

2017 SRS FAQ's

Student Resource Scheme

Frequently Asked Questions

ALBANY
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Doesn't the Government provide free education?

The Government defrays the cost of providing instruction, administration and facilities in accordance with Section 50 of the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006, which states:

"Instruction to be free: In State Schools, the cost of providing instruction, administration and facilities for the Education of the person at the school must be met by the State."

Why does Albany Creek State High School operate a Student Resource Hire Scheme?

The objective of the scheme is to offer parents an economic alternative to the purchase of school resources and textbooks and to enhance and maximise resources available for student learning, recreation and comfort.

What does my child receive?

- The use of textbooks and resources – as per the current textbook and resource list.
- Use of additional computer software.
- Materials for standard practical activities in: Art, Music, Drama, Science, Physical Education, Sport, Manual Arts and Home Economics but **not** ingredients for Home Economics cooking for home activities or additional materials for take home projects in Art and Manual Arts.
- Resource materials and equipment used in various subject areas i.e. texts that form part of class sets, departmental resource collections that are supplied for occasional use by students.
- Student ID card
- School Assessment Planners
- Student Homework Organiser
- Sport Participation\pool entry

Non-consumable resources are provided on loan. Students are expected to take due care of all items and to return them, in a condition similar to that in which they were issued, on completion of a unit of study or upon leaving the school.

Is the BYO Device Programme part of the scheme?

The BYOD program is not part of the scheme. Parents of students who choose to participate in this will be required to purchase their own iPad or Laptop. Further information on the BYOD program is available from the school.

What do I have to provide?

The scheme does not cover students' personal requisites such as stationery, writing materials, or protective clothing. A stationery list is available for each year level in curriculum handbooks. Students in some subjects e.g. Home Economics, Manual Arts and Art will be required to pay additional amounts to cover the cost of materials used in producing articles which will be taken home or consumed. The scheme does not cover the costs involved for sporting events outside the school; selected Wednesday afternoon sports buses, venue entry, drama performances, school excursions, camps and formals.

Am I able to join the scheme if I have overdue payments from the previous year?

All families of the school are able to be members of the scheme provided that no amounts are outstanding from the previous year. The school operates the Student Resource Scheme to benefit all eligible students. It is not viable for the school to provide this service if fees are outstanding. It is for this reason that students may be refused entry into the scheme if fees are outstanding from the previous year/s.

Am I able to join the scheme and only pay for selected items?

No, for the scheme to be cost effective and viable all parents who wish to join the scheme must pay the full amount. This means no refunds are made for non-participation in specific events.

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Does my child qualify for the Government Textbook Allowance?

All year 7 to 12 students are eligible for the Textbook Allowance except students who are:

- Undertaking part-time study.
- Whose parent/caregivers are not resident in Queensland.
- From overseas countries. (Generally, all overseas students, including full fee-paying students and students on exchange programs attending Qld schools are not eligible. However students with permanent residence entry visas do qualify).
- With parents/caregivers overseas or interstate (for more than 12 months).
- Attending centres for continuing secondary education.
- Adult students (students in regular secondary schools who are 19 years of age or older on 1 January of the year they enrol in Year 11 or 12 and are not progressing directly from full-time study in Year 10, are not eligible).
- Attending state special schools (including students undertaking split enrolment arrangements).
- Enrolled after the second Friday of Term 4.

Students who are ineligible to receive the Government Textbook allowance will be required to pay \$115.00 in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and \$250.00 in Years 11 & 12. (this information is accurate as at 16/07/14)

What happens if my student leaves during the course of the school year?

If your student leaves school all books and students ID's must be returned. Refunds will be based on the full Student Resource Scheme charge (including the Government Textbook Allowance and parent/caregiver charge), less the cost of consumed materials and/or the cost of replacing lost or damaged books. Parents are requested to complete and sign an exit pass, which is available from the school office. Once the pro-rata payment has been calculated, a refund cheque will be posted to the mailing address indicated on the exit pass. Refunds will only be completed by request.

What happens if I am enrolling my student later in the year?

If students enrol at the school after first term, the fee will be reduced on a pro-rata basis. If the enrolling student has attended another Queensland State High School – refunds should be obtained from the previous school.

What happens if I am experiencing financial difficulties?

Families who expect to experience financial difficulties in making payments connected with this scheme are invited to telephone the school and speak to the Business Services Manager (Ian Stoker) phone 3325 6333 so that an appropriate response to the difficulty can be addressed. A subsidy of 10% per student is available for families with more than one child. Parents/Caregivers are advised that to participate in the resource hire progressive payment scheme a minimum initial payment of \$60 is required. Students receiving Youth Allowance payments and their families are reminded that Youth Allowance payments are intended to assist students in meeting education costs.

What happens if I agree to participate in the scheme and do not pay any of the amounts owing?

While it is voluntary to join the Student Resource Scheme, by signing the Participation Agreement Form parents/caregivers have entered into an agreement to pay the charges in exchange for the use of textbooks and resources. There is therefore an obligation on participating parents/caregivers to make these payments or provide their own textbooks and resources. Participation in the Student Resource Scheme may be terminated and hired textbooks, resources or other goods may be retrieved where:

- It is early in the unit of study
- The parent/caregiver has not attempted to make payment, and
- No satisfactory arrangements for payment have been made.

The parent/caregiver is then responsible for providing all necessary textbooks and resources. The school will refund the Government Textbook Allowance on a pro-rata basis for the remainder of the school year less the cost of consumed materials and/or the cost of replacing lost or damaged books.

Students with outstanding fees may also be denied the opportunity to participate in non-compulsory school activities. These activities include:

- Ski Trip
- Any overseas trip
- Camps and enrichment activities

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- Dances and other social activities
- Year 12 Formal
- Year 12 Jersey
- Year 12 Dreamworld
- Greater Brisbane Sport (GBS)
- Wednesday afternoon sport
- Laptop programme

What happens if a book or resource is lost or damaged?

Parents are responsible for the replacement cost of materials or text belonging to the scheme which are damaged or lost by their son/daughter. This replacement cost will attract GST (a Commonwealth Government Tax).

What happens if my son/daughter loses his or her student ID or school diary?

Replacement cost for the student ID card is \$10.00. The replacement cost for the Student Diary is \$12.00.

What do I need to do now?

After reading the enclosed information and if you decide to participate in the scheme, please complete the Participation Agreement Form which is included in this package.

How do I make a payment?

Payment can be made by way of cash, cheque or EFTPOS. Please make cheques payable to Albany Creek State High School. All monies received by the school under the scheme will be banked into the school's General Account and will be subject to Annual Audit. Receipts will be issued after payments are received. Please keep receipts for your records.

What happens if I do not wish to participate in this scheme?

Parents/caregivers who do not wish to participate in this scheme must complete the Participation Agreement Form by checking the "No I do not wish to participate" box and signing the form which is included in this package. Parents who choose not to participate will then be required to pay the non-participation fee and provide all textbooks, materials and consumables required for each subject studied.

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