



PALMVIEW STATE PRIMARY SCHOOL REFUND POLICY

At Palmview State Primary School, we are committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for students, staff and volunteers. This commitment includes the health and safety of staff and students when conducting curriculum activities in the school or in other locations.

School excursions and camps enhance a student's learning by providing opportunities for the student to participate in activities, both curriculum-related and recreational, outside the normal school routine. All planned school excursions are approved by the Principal and endorsed by the Parents and Citizens Association.

State schools are able to charge a fee for:

- An educational service including materials and consumables not defined as instruction, administration and facilities for the education of the student;
- An education service purchased from a provider other than the school where the provider charges the school; and
- A specialised educational program.

A school fee is directed to the purpose for which it is charged.

School fees for excursions and camps are calculated on a cost recovery only basis (cost neutral), according to the number of students who have indicated their attendance.

Participation of students in an excursion or camp is indicated through payment of the excursion or camp fee and provision of a permission form completed by the parent/carer.

As the school budget cannot meet any shortfalls in funding for an excursion or camp due to the non-participation of a student who had previously indicated attendance to the activity, fees already paid for an excursion or school camp may be refunded in full or in part or not at all, having regard to the associated expenses incurred and the circumstances of the non-participation.

Cost neutral school activities may at times result in a material surplus for an activity, i.e. total revenues exceed total expenses for the activity. Any surplus funds in cost neutral cost centres must be accounted for appropriately. If there is a material surplus a credit will be issued to students involved and applied against outstanding amounts or future invoices. As a general rule of thumb, a material refund would be 5% of the total cost of the excursion where this is more than \$20 per student.

If a parent/carer wishes to apply for a refund due to their child's non-participation in an excursion or camp activity, they may do so by completing a Request for Refund form available from the school office. Where possible, the request should include the original receipt relating to the payment for which a refund is being sought. A Request for Refund must be made within 20 working days of date of activity.

- In the event that an activity is cancelled, all payments under \$20.00 will be automatically credited to a student's school account to be used against outstanding fees or a credit balance applied to student's school account for future use. For payments over \$20.00; parents will be given the option of:
 1. to have monies transferred to outstanding debt or
 2. if no outstanding debts exist, have a credit balance applied to their account for future use.
 3. a credit to a bank account/a refund cheque.

Department of Education and Training policy references:

Education (General Provisions) Act 2006

SCM-PR-002: School Excursions

FNM-PR-019: State Education Fees