



## SRS Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the Student Resource Scheme?**

The Student Resource Scheme or SRS is a fee that is charged to cover the learning resources, materials and equipment that the school will purchase for students to use in the classroom. These are resources that are not covered by government school funding which provides for teaching staff, facilities (buildings, furniture etc) and administration to support the operation of the school. The resources and materials included in the SRS are stated on the Resource List.

### **Do I have to participate in the SRS?**

The purpose of the SRS is to provide a convenient and cost-effective way of supplying resources that your child needs within the classroom to learn. The school can utilise bulk purchasing power and GST exemptions to reduce the cost to parents. There is no obligation to participate in SRS, however if you choose not to you are required to source and provide the resources for your child to use in the classroom. These must be the same items as the class group are using so that your child is not disadvantaged. These resources must be supplied to the classroom teachers by Week 2, Term 1 2025.

### **Is the Resource List replacing the year level book list?**

No – the Resource List covers in-class materials that have always been provided by the school to support learning in the classroom. Historically the cost of these resources was charged to parents via subject fees. The SRS replaces these subject fees. The book list covers individual student resources such as textbooks, exercise books, pens, pencils and other stationery items that a student will use in class and at home.

### **What does User Pays mean?**

User Pays fees are charges for activities that are not covered by the SRS that your child participates in. This can include excursions and extracurricular activities, excellence program fees, certificate courses, sport and music tuition. In some cases, part of these costs may have been previously included in our general levy or as a subject fee. The SRS requires that the full cost of these be invoiced to parents so that the 'user' pays the cost if the parent chooses for their child to participate. In most cases, parents were already paying the cost of these items either as an individual invoice or as part of the general levy which was charged to all families. You can get an indication of some of these costs on the 2025 Schedule of Fees.

### **How do I agree to the SRS?**

The SRS agreement is an online form which is issued in QParents. All current parents and new families with a confirmed enrolment for 2025 will receive this form by the end of the 2024 school year. Participation in the SRS is for the length of enrolment and is not automatically resent each school year. You can choose to change your SRS agreement in future years by contacting the Finance Department at school.

### **When will the invoice for the SRS be sent?**

If the SRS consent form in QParents has not been completed by the 31 January 2025, the school will take the view that you have opted out of the SRS for 2025. The parent must then supply all resources which are required by Week 2, Term 1.

Families who have completed the SRS consent form, will be issued with an invoice for payment which will be due by Friday 7 March, 2025.

In cases of financial hardship, the Finance Department can assist with a payment plan for the SRS.

### **What is the Textbook and Resource Allowance (TRA)?**

The Textbook and Resource Allowance is government funding provided to parents via their school to assist with the cost of learning resources. Historically the school has credited this money to offset the General Levy charge for parents. With the SRS, this money has been allocated towards the SRS and has offset the cost of classroom resources so that the fee charged to parents is low.

### **What does acquisition cost and value to parent on the Resource List mean?**

To demonstrate the value offered by the SRS an acquisition cost is provided on the resource list as a guide to what you could expect to pay to source the materials and items that are required to support your child's classroom learning. This cost can be much higher than the charge within the SRS as you may need to buy an entire pack or set of items to obtain the one part that your child will need. As a school, we can purchase in bulk, split up the sets/packs across multiple students and do not pay GST on purchases of these resources.

The value to the parent is the cost you will be charged within the SRS for the item. It is not in addition to the SRS, but is the individual cost that is then totalled to work out the SRS cost.

### **What are the type of resources included the SRS?**

On the Resource List there is a column that indicates if a resource is Owned, Used or Hired. Owned resources are retained by the student for their own use eg; the student diary. Used resources are used/consumed in the classroom eg; paint in an art class. Hired items are loaned to the student for a specific time period and must be returned at the end in good condition, able to be used by the next student eg; English novel issued to students to read as part of the unit of work being completed by their class.

Understanding the type of resource on the list can help you to understand the value to parents in the SRS charges.