

2025 Student Resource Scheme

Annual Parent Information Letter

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

This letter contains important information about the **2025 Student Resource Scheme (SRS)** including how the scheme operates and the annual participation fee.

The Queensland Government supports students' education by providing funding for:

- Instruction, e.g. teachers
- Facilities, e.g. buildings, amenities, furniture
- Administration, e.g. staffing and resources to administer the operations of the school.

Funding does not extend to individual student resources such as textbooks, equipment for personal use, and items used/consumed by the student in the classroom. Supply of these items is the responsibility of parents.

To provide parents with a cost-effective alternative to purchasing textbooks and/or resources elsewhere, Pumicestone State School operates an SRS for 2025.

The scheme ensures that students have the resources required for them to engage with the curriculum for their education, and saves parents time and money in sourcing the prescribed materials elsewhere. Savings are gained through the school's bulk purchasing practices and hiring arrangements. The scheme is not used to raise funds for other purposes, and revenue collected through the scheme is applied only to the resources and operation of the scheme. The financial impact on parents and whether the school can absorb any of the cost has been considered before determining the SRS fee.

The scheme's operation, resource inclusions and participation fees were approved by the school's P&C Association at the meeting held on March 4 and again on November 11, 2024.

The types of resources that will be included are:

- **Owned** these items are retained by the student and used as required (e.g. stationery, exercise books).
- **Used** these items are used/consumed in class by the student (e.g. industry technology/cooking/art supplies). Work/items produced from these resources will remain the property of the student.

The Fee \$140.00

Pumicestone State School offers a Student Resource Scheme (SRS) as an economical alternative for the provision of highquality resources for their students. SRS is organised by the school, operates under the policy and guidelines of the Department of Education and Training (DET), and is approved by the P&C Association.

If you are not satisfied that the SRS fee represents good value for money based on the inclusions, you may choose not to participate in the SRS. If that is the case, please complete a new Participation Agreement Form, indicating that you no longer wish to participate. If you choose not to participate, you will be provided with a detailed list of resources that you will need to provide for the student.

We kindly request that all invoices be settled in their entirety by Friday the 31st of January, 2025.

Payment Arrangement Options:

- A single payment for the full year's fee
- An instalment plan can be negotiated with the school. A form has been attached to this email.

Any unpaid invoices, will be managed according to the department's Debt Management Procedure and may result in the student being excluded from the scheme and/or from participating in non-curricular activities until payment is made (<u>https://ppr.ged.gld.gov.au/pp/debt-management-procedure</u>).

Financial Hardship

Parents experiencing financial hardship should contact the school to discuss available options in confidence. Please email bsm@pumicestoness.eq.edu.au

Payment Method

SRS payments can be made by QParents/BPOINT, BPAY, EFTPOS (Credit/Debit Card), Centrepay.

- Payment may be made through the QParents portal using a credit/debit card. Payment will be directed from the QParents portal to BPOINT where relevant outstanding invoice information may be selected.
- When paying by BPOINT, please use the Customer Reference Number (CRN) and invoice number printed on the invoice received from the school. If unsure of the CRN, please contact the school.
- Centrepay Deductions are available to pay the SRS fees. Use Centrepay to make regular deductions from your Centrelink payment. Centrepay is a voluntary and easy payment option available to Centrelink customers. Go to <u>humanservices.gov.au/centrepay</u> for more information on how to set up your Centrepay deductions.

Contact us

If you have any queries regarding the SRS and its inclusions, please contact and arrange an appointment with the Business Manager via email: <u>bsm@pumicestoness.eq.edu.au</u>

Other Points to note:

- The Student Resource Scheme is preferred because the scheme ensures your child receives exactly what they need at the time they need it.
- Every child has the same items to use in class.
- Replacement items are provided throughout the year. This means you no longer have the worry about your child's ongoing requirements.
- The scheme gives teachers the opportunity to determine exactly what students require as the units of work are planned at key times throughout the year.
- Items are not handed out all at once although a significant number of items are provided at the beginning of the year or upon enrolment. Items are presented as required and replacement of items automatically occurs throughout the year. This means that it takes all year for your child's full set of provisions to appear.
- Students access class sets of expensive items such as dictionaries and atlases and as learning is better facilitated when every child can work from the same product that is the focus of the lesson.
- At all times we remain accountable to you by reporting to the P&C so parents can see how funds are going and what the money is being spent on.
- This scheme is exceptionally well supported and is valued by our community. Its success, however, depends on every parent paying.
- Your payment supports your child's learning. This initiative and the expenses are approved and supported by our Parents' and Citizens' Association and will be reviewed each year by the P&C and staff. Teachers are very strong advocates because they believe it really does greatly assist the learning process and enhance the way activities can be organised.

Please note:

- Excursions, incursions, camps, Gala Days, swimming and instrumental music fees are not included in SRS;
- Total costs for students enrolling in Terms 2, 3 or 4 will be charged on a pro-rata basis;
- Refunds will be made for students who leave the school on a pro-rata basis.

Kind regards,

Charlene Hensley Business Manager Pumicestone State School