Gympie State high School

Student Resource Scheme

Annual Parent Information Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This letter contains important information about the **2027 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, Gympie State High School operates an SRS for 2027.

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 10/02/2027.

SRS Participation

The objective of the scheme is to provide a convenient and cost-effective way for students to access the educational resources necessary to enhance their learning experience at school. The Department encourages parents to participate in the scheme. Participation in the SRS is optional, and no obligation is placed on a parent to participate. Participation is for the duration of your child's enrolment at the school.

Student is new to the school…..

Parents are required to complete and return the SRS Participation Agreement Form when joining the scheme for the first time. If no participation form is received by 25th February 2027, the school will take the view that the parent has chosen to opt out of the SRS. The parent is then required to provide the educational resources listed in the SRS for their child by the start of the school year. A parent can opt in or out of the scheme in subsequent years by completing another Participation Agreement Form.

Continuing student of the school…..

A parent's participation or non-participation in the scheme will continue as per their previously completed Participation Agreement Form. A parent can opt in or out of the scheme in subsequent years by completing another Participation Agreement Form.

If a parent has opted out of the scheme the parent is required to provide the educational resources listed in the SRS for their child by the start of the school year.

For more detailed information about the SRS can be found on the Department's website: (https://ppr.qed.qld.gov.au/pp/student-resource-scheme-srs-procedure).

For general information on school fees and charges please see the 'parents and carers' site on School fees and charges.

Resource Inclusions

All resources included in the SRS are detailed in the attached **SRS Resource list.** This list is also available on the school's website. This is a comprehensive list of all resources included in the scheme and their associated costs.

Parents must inform the school if items on the list of resources are not received by their child when resources are distributed.

Type of Resources provided

Generally, the three types of resources that could be included are:

- **Owned** – these items are retained by the student and used as required (e.g. stationery, exercise books, student diary).
- **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.
- **Hired** – these items are hired to the student for their personal use for a specific period of time (e.g. textbooks, musical instruments, laptops).
  - Hired items must be returned to the school in good condition at the end of the hire period or if the student leaves the school.
  - A repair or replacement cost may be charged to the parent for any hired items that are damaged or not returned.

Costing Methodology

The schools SRS fee is calculated based on:

1. A flat fee for all students in the school, OR
2. A flat fee for a cohort group of students (e.g. a year level), OR
3. A general fee for all students or a cohort group plus additional fees for individual subject inclusions.

   Please refer to the **SRS Resource list** for the associated costings.

The Back to School Boost

Queensland Government provides a $100 Back to school boost to help parents cover the cost of school essentials for primary school students (Prep to Year 6). A $100 credit will be placed on the account of each eligible primary school student from the early in the school year.

Parents can choose to apply the credit on their child's account to their total SRS fee payable in the SRS fee payment arrangement form (below).

Parents can check QParents (or contact school if you don't have a QParents account) to see their remaining Back to school boost balance.

The Textbook and Resource Allowance

The Department of Education provides a Textbook and Resource Allowance (TRA) to assist parents with the cost of textbooks and other education resources for eligible Years 7 to 12 students. For those students who are eligible to receive the TRA, the TRA will be applied to reduce the cost of participation in the SRS. Information on the TRA can be found on the department's website (https://education.qld.gov.au/about-us/budgets-funding-grants/grants/parents-and-students/textbook-resource-allowance).

Year level	2027 TRA Rate
Years 7 to 10	**$164**
Years 11 to 12	**$357**

The SRS Participation Fee

The SRS fee payable for the year is available in the attached information and published on the school's website. This also includes the TRA component which has been deducted to reduce the SRS fee payable.

* If the cost of the SRS is equal to the TRA rate, no SRS Fee is payable.

For primary school students, the Back to School Boost can be applied to reduce the SRS fee payable. If you would like the $100 to be applied to a cost other than your SRS fee, please indicate this by **opting out** of using your Back to School Boost in the SRS Fee Payment Arrangement Form (below).

Financial Hardship

Parents experiencing financial hardship who are currently participating or wish to participate in the SRS should contact the school to discuss available options in confidence.

Payment Arrangement

Several payment options including a single payment for the full year's fee or term instalments are available. An instalment plan can also be negotiated with the school.

Any unpaid invoices will be managed according to the department's Debt Management Procedure. Only as a last resort, a Principal may use discretion to exclude a student from optional, non-curricular activities where a parent has an outstanding debt with the school. (https://ppr.qed.qld.gov.au/pp/debt-management-procedure).

Payment Method

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

- Payment may be made through the QParents portal using a credit 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 humanservices.gov.au/centrepay for more information on how to set up your Centrepay deductions.

Contact Us

For all queries regarding the SRS and its inclusions, please contact and arrange an appointment with the schools finance office – accounts@gympieshs.eq.edu.au

Please complete the SRS Fee Payment Arrangement Form and return to the school administration office by 26th February 2027.