



Dear Parents and Caregivers

As part of the responsibilities of being an Independent Public School, there is an expectation for the Yanchep Beach Primary School Board to consult and liaise with the community on important issues.

As part of the conditions of establishing the YBPS Board, it is mandated that there are more community members than staff. This representation is valuable because it includes the aspirations of the wider community. It accommodates an extended community culture, which assists the functioning of the School as well as learning and teaching outcomes.

The YBPS Board does have an important role to play in overseeing the financial situation of the school. Therefore, on behalf of the Board, we would like to appeal to all parents and caregivers to support the education of your children by paying the 'Voluntary Contribution Fees'. We all understand how tough it is out there, but sadly, in 2017 only 32% was received.

It is unfortunate that the term 'Voluntary' is often perceived by some parents and caregivers to mean that somehow YBPS does not rely on this money for teaching resources. In addition, this shortfall of the loss of over half of our potential funds is never recouped by any other financial source. Unfortunately, the reality is, education is not free and that our government schools require support to deliver a quality educational experience to all our children. YBPS receives \$1,404 per student from the federal government, whilst neighbouring, non-government schools receive \$7,400, (source: MySchools website: <https://www.myschool.edu.au/>).

The Voluntary Contribution Fee requested is only \$60.00 per child, per year, which equates to 30c per day for the school year. The YBPS Board believes that this is a modest amount and an absolute bargain for the quality educational experiences that it collectively supports across Yanchep Beach Primary School. For example; the purchasing of literacy, numeracy and digital technology resources and upgrades, musical instruments, sporting equipment as well as other resources. Expensive resources require replacement over time, and if the majority of parents and caregivers help, we can do a lot more for your children.

In 2017 YBPS lost about \$29,705.00 in potential income based on the percentage of parents not paying voluntary contributions. Since opening, this equates to over \$118,000.00, which would buy many things that could help your children. Unfortunately, those parents and caregivers who contribute are subsidising more than half the other children at Yanchep Beach Primary School and this is not a 'fair go'. As a community we can all 'pitch in' and make a difference to our children's education. The Board does appreciate that a small percentage of parents and caregivers genuinely struggle to pay these contributions and we encourage those

individuals to contact the School, in confidence, to negotiate some level of financial support.

On behalf of the Yanchep Beach Primary School Board and your community I simply urge our valued parents and caregivers to consider these contributions as a tangible investment in the education of all of our valued children. Remember: "It takes a whole village to raise a child" (African proverb).

Kind regards,

Darren Meakins

Board Chairperson (2014 - current day)



Our preferred payment method for all school charges and contributions is via the *Qkr* App.

It is a secure and easy way to order and pay for school items from your phone at a time and place that suits you and also means you do not need to use alternative payment methods.

Download Qkr; Register; Find our school; Register your children; Add children's details; Make Payments.

If you need and guidance with regards to Qkr or would like to create a payment plan, please see our office staff in administration during office hours 8:00am to 3:45pm week days as payments can be made to the school bank account online or by cash to the front office.