



St Marys District School

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December 2014

## School Levies Policy

### School Levies

School levies form an essential proportion of the school's income.

Levies payable each year are determined by school representatives in consultation with the local community, and reflect the Department's School Levy Policy and local circumstances. They help fund such items as text book hire, performances, extended curriculum, excursion and camp costs and the Health and Physical Education Program.

This school charges one consolidated levy for each student. Since levies and funding form one combined revenue source for the school, refunds are not normally provided should a student not attend a particular course or activity.

All parents or guardians, other than those approved under the Student Assistance Scheme (STAS), are expected to contribute towards the cost of their child's education through levies. STAS application forms will be made available, but it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to ensure that these are completed and forwarded when due. Levies will be payable if STAS approval has not been confirmed.

### Other Charges

The school may make Other Charges for all students, including students eligible for student assistance. These cover such items as the school magazine, locker hire, leavers' dinner, extra music tuition, Rock Challenge, Arts on Tour and other items outside of the standard educational program. These items and charges are optional.

### Financial and Other Assistance

Parent and guardians should be aware that there is a range of assistance available to them such as STAS, Abstudy, ASSPA, Spectacle Assistance Scheme, Bursaries and transport concessions. For more information contact the school office.

### Uniforms

School levies do not cover uniforms.

### Stationery

Stationery is purchased at the beginning of the year. STAS students will be issued with their class requirements. If additional items are needed throughout the year, all students will be required to pay for them.

## **Excursions**

There are no extra levies or charges for excursions unless they are optional. An example of an optional activity is the Arts on Tour, or Rock Challenge which students may wish to attend, and for which they will be invoiced separately, whether eligible for student assistance or not.

## **Home Economics, Materials Design and Technology, and Outdoor Education**

Funding for these and other high-cost subjects are funded from the whole school revenue. This is fair and reasonable and in line with the Department's School Levy Policy, and means that students are not discouraged from choosing particular subjects because of the cost. Additional charges may be made for items above the prescribed lesson requirements.

## **Payment of Accounts**

A list is sent home for all enrolled students detailing the expected levies and other charges for the next year.

Parents are expected to pay levies (or prove eligibility for exemption) before 28<sup>th</sup> February. Payments may be made:

- by cash, cheque or credit card at the school office between 8:45am and 4:00 pm daily;
- by cheque, payable to St Marys District School, posted to 13 Gray Road, St Marys 7215;
- by credit card, or BPay, details will appear on your invoice.

Payment by instalments will be an option for parents with genuine financial difficulties. However you are expected to meet your agreed commitments as a matter of justice to other parents and students. If you have genuine difficulties in meeting the levies, please contact the School Office on 6372 3900 before the end of 2014 and an appointment will be made for you with the School Business Manager to discuss your levies and negotiate payment options.

Confidential documentation will be kept on any agreement made.

Once arrangements are finalised, parents are requested to honour the commitment and meet the payments on the due dates. All payments by arrangement must be completed by the end of Term Two.

You will be provided with a statement every month detailing payments you have made and any debts still owed.

## **Reimbursement of levies**

As levies form part of the consolidated revenue of the school, and their allocation and expenditure is often committed early in the school year, it is the policy of this and all other schools that Levies or Other Charges will not be refunded. However, individual circumstances may be considered on their merits, and refunds may be considered in exceptional circumstances.

## **Students enrolled during the school year**

Parents/guardians or independent students will not be required to pay levies (either in part or in full) should they enrol in a school part-way through a year, having already paid levies in full to a previous Tasmanian State School for that year. If an agreement to pay by instalment has been entered into, parents/guardians are expected to renegotiate an agreement to pay the balance owing to the previous school, with the new school.

## 2015 LEVIES

The composite levy for each sector of the school listed below is all inclusive, except for other special events which may arise during the year and are listed on the attached pages.

Kinder	\$150
Prep – Grade 2	\$200
Grade 3-4	\$250
Grade 5-6	\$260
Grades 7 - 10	\$320
Post Year 10 Campus	TBA

Janine Burt  
School Business Manager

Lisa Bean  
School Business Manager

Bruce Campbell  
Principal

## SCHEDULE 2

Below is a description of other charges activities that we know of at this stage for 2015. These are estimated costs only, and may have minor adjustments.

<b>Kinder - Grade 6 Other Charges</b>		
<b>Most of the other charge activities are subsidised with school funds.</b>		
Activity	Description	Estimated Cost
East North East Country Gold Netball, Football, Hockey and Cricket	Our sporting cluster selects representative teams to participate in a two day carnival held in Launceston late August. Teams generally are made up of grade 5/6 students. Cricket is two days in November.	Students will be required to pay approximately : \$45. + ENE Jacket (\$35) if desired.
School Magazine	An end of year magazine is published for optional purchase.	\$35.00 Distributed to families in December
School Photographs	Each year a private company is engaged to take individual, family and class photographs. Parents have the option of purchasing a selection of photographs.	Costs set by the company.
Private music tuition.	Students have the opportunity to take up private tuition with a number of local music tutors. This is an individual opportunity that may be accommodated in school time.	Fees set by tutors
Hire of Musical Instruments	Students may hire instruments per term or for the year, Conditions apply.	\$20.00 per term \$50.00 for the year
Optional Excursions	Optional excursions outside of the school curriculum requiring bus transport	\$5.00 Plus entry fee to venues – set by venue operator
Camps and Excursions	Optional Camps and excursions outside of the school curriculum	Costs will include bus transport, accommodation, food, entry fees etc.

## SCHEDULE 2

Below is a description of other charges activities that we know of at this stage for 2015. These are estimated costs only, and may have minor adjustments.

<b>Grade 7 – 10 Other Charges</b> <b>Most of the other charge activities are subsidised with school funds.</b>		
Activity	Description	Estimated Cost
Rock Challenge	Up to 50 Grade 9 – 10 students are invited to attend the rock Challenge Heat held in Launceston of an evening in July/August. The fee covers part of the bus cost and ticket for entry.	Approx \$25.00 July/August
Arts on Tour	Up to 20 talented performing arts students are invited to attend a three day tour of to present a performance.	Approximate Tour & Accommodation \$65.00 T-shirt Approximately \$35.00
Student Leader Uniform	Student leaders contribute to the purchase of a leader's top.	Maximum of \$50 for Leader's Top \$50.00 Blazer hire if applicable
School Magazine	An end of year magazine is published for optional purchase	\$35.00
School Photographs	Each year a private company is engaged to take individual, family and class photographs. Parents have the option of purchasing a selection of photographs.	Costs set by the company.
Private music tuition.	Students have the opportunity to take up private tuition with a number of local music tutors. This is an individual opportunity that may be accommodated in school time.	Fees set by tutors
Grade 10 Leavers Dinner	Grade 10s are invited to attend a dinner in December. A fee covers decorations, meal, and entertainment.	Cost to students = expenditure costs (eg 2014 - \$44 inc photos) Leaver's T-Shirt \$25.00
Boat Licence	Students are to pay their own fees.	Set by MAST examiner
First Aid Course	Students participating must pay own fees.	Approx \$50.00 Set by provider
Barista Training	Optional course to students – user pays	Approx \$70.00 Set by provider
RSA Training	Optional course provided to students – user pays	Approx \$80.00 Set by provider
Hire of Musical Instruments	Students may hire instruments per term or for the year. Conditions apply.	\$20.00 per term \$50.00 for the year
School Socials	Students will have the opportunity to attend school socials and the entry fees are usually set by the Student Leaders. Buses are provided at the end of the evening to designated stops at a cost.	Entry fee Maximum \$5.00 Bus fee Maximum \$10.00
Winter Sports Roster	Some Students are selected to attend fortnightly winter sports games in Launceston	\$5.00 per bus trip to Launceston
Optional Excursions	Optional excursions outside of the school curriculum requiring bus transport	\$5.00 Plus entry fee to venues – set by venue operator
Optional Activities	Courses outside of the school Curriculum – optional	Fees set by Provider
Additional Materials	Specialist Materials over and above those prescribed for a course (MDT/Cooking)	Students to bring items from home or pay additional costs of requested materials.
	Extra Outdoor Education excursions /Camps & courses	may attract additional user pay cost
Camps and Excursions	Optional Camps and excursions outside of the school curriculum	Costs will include bus transport, accommodation, food, entry fees etc.