



To Educate Every Child for Life

Eastern Hutt School

Kings Crescent

Lower Hutt

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SCHOOL DONATIONS

Kia ora Whānau, Parents and Caregivers

Background

The Government's donation scheme introduced last year is for decile 1-7 schools only. We are **not** able to opt into this scheme as we are a **Decile 9** school. Education Minister Chris Hipkins has said the government has not ruled out including high-decile schools in the scheme at some point in the future.

Chris Hipkins had stated, "Over time, our goal is to ensure that cost is not a barrier for anybody. We have to start somewhere. Decile one to seven is a reasonably significant start and then in time we'll get to look at the decile eight, nine and 10 schools again, I'm sure," he said. "The reality, though, is that high-decile schools do find it easier to raise locally-raised funds and the numbers clearly demonstrate that."

The Government have made the assumption that all decile 8-10 schools are able to generate this extra funding from the parent community and also that parents are willing to support this. However, we appreciate that these costs can still be challenging for many families, especially at the start of the year when parents may have several students beginning intermediate and high school when other costs like uniforms and devices are high.

Enriched Learning Programmes at Eastern Hutt

We are always grateful for the donations that parents are able to make along with the Activity Related Costs. These payments ensure that we can provide an enriched learning programme for all our students through including the following: Life Education, swimming, visits from performing artists, physical education providers, trips to Te Papa, Capital E, Year 3 – 5 EOTC weeks etc. Making payment for the senior camp to Makahika means that we can continue with this as a significant event for our Year 6s in their final year. We are fortunate that through fundraising by the Home and School Committee, \$2000 goes towards reducing the cost and our senior students also run a gala in Term 4 to further reduce the cost.

The additional general donation contributes to the cost of **music teaching, sports co-ordinator, resources and IT equipment.**

At the end of December last year we had a shortfall of \$5,840 in Activity Related Costs, \$57,861 in Donations, and \$3,126 for Camp and EOTC. We were very grateful for the parents who were able to indicate their commitment to paying for Camp and EOTC in 2021, and some of you have already pre-paid. This means Camp and EOTC will go ahead in 2021.

This year, under the **new scheme**, you will receive a **Statement**, which includes **payment for stationery**, and **Donations** for the following:

1. General Donation
2. Activity Related Costs
3. EOTC (Years 3 – 5) only
4. Camp (Year 6) only

If donations from parents are not received to cover these activities and events, we will be in the very regrettable position in the future of having to **CANCEL** these events.

No child will be exempt from any activity or event, however, this means the school has to cover this cost and the operational funding is not sufficient to cover all of these expenses.

As always in the future, if you are in a position to contribute a little extra for families that may be struggling to contribute, this would be most appreciated.

Making Payments of Donations for these Costs

It may be easier for some families to make the donations throughout the year, more regularly, eg. fortnightly or monthly throughout the school year rather than a one-off larger donation. We are aware that Covid continues to have an impact on employment for some families and we are happy to support families by spreading the expense over the year.

We would welcome Automatic Payments or Direct Credit.
Our school bank account details are ASB 12 3478 0009657 00

All donations are voluntary, and you are able to claim back the donations (General Donation, Activity Related Costs and ETOC/Camp) amount from your tax (33.33%) and a tax receipt will be provided for each donation.

Thank you for your continued financial support in providing a broad and rich curriculum for all our tamariki.

Eastern Hutt School Board of Trustees