

2023 School Donations and Payments



ST FRANCIS DE SALES SCHOOL
TE HURA O HĀTO WĒRAHIHO TE HERA

Dear Whānau

The New Zealand government funds most, but not all, school costs. This funding generally does not cover smaller class sizes and aspects to school life that add value for our learners and help us sustain a caring community. At SFDS we choose to maintain a low ratio of staff to students; we ensure that our staff are capable and well-informed and we provide varied learning experiences for our learners. In 2022 our SFDS income from the government was approximately \$756K. However the costs associated with adding value for learners was approximately \$833K in 2022. In past years we have received significant income from annual school fairs. The impact of Covid and fewer volunteers means that this source of income has not been available, which puts pressure on our school budget.

We always rely heavily on donations and payments made by our families and our community to make up this shortfall. Below is a list of donation requests, along with payments that we ask you to make in 2023. We understand that families face many costs associated with education, and we thank you for your support through financial contributions. For this reason we also look for other ways to seek funding - such as community grants. Below we have detailed the donation requests and compulsory payments.

Donation Requests

Donations to the school are voluntary and tax deductible. You are requested to give careful consideration to paying all or part of the donations as your circumstances allow.

St Francis de Sales Donation:

\$250 for one child, \$350 for two children and \$400 for three or more children. This donation is used to enhance the delivery of school programmes, keep our ICT equipment upgraded and operating effectively, and to supplement the general costs associated with maintaining a low ratio of adults to children across our school.

Religious Education Digital Resource Donation: We pay for access to Religious Education resources. This year we ask for a donation of **\$10.00** to cover this cost.

Activity Donation: \$100 to cover trips and visits undertaken by students during the year as part of the curriculum such as School Cross Country, Swimming and Athletics, St Johns in Schools, Kelly Sports and other Sports providers, Life Education, Kapahaka, the Learning through Play programme, trips away from school to places like Te Papa, the Home of Compassion, the Art gallery - and to fund visiting performers.

Swimming: Swimming is a compulsory part of our school curriculum. Once costs and arrangements are known parents will be informed and asked to support the programme by donating towards costs. Swimming instruction takes place at the Aquatic Centre in Kilbirnie for one term each year. The donation requested will cover the cost of instruction and bus transport. It will vary from year to year.

Camp: (Year 7 & 8 only) The Senior School Camp takes place in term 1. The final amount to be sought from parents to assist with covering costs will be advised as soon as possible..

Technology: - (Year 7 & 8 only) our students will be attending Technology at St Catherine's College who charge us for consumable materials used in the technology programme. For 2023, St Catherine's College Year 7&8 Technology charge will be \$64.00 per student. We ask that our parents cover all of this cost through the donation.

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Compulsory Payments



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Optional activities

Optional activities that students elect to take part in as an addition to the curriculum are invoiced as a compulsory payment. Examples of optional activities are: Out of school sports, zone sports, artsplash, etc. Registration and payment for these optional activities is made through our 'School Shop: Kindo' (our online payment system). As these will be optional activities, if the parent does not agree to pay, the student will not take part in that activity. Payment for optional activities is not tax deductible. In some cases, if a large number of families decide not to participate (and make the payment) these activities may be cancelled.

How to make a donation or school payment

Make a donation or pay your school costs, order lunch and register and pay for sports activities through:

1. Our online school shop – Kindo www.kindo.co.nz and follow the steps to register or login.
2. Eftpos to the school office. (sorry we are no longer able to accept cash or cheques).
3. Directly into our bank account – ASB 12-3141-0233071-00. Please quote your child's name and the activity or donation you are paying for.

If you have any questions regarding donations and payments please contact Suzanne in the school office on 939 7370 or office@sfds.school.nz

Attendance Dues

Attendance Dues are the compulsory property and insurance fees that you commit to paying when you enrol your child/ren in a catholic school in New Zealand. Attendance dues **are compulsory**. The dues are used to pay for the costs of new school classrooms, and other buildings, pay off existing mortgages and pay for the insurance on all school property. Families are invoiced by the Archdiocese and **payment must be made directly to them**. The school does not accept these payments.

If you have any queries about attendance dues please visit the Archdiocese of Wellington's website: <https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/about/schools-in-the-archdiocese/attendance-dues/>. Attendance dues are not tax deductible. (Please see the attached information sheet from the Archdiocese for more information regarding Attendance dues).

Support

If you have any concerns about our donations, payments or attendance dues - please feel free to contact our principal, Mary-Angela Tombs directly (principal@sfds.school.nz). We are very happy to support you where we can - through payment options or applying for rebates for attendance dues.

Some of our community members like to confidentially make an additional donation to cover the costs for another family. Thank you to these families. If you would like to do this, please email office@sfds.school.nz and we will let you know how this can be done.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to continuing to support you on your catholic education journey.

Ngā mihi nui

Mary-Angela Tombs

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