



# Voluntary school contributions

NSW Department of Education





# Purpose of Voluntary School Contributions

To enhance educational programs, New South Wales public schools may request voluntary school contributions from parents and carers.



These contributions are always voluntary.





## Elective subject contributions

Schools may also request elective subject contributions.



Or a school could request an elective subject contribution for enhanced activities like instrument hire for band.

---



# The role of the principal

Principals play an important role in implementing the Voluntary School Contribution policy in their schools.



Each year, the principal consults with their community to set the voluntary school contribution amount in line with departmental advice.





## The principal

Informs the school community of the purpose of contributions.

Lets the community know that school contributions are voluntary.

Explains how to apply for financial assistance for elective subject contributions if required.

---



# Equity and integrity

Communications must not use words that imply voluntary school contributions are mandatory, such as fee, charge or levy.

There will be no incentives for the payment of voluntary school contributions.

There will be no consequences for the non-payment of voluntary school contributions.







## Equity and trust

Decisions about financial assistance and refunds are made by the principal.



The school community can feel confident that students and families will be treated with respect, and conversations around financial assistance will always be confidential.

# Need more information?

The Voluntary School Contributions policy can be found in the department's online policy library.



Questions?

Contact [SSR@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:SSR@det.nsw.edu.au)

