

FEES POLICY

Mandatory – Quality Area 7

DOCUMENTATION CONTROL RECORD

Document Title	SPK Fees Policy, October 2019, Endorsed, v1.docx
NQF Requirement	Mandatory – Quality Area 7
Document Owner	Vice President
Approved by Committee of Management	12 October 2019
Scheduled for Review	2020 (annual)

PURPOSE

This policy will provide clear guidelines for:

- the setting, payment and collection of fees
- ensuring the viability of Summerhill Park Kindergarten, by setting appropriate fees and charges
- the equitable and non-discriminatory application of fees across the programs provided by Summerhill Park Kindergarten.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. VALUES

Summerhill Park Kindergarten is committed to:

- providing responsible financial management of the service, including establishing fees that will result in a financially viable service, while keeping user fees at the lowest possible level
- providing a fair and manageable system for dealing with non-payment and/or inability to pay fees/outstanding debts
- ensuring there are no financial barriers for families wishing to access an early childhood program for their child/children
- maintaining confidentiality in relation to the financial circumstances of parents/guardians
- advising users of the service about program funding, including government support and fees to be paid by parents/guardians
- providing equitable access for families eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to the Approved Provider, Person with Management and Control, Nominated Supervisor, Person in Day-to-Day Charge, educators and parents/guardians with an enrolled child, or who wish to enrol a child at Summerhill Park Kindergarten.

3. BACKGROUND AND LEGISLATION

Background

The Department of Education and Training (DET) provides funding for each child who is enrolled and attending a funded kindergarten program in the year before school. Income from other sources, primarily fees, is required to meet all the additional costs incurred by the service in the delivery of the children's program. In addition, the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy (refer to *Definitions*) enables eligible children to attend a funded kindergarten program free of charge in the year before school.

DET also funds Early Start Kindergarten for three-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and children known to Child Protection, to access kindergarten programs as outlined in *The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to *Sources*).

DET requires that funded services have a comprehensive written fees policy, and the content of this policy must be communicated to families. The policy must include a written statement about the fees to be charged, as required under Regulation 168(2)(n), and the payment process. All families must be informed of applicable term and annual fees at the time of enrolment. Services must also advise eligible families of the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy arrangements. The fees charged must comply with the *Kindergarten Fee Subsidy – Fees Policy* (refer to *Definitions*), and be responsive to the local community and the viability of the service. *The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to *Sources*) outlines the criteria to be covered in the policy.

Legislation and standards

Relevant legislation and standards include but are not limited to:

- *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006* (Vic)
- *Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005* (Vic)
- *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (Cth)
- *Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010*
- *Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011*: Regulation 168(2)(n)
- *Equal Opportunity Act 1995* (Vic)
- *National Quality Standard*, including Quality Area 7: Governance and Leadership

4. DEFINITIONS

The terms defined in this section relate specifically to this policy. For commonly used terms e.g. Approved Provider, Nominated Supervisor, Regulatory Authority etc. refer to the *General Definitions* section of this manual.

Approved care: Approved child care services, such as long day care, family day care, before-and-after school care, vacation care, some occasional care and some in-home care childcare services, which have Australian Government approval to pass on Child Care Benefit (refer to *Definitions*) as a reduction in child care fees: www.humanservices.gov.au (Note: There will be changes to child care assistance from 2 July 2018. More information about the New Child Care Package can be found at: www.education.gov.au)

Child Care Benefit (CCB): A Commonwealth Government payment to help families who use either approved services or registered childcare (refer to *Definitions*). All eligible families can receive some Child Care Benefit. Details are available at: www.humanservices.gov.au. (Note: There will be changes to child care assistance from 2 July 2018. More information about the New Child Care Package can be found at: www.education.gov.au)

Early Start Kindergarten: A funding program that enables three-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and children known to Child Protection to attend a kindergarten program that is planned and delivered by an early childhood teacher for up to 15 hours per week. Details are available at: www.education.vic.gov.au

Enrolment application fee: A payment to cover administrative costs associated with the processing of a child's enrolment application for a place in a program at the service.

Excursion/service event charge: An additional charge required to meet the cost of special events or excursions that occur in response to emerging children's program needs. Events that are planned ahead and are included as an expenditure item in the service's budget do not incur this additional charge (refer to *Excursions and Service Events Policy*).

Fees: A charge for a place within a program at the service.

Health Care Card: A Commonwealth Government entitlement providing concessions for low-income earners and other eligible people. Details are available at: www.humanservices.gov.au

Kindergarten fee deposit: A charge to secure a place that has been offered in a program at the service. This is deducted from term fees.

Kindergarten Fee Subsidy (KFS): A state government subsidy paid in addition to per capita grants to subsidise the costs of parent fees and enable eligible children to attend a funded kindergarten for 15 hours free of charge (*The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to Sources)).

Late collection charge: A charge that may be imposed by the Approved Provider when parents/guardians are late to collect their child/children from the program (refer to Attachment 1 – Fee information for families).

Registered carer: Registered child care is provided by individuals who are registered as carers with the Department of Human Services. A registered carer may include grandparents, relatives, friends, neighbours or nannies. In some cases, it can also include care provided by individuals in private preschools, kindergartens and some outside school hour services, including before and after school care, vacation care and holiday programs: www.humanservices.gov.au (Note: There will be changes to child care assistance from 2 July 2018. More information about the New Child Care Package can be found at: www.education.gov.au)

Voluntary parent/guardian contribution: A voluntary payment for items not directly related to the provision of the children's program. Attendance at the service is not conditional on this payment.

5. SOURCES AND RELATED POLICIES

Sources

- *The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (Department of Education and Training www.education.vic.gov.au)
- The constitution of Summerhill Park Kindergarten

Service policies

- *Complaints and Grievances Policy*
- *Delivery and Collection of Children Policy*
- *Enrolment and Orientation Policy*
- *Excursions and Service Events Policy*
- *Inclusion and Equity Policy*
- *Privacy and Confidentiality Policy*

PROCEDURES

The Approved Provider and Person with Management and Control are responsible for:

- reviewing the current budget to determine fee income requirements
- developing a fee policy that balances the parent's/guardian's capacity to pay, with providing a high-quality program and maintaining service viability
- implementing and reviewing this policy in consultation with parents/guardians, the Nominated Supervisor and staff, and in line with the requirements of DET's *The Kindergarten Guide* (refer to Sources)

- considering any issues regarding fees that may be a barrier to families enrolling at Summerhill Park Kindergarten and removing those barriers wherever possible
- reviewing the effectiveness of the procedures for late payment and support offered
- considering options for payment when affordability is an issue for families
- clearly communicating this policy and payment options to families in a culturally-sensitive way, and in the family's first language where possible
- ensuring that the *Fees Policy* is readily accessible at the service (Regulation 171)
- providing all parents/guardians with fee information (refer to Attachment 1)
- providing all parents/guardians with a statement of fees and charges (refer to samples in Attachments 2 and 3) upon enrolment of their child
- providing all parents/guardians with a fee payment agreement (refer to samples in Attachments)
- ensuring fees are collected and receipted
- collecting all relevant information and maintaining relevant documentation regarding those with entitlement to concessions, where applicable
- complying with the service's *Privacy and Confidentiality Policy* regarding financial and other information received, including in relation to the payment/non-payment of fees
- notifying parents/guardians a minimum of 14 days of any proposed changes to the fees charged or the way in which the fees are collected (Regulation 172(2)), and ideally providing one term's notice.

The Nominated Supervisor and Person in Day-to-Day Charge is responsible for:

- assisting the Approved Provider in developing this policy, and ensuring that this policy is based on the *Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to *Definitions*)
- implementing and reviewing this policy, in consultation with parents/guardians, the Approved Provider and staff, and in line with the requirements of DET's *The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to *Sources*)
- considering any issues regarding fees that may be a barrier to families enrolling at Summerhill Park Kindergarten and removing those barriers wherever possible
- considering options for payment when affordability is an issue for families
- communicating this policy, the availability of the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy and payment options to families in a culturally-sensitive way and in the family's first language where possible
- providing all parents/guardians with fee information (refer to Attachment 1)
- providing all parents/guardians with a statement of fees and charges (refer to samples in Attachments 2 and 3) upon enrolment of their child, and ensuring that the *Fees Policy* is readily accessible at the service
- providing all parents/guardians with a fee payment agreement (refer to samples in Attachments)
- collecting all relevant information and maintaining relevant documents regarding those with entitlement to concessions, where applicable
- complying with the service's *Privacy and Confidentiality Policy* regarding financial and other information received, including in relation to the payment/non-payment of fees
- notifying parents/guardians within 14 days of any proposed changes to the fees charged or the way in which the fees are collected

All other staff are responsible for:

- informing the Approved Provider of any complaints or concerns that have been raised regarding fees at the service
- referring parents'/guardians' questions in relation to this policy to the Approved Provider.

Parents/guardians are responsible for:

- reading the Summerhill Park Kindergarten Fee information for families (refer to Attachment 1), the Fee Payment Agreement (refer to Attachments 4 and 5) and the Statement of Fees and Charges (refer to Attachments 2 and 3)

- signing and complying with the Fee Payment Agreement (refer to Attachments 4 and 5)
- notifying the Approved Provider if experiencing difficulties with the payment of fees
- providing the required documentation to enable the service to claim the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy for eligible families (refer to Attachment 1 – Fee information for families).

EVALUATION

In order to assess whether the values and purposes of the policy have been achieved, the Approved Provider will:

- regularly seek feedback from everyone affected by the policy regarding its effectiveness, particularly in relation to affordability, flexibility of payment options and procedures for the collection of fees
- monitor the implementation, compliance, complaints and incidents in relation to this policy
- monitor the number of families/children excluded from the service because of their inability to pay fees
- keep the policy up to date with current legislation, research, policy and best practice
- revise the policy and procedures as part of the service's policy review cycle, or as required
- notify parents/guardians at least 14 days before making any changes to this policy or its procedures (Regulation 172(2)) unless a lesser period is necessary because of a risk.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1: Fee information for families
- Attachment 2: Statement of Fees and Charges – Fee schedule – Four-year-old (funded) kindergarten program
- Attachment 3: Statement of Fees and Charges – Fee schedule – Three-year-old kindergarten program
- Attachment 4: Fee Payment Agreement – Four-year-old (funded) kindergarten program
- Attachment 5: Fee Payment Agreement – Three-year-old kindergarten program

AUTHORISATION

This policy was adopted by the Approved Provider of Summerhill Park Kindergarten on 17th June 2019.

REVIEW DATE: APRIL 2020

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Date	By	Reason for change
0.1	2014	ELAA	Initial Draft – ELAA template 2014
0.1	September 2015	2015 Assistant Treasurer, (M Porto)	Review against current SPK policy and ELAA template Endorsement by CoM
1.0	September 2015	2015 Vice President (H Whittle)	Review and addition of documentation control and history tables Revision of 2015 general amendments Change all DEECD references to DET

			First Final Version
1.1	29 September 2015	2015 Vice President (H Whittle)	7.3. SPK is a Registered Provider but not an Approved Provider for CCB purposes. Reference to SPK as Approved Provider for CCB removed. Amendment to Attachment 1 Fees Information for Families
2.0	16 August 2016	2016 VP	Amendments to reflect new constitution and new fee schedule
3.0	July 2018	2018 VP	Amendments to pick up new ELAA template
3.1	27 April 2019	Mira Haldun (Consultant)	Updated to ELAA policy template v4 Minor formatting changes
4	17 June 2019	2019 President (I. Griffith)	Review and endorsement by CoM
4.0	Oct 2019	2019 Assist Tres	Amendments to reflect new fee schedule

ATTACHMENT 1

Fee information for families

Summerhill Park Kindergarten 2019

1. General information

The Department of Education and Training (DET) provides funding for each child enrolled and attending kindergarten in the year before school as a contribution toward the costs of providing the program. Services meet the balance of costs through charging fees and fundraising activities.

DET provides a Kindergarten Fee Subsidy (see below) that enables children from eligible families to attend a kindergarten program free of charge in the year before school.

DET also provides funding to assist eligible three-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and children known to Child Protection, to access kindergarten programs.

Summerhill Park Kindergarten provides a range of support options to parents/guardians experiencing difficulty with payment of fees (see below).

2. How fees are set

As part of the budget development process, the Committee of Management sets fees each year for the programs of the service, taking into consideration:

- the financial viability of the service
- the level of government funding provided for the program, including the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy
- the availability of other income sources, such as grants
- the fees charged by similar services in the area
- the capacity of parents/guardians to pay fees
- reasonable expenditure in meeting agreed program quality and standards
- requirements of *The Kindergarten Funding Guide*: (Department of Education and Training) available from the DET website: www.education.vic.gov.au

3. Other charges

Other charges levied by Summerhill Park Kindergarten are included on the Statement of Fees and Charges. These include:

- **Kindergarten fee deposit:** This payment secures a child's place at the service and is payable on acceptance of enrolment. The deposit is retained as part payment on term fees. Families eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy (see below) are not required to pay the deposit. Families experiencing hardship should discuss any difficulties with the service. Parents/guardians are required to pay a \$100 fee deposit on offer of a place. This payment is retained and deducted from Term 2 fees.
- **Capital Improvement Contribution:** Included in the term fees is a Capital Improvement Contribution of \$25 per family per term. The levy was adopted to fairly share the burden of fundraising between the kindergarten families, guarantee a minimum funding base for each year, and reduce the level of fundraising activity and therefore the workload of the Social Subcommittee during the year.
- **Excursion/service event charge:** At times throughout the year an additional excursion(s) or event(s) may be arranged where it is considered relevant to the service's program and the children's interests. At this time any additional costs to families are taken into consideration before a decision is made (refer to *Excursions and Service Events Policy*).

- **Refundable levy:** The participation of parents/guardians is encouraged by the service and can help to keep costs more affordable. As not all families are able to assist at the service, a refundable levy system has been introduced to replace volunteering or fundraising activities. Payment will be refunded to parents/guardians on participation in specified activities which may include working bees, maintenance, and gardening etc. Eligible concession card holders will not be required to pay this levy. The levy is not intended to be a barrier to participation and families experiencing difficulties should discuss this with the service. A levy of \$120 per family per year is included in Term 1 fees charged by Summerhill Park Kindergarten. This levy is refunded to parents/guardians in Term 4 where participation in approved activities has occurred.
- **Non-refundable levy:** This levy is retained by the service and is included in the total fees charged by the service.
- **Late collection charge:** The Committee of Management reserves the right to implement a late collection charge when parents/guardians are frequently late in collecting a child from the service. In these situations, the following procedures will apply:
 - The qualified staff member will inform the parents/guardians that if late collection continues the Committee of Management will be notified and the family may be charged a late fee.
 - If after the reminder, the parents/guardians are between 15 and 30 minutes late, a fee of \$2 for every 5 minutes, or part thereof, from the conclusion of the session will be invoiced by the Committee of Management.
 - Where the parent/guardian is over 30 minutes late in collecting their child, a fee of \$5 for every 10 minutes, or part thereof, for the first 30 minutes from the conclusion of the session and then \$7 for every 10 minutes they are late or part thereof after that.

4. Statement of fees and charges

A statement of fees and charges for four-year-old or three-year-old kindergarten will be provided to families on enrolment.

5. Fundraising

Not all service costs are covered by DET per capita funding and the fees charged. Fundraising is undertaken to meet the balance and/or pay for additional items for the service. While participation in fundraising is voluntary, the support of every family is encouraged. Fundraising activities are also an opportunity for families and communities to come together.

The Committee of Management will ensure that fundraising income is kept separate from Summerhill Park Kindergarten's operating budget, and that families will be informed of the nature of expenditure of fundraising income.

6. Notification of fee changes during the year

Fees set for the year would only be reviewed in extraordinary circumstances; for example, if attendance rates fall below the budget 'break even' point. Parents/guardians will be given 28 days' notice in advance of any required fee increase. Parents/guardians will be provided an option of requesting a payment plan.

7. Subsidies

7.1 Kindergarten Fee Subsidy (four-year-old programs only)

The Kindergarten Fee Subsidy is provided by DET and enables eligible children to attend 15 hours of kindergarten free of charge. Eligibility conditions may change from time-to-time and must be checked in the most recent edition of the *Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to *Sources*).

Families may be eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy in the year before school if their child:

- is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander; or
- holds, or has a parent/guardian who holds a Humanitarian or refugee Visa; or
- is a multiple birth child (triplets or more); or

- holds, or has a parent who holds a Commonwealth Health Care Card
- Pensioner Concession Card or Veterans' Affairs Card

Exclusions and exceptions: Not available for long day care services in receipt of Commonwealth Child Care Benefit.

Where a child is identified by a parent, carer or legal guardian as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, no verification is required. In all other instances, supporting documentation should be sighted by the service on acceptance of a place or on commencement in the program, however where there are delays, such as in obtaining health care cards for children in out-of-home care, the delay should not provide a barrier to the child accessing the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy. Families are eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy for the full term in which their concession is valid. Contact the service for further information.

7.2 Early Start Kindergarten fee subsidy

Three-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children known to Child Protection are eligible to attend a funded early childhood program that is planned and delivered by a qualified early childhood teacher free of charge. The service receives funding for children who meet the eligibility criteria. Contact the service for further information.

7.3 Child Care Benefit (CCB)

Child Care Benefit (CCB) is an Australian Government payment that can assist eligible families with the costs of childcare at an approved or registered care provider. Summerhill Park Kindergarten is a registered care provider with the Family Assistance Office (FAO).

Approved care is childcare that meets certain standards and requirements, and is approved by the Australian Government. Approved care providers must hold a licence to operate, have qualified and trained staff, be open certain hours and meet health, safety and other quality standards. Most long day care, family day care, before-and-after school care, vacation care, some occasional care and some in-home care childcare services are approved providers.

Registered care is childcare provided for work-related purposes, including training and studying, maternity leave, sick leave or voluntary work, and the work-related purpose must have occurred at some time during the week in which the registered care was used. Registered care is provided by individuals registered with the Department of Human Services and may include care given by kindergarten staff.

The amount payable is set by the Australian Government.

8. Payment of fees

The Committee of Management will regularly review payment options and procedures, to ensure that they are inclusive and sensitive to families' cultural and financial situations.

Fees will be invoiced to parents/guardians directly and must be paid by the date indicated on the invoice. Each invoice will be accompanied by payment instructions. The first term's fees must be received in full prior to the child commencing at the service. For children enrolled after the commencement of a term, a pro rata invoice will be issued and must be paid in full within 14 days of the child's commencement at the service. Receipts will be provided for all fee payments.

The annual fee will be invoiced as follows:

- On acceptance of a place, the kindergarten fee deposit invoice will be issued
- Terms 1, 2, 3 and 4 are outlined below.
 1. The kindergarten fee deposit invoice will be sent by mail with the letter of offer.
 2. The fee deposit will be deducted from the second term fees.

3. Invoice for Term 1 will be sent by email in late Term 4 of the previous year. Term 2, 3 & 4 invoices are issued at the end of the preceding term. Invoices are to be paid in full by the due date.
4. Families commencing at Summerhill Park Kindergarten at other times will be invoiced with payment terms of two weeks from the commencement date.
5. All families, including those eligible for the kindergarten fee subsidy, will receive an invoice detailing the charges for the period invoiced and the amount owing (if any).
6. If requested, invoices will be sent by mail to parents/guardians.
7. All fees will be collected by the Treasurer. The Treasurer will provide account statements to all families detailing payments received.

8.1 Method of payment

Details of payment will be specified on the invoice: payment can be made by cheque or electronic funds transfer. Payments or direct deposit records can be given directly to the Treasurer or placed in the collection box at the kindergarten entrance.

8.2 Issue of Statements

Statements will be as a means of receipt or where accounts remain outstanding.

9. Unpaid fees

Parents/guardians experiencing difficulty in paying fees are requested to contact the Treasurer to arrange a suitable alternative payment plan. The Privacy and Confidentiality Policy of the service will be complied with at all times in relation to a family's financial/personal circumstances.

If fees are not paid by the due date, the following steps will be taken.

- An initial reminder letter will be sent to parents/guardians with a specified payment date, and will include information on a range of support options available for the family.
- Where payment is still not received, families will be invited to attend a meeting to discuss the range of support options available and establish a payment plan.
- Failure to attend the meeting and continued non-payment may result in a second and final letter notifying parents/guardians that the child's place at the service may be withdrawn unless payment is made or a payment plan is entered into within a specified period of time. This letter will also include information on a range of support options available for the family.
- The Committee of Management will continue to offer support and will reserve the right to employ the services of a debt collector.
- If a decision is made to withdraw the child's place at the service, the parents/guardians will be provided with 14 days' notice in writing.

The Treasurer, any Committee of Management members and any staff involved will ensure the Privacy policy of Summerhill Park Kindergarten is complied with. Staff may be consulted on a child's attendance rates and any other information required for the Treasurer to fulfil their role.

9.1 Debt recovery

The Committee of Management reserves the right to take action to recover debts owing to the centre. This can include the engagement of debt collectors. Using a debt collector will be considered as a last resort after attempts to implement other payment procedures have been offered.

Where a family owes a substantial amount of money to the kindergarten, the committee reserves the right to not allow further placements in programs until all outstanding monies are paid, or a payment plan is agreed and adhered to by both parties.

10. Refund of fees

If a family becomes eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy during a term, a full refund of the applicable term fees (and fee deposit, where appropriate) will be provided. Fees may still apply for programs offering more than the required minimum hours per week.

1. In any other case, fees are non-refundable (exceptional circumstances may apply – these are at the discretion of the Committee of Management.

There will be no refund of fees in the following circumstances:

- a child's short-term illness
- public holidays
- family holiday during operational times
- closure of the service for one or more days when a qualified educator is absent and a qualified reliever is not available
- closure of the service for staff training days
- closure of the service due to extreme and unavoidable circumstances.

In addition, there will be no refund where a family chooses not to send their child to the program for the maximum number of hours for which they are enrolled.

11. Children turning three during the year of enrolment

Full payment from the first day of Term 1 is required if a place is to be reserved for a child in the three-year-old kindergarten program. Children can only commence the program when they have turned three.

12. Support services

Families experiencing financial hardship often require access to family support services. Information on these services may be available from the kindergarten service provider or alternatively families may contact the local council.

ATTACHMENT 2
<PLACE ON SPK LETTERHEAD>

Statement of Fees and Charges

Summerhill Park Kindergarten

Fee schedule 2020

Four-year-old (funded) kindergarten – Blue Group

Hours: 17.5 hours per week

	Fees (\$)	Capital Improvement Contribution*	Refunda ble Levy**	Total (\$)
Kindergarten fee deposit	\$100			\$100
Term 1	\$790 (\$150 Concession)	Nil	\$120	\$910 (\$150 Concession)
Term 2	\$690 <i>(refund of fee deposit applies)</i> (\$150 Concession)	Nil		\$690 (\$150 Concession)
Term 3	\$790 (\$150 Concession)	Nil		\$790 (\$150 Concession)
Term 4	\$790 (\$150 Concession)	Nil		\$790 (\$150 Concession)
Total	\$3,160 (\$600 Concession)	Nil	\$120	\$3,280 (\$600 Concession)

**Payable once per family per term*

***Payable once per family per year, to be refunded in Term 4 upon participation in approved activity
(eg, working bee) at the rate of \$30 per term*

<PLACE ON SPK LETTERHEAD>

Summerhill Park Kindergarten

Fee schedule 2020

Four-year-old (funded) kindergarten – Yellow Group

Hours: 15 hours per week

	Fees (\$)	Capital Improvement Contribution*	Refundable Levy**	Total (\$)
Kindergarten fee deposit	\$100			\$100
Term 1	\$650	Nil	\$120	\$770
Term 2	\$550 (refund of fee deposit applies)	Nil		\$550
Term 3	\$650	Nil		\$650
Term 4	\$650	Nil		\$650
Total	\$2,600	Nil	\$120	\$2,720

*Payable once per family per term

**Payable once per family per year, to be refunded in Term 4 upon participation in approved activity (eg, working bee) at the rate of \$30 per term

Payment of fees

Payment of term fees is required prior to the commencement of the term. Invoices will be issued prior the end of the term and must be paid by the due date.

Kindergarten fee deposit

Parents/guardians are required to pay a \$100 fee deposit on offer of a place. This payment is retained and deducted from Term 2 fees. Payment will secure the child's place in the four-year-old (funded) kindergarten program.

Kindergarten Fee Subsidy

Families who are eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy (refer to Fee information for families) will not be required to make fee payments.

Child Care Benefit (CCB)

For information on the Child Care Benefit, refer to Fee information for families. (Note: There will be changes to child care assistance from 2 July 2018. More information about the New Child Care Package can be found at: www.education.gov.au).

Late collection charge

The Committee of Management reserves the right to implement a late collection charge when parents/guardians are frequently late in collecting a child (refer to Fee information for families).

ATTACHMENT 3
<PLACE ON SPK LETTERHEAD>

Statement of Fees and Charges

Summerhill Park Kindergarten

Fee schedule 2020

Three-year-old kindergarten – Red Group

Hours: 5 hours per week

	Fees (\$)	Capital Improvement Contribution*	Refundable Levy**	Total (\$)
Kindergarten fee deposit	\$100			\$100
Term 1	\$460	Nil	\$120	\$580
Term 2	\$360 (<i>Refund of fee deposit applies</i>)	Nil		\$360
Term 3	\$460	Nil		\$460
Term 4	\$460	Nil		\$460
Total	\$1,840	Nil	\$120	\$1,960

**Payable once per family per term*

***Payable once per family per year, to be refunded in Term 4 upon participation in approved activity (eg, working bee) at the rate of \$30 per term*

Payment of fees

Payment of term fees is required prior to the commencement of the term. Invoices will be issued prior to the end of the Term and must be paid by the due date.

Kindergarten fee deposit

Parents/guardians are required to pay a \$100 fee deposit on offer of a place. This payment is retained and deducted from Term 2 fees. Payment will secure the child's place in the three-year-old kindergarten program.

Early Start Kindergarten fee subsidy

Families who are eligible for the Early Start Kindergarten fee subsidy (refer to Fee information for families) will not be required to make fee payments.

Child Care Benefit (CCB)

For information on the Child Care Benefit, refer to Fee information for families. (Note: There will be changes to child care assistance from 2 July 2018. More information about the New Child Care Package can be found at: www.education.gov.au)

Children turning three during the year

Full payment from the first day of Term 1 is required if a place is to be reserved for a child in the three-year-old kindergarten program. Children can only commence the program when they have turned three.

Late collection charge

The Committee of Management reserves the right to implement a late collection charge when parents/guardians are frequently late in collecting a child (refer to Fee information for families).

ATTACHMENT 4

Fee Payment Agreement

2020

Four-year-old (funded) kindergarten program

Please complete this form and return to Summerhill Park Kindergarten by [Date]

Fee payment contract

Child's full name: _____

Parent's/guardian's full name: _____

- I/we acknowledge that the four-year-old kindergarten program is partly funded by the state government, with the balance of funds coming from fees paid by parents/guardians.
- I/we understand that I/we am/are entitled to obtain the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy if I/we meet one of the criteria. If my/our eligibility lapses, then I/we understand that full payment of fees is required from the beginning of the following term.
- I/we agree to pay fees by the due date on the invoice.
- I/we understand that term fees are non-refundable.
- I/we acknowledge that if fees are not paid by the due date, the Committee of Management will implement the late payment of fees procedures, as outlined in the *Fees Policy*, which could result in the withdrawal of my/our child's place at the service and no further enrolments until the outstanding fees are paid.
- I/we agree that if my/our financial circumstances change and I/we am/are unable to pay as agreed, I/we will immediately notify the Treasurer to discuss alternative payment options.
- I/we acknowledge that I/we have received and read the service's Fee information for families, which outlines the procedure for payment of fees.

Kindergarten Fee Subsidy

Please advise if the child is Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Please tick: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please indicate below which concession you are eligible for – the criteria is outlined on Attachment 1 Section 7.

Concession: _____

Except in the case of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child, supporting documentation will need to be sighted on commencement at Summerhill Park Kindergarten by the Treasurer.

Note: the eligibility of concessions may vary from time-to-time. Up-to-date information can be found in *The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (Department of Education and Training) :

www.education.vic.gov.au

Signature (parent/guardian)

Date

Note: Invoices, receipts and collection of fees will be in accordance with the Summerhill Park Kindergarten *Fees Policy*.

ATTACHMENT 5

Fee Payment Agreement

2020

Three-year-old kindergarten program

Please complete this form and return to Summerhill Park Kindergarten by [Date].

Fee payment contract

Child's full name: _____

Parent's/guardian's full name: _____

- I/we acknowledge that the three-year-old kindergarten is not funded by the state government and that the program cannot operate without receiving fees (the only exception is where a child is eligible for the Early Start Kindergarten fee subsidy – see below).
- I/we agree to pay fees by the due date on the invoice.
- I/we acknowledge that if fees are not paid by the due date, the Committee of Management will implement the late payment of fees procedures, as outlined in the *Fees Policy* which could result in the withdrawal of my/our child's place at the service and no further enrolments being accepted until the outstanding fees are paid.
- I/we understand that term fees are non-refundable.
- I/we agree that if my/our financial circumstances change and I/we am/are unable to pay as agreed, I/we will immediately notify the Treasurer to discuss alternative payment options.
- I/we acknowledge that I/we have received and read the service's Fee information for families, which outlines the procedures for payment of fees.

Signature (parent/guardian)

Date

Note: invoices, receipts and collection of fees will be in accordance with the Summerhill Park Kindergarten *Fees Policy*.

Early Start Kindergarten

Three-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children known to Child Protection are eligible to attend a funded early childhood program that is planned and delivered by a qualified early childhood teacher free of charge. The service receives funding for children who meet the eligibility criteria. Contact the service for further information.

Please advise if the child is Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander *Please tick:* ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please advise if the child is known to child protection *Please tick:* ☐ Yes ☐ No