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23 February, 2024



## **Cust School Donations 2024**

### **Donations:**

Cust School is a state school. We receive Government funding which covers the basic requirements of our learning programme for domestic students. However, due to our high “decile” rating, we receive less Government funding than lower “decile” schools. We are therefore reliant on additional sources of funding to support our extensive learning support programmes and maintain resources such as library books, reading materials, computer software and maintenance.

While adequate funding in low decile schools is important, high decile schools struggle to cover the range of resource needs, and programmes our children need and our community expects us to provide and while our PTA does a great job, it is an impossible task for them to make up the difference with fundraising alone.

The board of trustees sets the level of the school donation and advertises it to parents.

The school could not operate without this donation. **It is currently set at \$130 per child for 2024.**

Payment of the donation is voluntary.

***All school donations are tax deductible and a receipt will be provided.***

Please see the following [link](#) to the IRD website for more information.

We do request that you pay your donation by the 31st of March either by cash, automatic payment or through internet banking. Please use School Donation and your child’s name as a reference.

**The Cust School Bank account number is 03 1592 0074218 00**

### **Other School Costs**

As part of providing a full programme of activities to meet curriculum requirements and enhance the curriculum for students at Cust School, the school provides a range of resources and activities for which parents have made payments in the past. Rulings by the Ombudsman and the Inland Revenue Department have resulted in some rules around how these costs must be described.

On your donation statement, you will notice that some items are marked as “Voluntary Contribution” and others as “Optional”.

### **Voluntary Contribution**

Those items marked as “voluntary contribution” are items that the school provides as part of the curriculum for which the school cannot require payment from parents.

Parents can choose whether or not to pay for these items. Regardless of payment, all students enrolled in the school will be given access to the item. Year 7 & 8 Technology Fees – fall into this category.

However, if a significant number of parents choose not to pay for these items, the school will experience a shortfall in funding and that activity, and future activities might not be able to go ahead. Voluntary contributions are classed as a donation and qualify for a tax donation credit rebate.

### **Optional Items**

Items marked as “optional” are items that the school provides as an enhancement to the curriculum for which the school does not receive funding from the Ministry of Education and for which the school can require payment before a student can participate in the activity or access the item.

Boards may charge for sports trips or activities that are outside the school curriculum. Participation in these activities is optional and schools can enforce payment in order for a child to participate.

Examples of these would be: Basketball, Hockey, Kiwi Competitions (Maths, English, Science, Spelling), Skiing.

We appreciate your support and your attention to this.

Warm regards

Gerhard Potgieter  
Principal