unlawful. As enrolment is free, there can be no charge for anything associated with the enrolment process.



## Course Materials

Item	Item category	
Materials used as part of delivering core learning programme (curriculum)	Curriculum	ⓧⓧ
Take-home component where parents have agreed to purchase (examples – letterbox, item of clothing)	Goods & Services	←💰

Food eaten as part of a food technology class is part of the core learning programme (curriculum) – this is because students need to taste the food they prepare to ensure it is fit for consumption (sensory evaluation).



## Camps, Trips & Outside Education

Item	Item category	
Overnight camp as part of specific course (Example – Year 12 Outdoor Education)	Curriculum	💰ⓧ
Overnight camp as part of general education programme (curriculum) (Examples – Year 9 orientation camp, Year 7 EOTC camp)	Curriculum	💰ⓧ
Field trip as part of specific course	Curriculum	ⓧⓧ
Trip/visit as part of general curriculum	Curriculum	ⓧⓧ
Charge/fee for an optional event (example – weekend ski trip, extra-curricula)	Goods & Services	←💰

It is reasonable for families and whānau to be asked to contribute towards the costs of accommodation, food and travel to and from an overnight camp. Such a request is for a donation. Families and whānau can choose to pay the donation in full, in part or not at all.



## Swimming

Item	Item category	
Swimming as part of general curriculum (at school/kura or off-site)	Curriculum	ⓧⓧ
Swimming as voluntary activity (lunch time or after hours)	Goods & Services	←💰



## Optional Activities

Item	Item category	
Visiting drama or music groups (non-curriculum)	Goods & Services	←💰
Weekend sports teams	Goods & Services	←💰
After-hours/lunchtime culture or sports activities	Goods & Services	←💰



## School and Kura Uniforms

Item	Item category	
School/kura uniform from a school/kura uniform shop	Goods & Services	← \$

Schools and kura are not expected to make profits from school uniforms – they should recover only their costs.



## ICT

Item	Item category	
Access to school/kura network	Curriculum	⊗ ⊗
Use of school/kura hardware	Curriculum	⊗ ⊗
Requiring students/rangatahi to provide devices such as tablets, smartphones, netbooks, laptops, Chrome Books (BYOD)	Curriculum	⊗ ⊗
Requiring students/rangatahi to provide software or pay for software licenses	Curriculum	⊗ ⊗
Requiring students/rangatahi to provide calculators	Curriculum	⊗ ⊗
Purchase of non-compulsory hardware or software	Goods & Services	← \$



## Music

Item	Item category	
Tuition – course-related	Curriculum	⊗ ⊗
Tuition – optional outside of general education programme (extra-curricula)	Goods & Services	← \$
Instrument hire – course delivery	Curriculum	⊗ ⊗
Instrument hire – optional (extracurricular)	Goods & Services	← \$
Textbooks	Curriculum	⊗ ⊗
Workbooks (compulsory)	Curriculum	⊗ ⊗
Workbooks (optional, when parents have agreed to purchase)	Goods & Services	← \$
Photocopying/printing as part of core education programme (curriculum use)	Curriculum	⊗ ⊗
Photocopying/printing (personal and not needed for core programme learning, extra-curricula use)	Goods & Services	← \$
Stationery (if parents decide to buy from school/kura stationery shop)	Goods & Services	← \$

Schools and kura are not expected to make profits from school stationery – they should recover only their costs.



## Programmes & Courses

Item	Item category	
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	Curriculum	⊗⊗
Reading recovery and Learning Support	Curriculum	⊗⊗
High school "subject fees"	Curriculum	⊗⊗
Specialist units (examples – Montessori, Arrowsmith, Te Reo, Samoan Language)	Curriculum	⊗⊗
Supplementary programmes (examples – Mathletics, Education Perfect)	Curriculum	⊗⊗
STAR courses	Curriculum	⊗⊗
Tertiary-level courses offered as part of the school programme	Curriculum	⊗⊗
Tertiary course (dual enrolment at tertiary institution)	Goods & Services	←⊗
Gifted Education programmes	Goods & Services	←⊗

Out-of-school extra programmes like one-day schools are considered a good/service. It should be made clear that participation is voluntary, and incurs a charge.



## Operational Costs

Item	Item category	
Heating, lighting and water	Operational	⊗⊗
Soap, hand sanitiser, tissues	Operational	⊗⊗

Boards cannot ask families and whānau for contributions to operational costs – these costs should be covered by the school's operational funding, which is paid by the Ministry of Education.



## School/Kura Publications

Item	Item category	
School/kura magazines are optional to buy	Goods & Services	←⊗



## School/Kura Events

Item	Item category	
School/kura Ball	Goods & Services	← \$

Students can attend this type of event if they buy a ticket. Students should not be stopped from accessing optional activities because their families/whānau have not paid for other items. For example schools/kura should not require families/whānau to pay for sports costs or a donation towards the school camp before they can buy a ticket to the school ball.



## State-integrated Schools/Kura

Item	Item category	
Attendance dues - these are compulsory	Other	← \$