



REALISING CHILDREN'S POTENTIAL
THROUGH EDUCATION

Ardoch School Costs Guide

VICTORIA

2019

A guide for parents on how to manage and reduce school costs



www.ardoch.org.au

ABOUT ARDOCH



Ardoch has been supporting children and young people for 30 years.

Our vision is that every child's potential is realised through full participation in education and our mission is to increase engagement in education, build the aspirations and enhance the learning outcomes of children in disadvantaged communities. We do this by mobilising volunteers and connecting partners to build the capacity of schools and early years centres in these communities and advocating for, and influencing, policy change to reduce inequity in education.

Ardoch currently works with approximately 100 schools and early years services across Australia, with the majority of our partners in Victoria where we have a particular focus on communities around Dandenong, Frankston, the northern suburbs of Geelong and Melbourne's West.

Our programs are focused on literacy, science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) and offering incursions and excursions that enable children and young people to broaden their horizons.

INTRODUCTION



The Ardoch School Costs Guide is intended to support parents, carers and those who care about children's education and ensuring that they have everything they need to learn and realise their potential.

We know that there are additional costs for families when children start, or return to, school each year and the aim of this guide is to help inform you about the different costs of education and assist you to manage these.

We know that simply working out and understanding what costs there are, and how to reduce these, can be overwhelming. This guide is here to help you. You can read it all at once or dip into it as you need to. We welcome any suggestions for improvement.

We also believe that the personal role you play in supporting children to learn is the most critical. By engaging in what children are learning, talking about the benefits of school and building positive relationships with people at your child's school you reinforce the importance of education, which will be the key to them having chances and choices in life.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K Bates', is positioned above the printed name.

Kylee Bates
Chief Executive Officer
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1. SCHOOL FEES



Free education is the law but there are many additional fees that schools may charge. These can fall into the following three categories:

★ Essential education items

These items can include a school diary, travel to school sports and some camps.

This is a compulsory bill. It should be sent to you at least six weeks before the end of school the year before (possibly in November). You should be given the opportunity to pay this bill in the year of schooling.

The school may also be able to offer a payment plan. Contact them to find out what support they can offer.

★ Optional extras

Extras can include music lessons and extra-curricular activities.

You can choose whether or not you wish to pay this bill. However your child will not be included in the activities if this bill is not paid. Sometimes this bill includes items that most other students will have e.g. lockers. Ask your school to find ways to ensure that your child is not left out.

★ Voluntary contributions

Voluntary contributions can include costs for buildings.

Voluntary contributions for school fees are voluntary. Schools encourage payment because the money contributes to the school budget and allows the school to offer a richer program to the students. Fees are voluntary and students should not be prevented from participating in activities/curriculum because these contributions aren't paid.

For more information go to www.education.vic.gov.au and search: 'school costs and fees'.

2. GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



★ Federal Government assistance

Federal government assistance is provided through Centrelink. For up to date information please check the Centrelink website at www.centrelink.gov.au.

Here is a summary of the payments which students may be eligible for:

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Study Scheme

Indigenous secondary students may be eligible for Abstudy which provides financial assistance for schooling or further studies. Indigenous primary students living at home and aged 14 years or more on 1 January in the year of study may also be eligible for assistance.

Assistance for Isolated Children's Scheme

This scheme provides for families who have a primary, secondary or under 16 year old tertiary student who cannot go to an appropriate government school because they live too far away or have a disability or special need that cannot be met at a local state school.

Youth Allowance

Full-time secondary students may apply for the Youth Allowance Scheme through Centrelink if they are aged 18.

★ Local Government assistance

Local governments generally do not provide assistance to individuals and families with education costs. Some local government areas provide programs under School Focused Youth Service funds but this is a service provided to schools. Ask your school administration if the school accesses the School Focused Youth Service.

3. COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE OPTIONS



★ Community organisations

The Smith Family

The Smith Family offers a Learning for Life program to students facing disadvantage. To be eligible, your child must attend a school in which The Smith Family works and you would need to contact your school's principal who may be able to refer you. There are limited scholarships available.

- www.thesmithfamily.com.au

St Vincent de Paul Society

St Vincent de Paul may be able to help in two areas:

★ The St Vincent de Paul Society offers people assistance through home visits. This support may include providing food or food vouchers, clothing, furniture, budget support, assistance with utility bills or back to school costs, information and advocacy.

★ Material assistance is available through its network of Vinnies Centres. Vinnies Centres are able to provide (depending upon supply) a variety of goods including furniture, clothing and household goods to families and people who are in need.

- www.vinnies.org.au (search 'Find Help')

- Ph: 1800 305 330 (Welfare Assistance Line)

Good Shepherd Microfinance

Good Shepherd Microfinance has a range of financial programs and loans that you may be eligible for that assist with education and other expenses.

- www.goodshepherdmicrofinance.org.au

Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ (Saver Plus)

The Saver Plus program can help you save enough money for educational costs. The program will help you save \$500 over 10 months and then match this dollar for dollar to spend on educational items. The program involves education sessions on finances, which give you tips on how to make savings.

- www.bsl.org.au

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE OPTIONS (cont.)



★ Online search options

The Internet has a great range of information to help you find support services. It can be useful to know the right places to look and the right words to search.

Below are keywords to search if you are:

1) Experiencing a crisis

Material aid, emergency relief, financial aid, emergency housing or accommodation, food vouchers, crisis assistance

2) Needing school-related support

School support, education support

Websites which might be useful are:

Infoxchange Service Seeker

Infoxchange Service Seeker is a useful search site for all community support services.

- www.serviceseeker.com.au

Human Services Directory

The human services directory is a government website which lists health, social and disability services in Victoria. Your local council website will usually have a community services directory which you can use to look up services in your area (See page 17).

- www.humanservicesdirectory.vic.gov.au

The CRIS (Crisis Referral Information System)

The Crisis Referral Information System contains information on a large number of Victorian community-based support services and other services.

- cris.crisisservices.org.au

4. UNIFORMS

★ Within your school

Uniform Shop

Often the uniform shop will keep second-hand stock as well as new items.

Swap Days

Some schools have swap days which are usually organised by the Parents' Association. Check with your school to see what they have available.

Connecting with other families

You may know someone who has children slightly older than your children who could pass on second-hand school uniforms.

Setting up a system

You may like to be involved and set up a second-hand uniform shop within your school. Second-hand uniform shops are often set up by parents within their school so contact the school's Parents' Association to find out more information or to get the ball rolling.

★ State Schools' Relief (SSR)

SSR is a charity which provides new footwear and clothing for children in need. They can also contribute towards the purchase of branded uniform items.

SSR support can only be accessed through the school so please contact the principal or welfare officer to see if you are eligible for support.

- www.ssr.net.au

Glasses for Kids

SSR, with the support of the Department of Education and Training, Victoria, delivers *Glasses for Kids*, a free vision screening program for Prep to Year 3 students at participating schools. If students are found to have a vision impairment, the program also facilitates follow up eye testing and glasses. Parental consent is required for screening.

UNIFORMS (cont.)

★ Generic (plain) uniform items

Department stores such as Big W, Target and K-mart sell a range of plain, school coloured clothes that can be used as uniform wear. These garments retail for a fraction of the regular uniform suppliers' price. If available, ask your school for an iron-on or sew-on logo to put on purchased items.

★ Online options

The following websites may have second-hand uniforms for your school listed. Searching is free on all of them – although listing an item to sell may incur a cost.

Sustainable School Shop - www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au

The Uniform Exchange - www.theuniformexchange.com.au

5. TEXTBOOKS

★ Within your school

School book sale days

Often a school will organise for second-hand textbooks to be sold at discounted prices to students. Most schools hold their second-hand book sales in early December.

Hiring Textbooks

Some schools allow families to hire text books for the year at a nominal cost. Under this scheme it is the student's responsibility to care for the textbooks and ensure their return to the school at the end of the year.

Support

Les Twentyman Foundation has a 'Back to School' program which can provide textbook support to eligible students. Ask your school counsellor for more information.

- www.ltfoundation.com.au/what-we-do/back-to-school-program/

TEXTBOOKS (cont.)



Understanding what is needed

Speak with the school about the textbook list. Explore the following:

- When in the year the textbooks are needed. Some textbooks may be needed later in the year and some earlier. You can buy the essentials first.
- Is it important to have the most up-to-date edition? Previous editions are much cheaper than the latest edition and may be just as acceptable to the school even though they are not listed on the official textbook list.

Setting up a textbook sale day at your school

You may like to be involved and set up a textbook sale day within your school. Second-hand textbook sale days are often set up by parents within their school so contact the school's Parents' Association to find out more information or to get the ball rolling.

★ **Selling your old textbooks**

You can sell your old textbooks through a range of avenues:

- 1) The school's textbook supplier may accept second-hand textbooks for a trade in. Only current textbooks in good condition are usually accepted. The school's textbook supplier details will have their contact details on the booklist issued to you by the school.
- 2) You can sell textbooks online – see the options below.

★ **Online options**

There are many online options for both new and second-hand textbooks which may be cheaper than the school's recommended supplier. Make sure you search for the correct edition and factor in any postage costs.

For second-hand textbooks try the following websites:

- www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au
- www.tstextbooks.com.au
- www.textbooksoz.com (for new and second-hand text books)

TEXTBOOKS (cont.)



- www.brotherhoodbooks.org.au (for novels)
- www.ebay.com.au
- www.gumtree.com.au
- www.schoolbooks.com.au (for new and second-hand text books for secondary school)

Online bookshops to try for cheaper new books (remember to check postage costs):

- www.angusrobertson.com.au
- www.bookdepository.com
- www.booktopia.com.au
- www.dymocks.com.au
- www.robinsonsbbooks.com.au
- www.readings.com.au

★ Your local library

Your library may have key textbooks that are available to borrow.

★ Sharing books

There may be an option to share in the purchase and usage of a textbook with a fellow student. Costs are reduced by each of you paying half the price and then time-tabling/organising usage around your individual study needs.

6. STATIONERY



Some schools have a communal stationery pool which parents pay a fee and contribute to. Other schools expect you to purchase all the supplies based on a list which they provide.

★ Shop around

There are often cheaper options than the school supplier. Check out these stores (in-store or online) that sell stationery:

- www.kmart.com.au
- www.bigw.com.au
- www.officeworks.com.au
- www.thestationeryshop.com.au

Shop around and take your list to local stationery shops and they may be able to quote you on how much it will cost to fill. Use stationery left over from previous years if appropriate.

7. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT

The Department of Education and Training, Victoria, has clear guidelines on parent payments for the use of personal devices at school. You can read their Frequently Asked Questions page on the subject here:

- www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/Pages/parentpaymentdevices.aspx

Some organisations can help you meet the costs of devices and other IT equipment:

Schools

Schools may have payment plans in place to help you pay for IT equipment or ask them to see how they can support you.

Good Shepherd Microfinance

Good Shepherd Microfinance has loans that you may be eligible for to help pay for IT equipment.

- www.goodshepherdmicrofinance.org.au

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT (cont.)



★ Buying

The organisations listed below offer reconditioned computers at discounted prices to students and families who are Health Care Card holders.

Computer Bank

Computer Bank is an independent not for profit organisation in Melbourne's West that recycles and refurbishes computers and offers them to disadvantaged individuals and community groups at discounted prices.

- www.computerbank.org.au

- Ph: (03) 9600 9161

WorkVentures

WorkVentures is Australia's oldest not-for-profit IT social enterprise helping people engage with technology for over 30 years. Their refurbished computers are top quality machines donated by large corporates which the WorkVentures team bring back to as-new condition and sell for a fraction of their original cost.

- <https://workventures.com.au/>

- Ph: 1800 112 205

Equipment Recycling Network Incorporated

This service is only for students with a disability (e.g. autism, vision impairment). A support letter from a doctor is required. Computers take around 1-2 weeks to be refurbished and need to be picked up from Ringwood. PCs only – no laptops.

- www.erni.asn.au

- Ph: 03 9879 5211

★ Free services

Schools, local libraries and the State Library of Victoria all offer computer and internet access free of charge.

8. STUDENT TRAVEL



★ Community connections

Walking, riding a bike and carpooling are all great ways to get to school. Email or ask other parents to see if there are any lift-sharing arrangements your children may be able to be a part of.

★ Public transport

Student Pass

A Student Pass entitles primary and secondary students to unlimited travel on public transport within Victoria. It will be electronically loaded onto a concession myki. Both the myki and PTV Student Concession Card must be carried at all times when travelling.

Public Transport Victoria (PTV) - Student Concession Card

Concession cards for travel by primary, secondary and tertiary students on public transport are available by completing a current 'Student Concession Application Form'.

Application forms are available online at www.ptv.vic.gov.au (search 'student concession').

★ Fares allowance

This allowance assists students who are living away from their permanent home to cover the cost of travelling to and from their place of study. Your local Centrelink can provide you with further information.

9. EXCURSION OR CAMP COSTS

Excursions and camps fall within the 'essential education items' payment which means that schools can require payment for them. If you are finding it a challenge to pay for an excursion or school camp talk with the school and try to negotiate a payment plan.

If you are unable to reach an alternative payment option and your child is not able to attend the excursion or camp, the school should provide an alternative option for your child.

EXCURSION OR CAMP COSTS (cont.)



★ Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund was established in 2015, running over four years to provide payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions.

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. Each eligible student is paid \$125 per year (primary) or \$225 per year (secondary). Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student. Most payments start from March onwards. Applications can be received over term one and two.

- www.education.vic.gov.au (search 'CSEF Fund')

10. FOOD COSTS

There is growing research linking nutrition to educational outcomes. Breakfast is a key meal for students to help them engage actively at school.

Some hints are:

- ★ buying at markets
- ★ buying bulk foods and then breaking down into little portions for lunch boxes rather than buying snack pack sizes which tend to be more expensive
- ★ tuckshop/canteen lunches are more expensive than packing a home lunch

Some schools have Breakfast Clubs, which can help to provide breakfast options for students. The Victorian Government has committed funding to Foodbank Victoria to establish the School Breakfast Clubs Program for 500 of the most disadvantaged government primary schools in Victoria from 2016-2019. Check with your school to find out about potential support through Breakfast Clubs and/or School Pantries.

If you are in crisis or struggling on an ongoing basis to provide breakfasts and lunches for your children it may be worth seeking either some crisis assistance or some ongoing assistance. See the section 'Community Assistance Options' on pages 3 and 4.

11. EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES



★ Scholarships

The Department of Education and Training

The Department of Education and Training provides a number of scholarships to eligible students. Scholarships range in value from \$250 to over \$2,000. They can be applied for online between November and December each year.

- www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/scholarships

Scholarships - Private Schools

Private schools often provide a range of scholarships to successful applicants. These scholarships can be partial or full scholarships for payment of academic fees.

Private school scholarships are usually advertised early in the year for the forthcoming year. For example, scholarships for 2020 are usually advertised in February/March 2019.

To find out what secondary scholarships may be available contact the education institution directly or have a look on the ACER (Australian Council for Educational Research) website which provides information about upcoming ACER testing dates for participating schools in Victoria.

- www.acer.org/scholarship-parents/victoria

★ Tutoring

Professional tutoring services can be very expensive. Contact your school or local council about free tutoring or homework clubs in your area.

Often your local library will run homework clubs and other educational support services.

Many public libraries and schools now offer a free online study support service called 'Studiosity'. This service provides students with access to a network of professional subject specialists for homework help. Students in Years 4 through to 12 can get free help with tricky homework questions, assignments or exams by logging on at the library, school or from home (using their library card or school access code). This service is available Sunday to Friday from 3pm to midnight AET.

EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES (cont.)



Follow these steps to access Studiosity online:

1. Go to the website at www.studiosity.com/connect
2. Log in by using your library card or school access code
3. Select the subject and year level for which you would like assistance

★ Education Support and Information Organisations

The Department of Education and Training

The Department of Education and Training is responsible for the state school system in Victoria and offers learning and development support and services. The Department's website has a lot of valuable information for parents.

- www.education.vic.gov.au/parents

School Parents' Association

Many schools have a parent association that can represent your issues to the school management. They may also be able to put in place processes to assist with reducing costs within your school, e.g. second hand uniform shop, textbook exchange day.

Parents Victoria

Parents Victoria represents parents to State and Federal Governments, educational bureaucracies and institutions, community organisations and the media.

- www.parentsvictoria.asn.au

- Ph: 0419 716 171 (within Melbourne) or 1800 032 023 (outside Melbourne)

Victorian Council of School Organisations Inc (VICCSO)

Provides support for the School Improvement and Governance Network, and gives general information and advice about schools and educational issues.

- www.viccco.org.au

- Ph: 0402 152 634

EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES (cont.)



Victorian Multicultural Commission

The VMC is the main link between Victoria's culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities and the Government.

- www.multicultural.vic.gov.au

- Ph: (03) 7017 8171

Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc. (VAEAI)

The VAEAI promotes access and equity for Koorie people through the development of education programs that are culturally relevant, reinforcing Koorie identity.

- www.vaeai.org.au

- Ph: (03) 9481 0800

12. CALENDAR FOR COST CUTTING

Month	What to do	Notes
November/December	Apply for scholarships	Through Department of Education (see Page 14)
	Organise textbooks	Look for cheap second-hand or online options
January	Pay school fees for year	
	Buy all stationery and uniforms	Look for back-to-school sales at department stores
	Apply for scholarships	Private schools (see local papers)
April	Check with school about the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund application	
May	Start to organise winter uniforms	
July	Budget for new school shoes	
	Explore options to set up a textbook sale day at your school for the end of the year	Contact the school's Parents Association

13. LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTACTS



Community groups and services in Local Government Areas can be a valuable resource for various kinds of support. Check your local council's website to investigate resources available to you, using the key words suggested here.

Council Name	Phone	Website	Key Search Words
Alpine Shire Council	5755 0555	www.alpineshire.vic.gov.au	Children Services
Ararat Rural City Council	5355 0200	www.ararat.vic.gov.au	Community Life
Ballarat City Council	5320 5500	www.ballarat.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Banyule City Council	9490 4222	www.banyule.vic.gov.au	Local Community Directory
Bass Coast Shire Council	5671 2211	www.basscoast.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Baw Baw Shire Council	5624 2411	www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au	Local Directory
Bayside City Council	9599 4444	www.bayside.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Benalla Rural City Council	5760 2600	www.benalla.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Boroondara City Council	9278 4444	www.boroondara.vic.gov.au	Children and families
Brimbank City Council	9249 4000	www.brimbank.vic.gov.au	Family and children's services directory
Buloke Shire Council	5478 0100	www.buloke.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Campaspe Shire Council	5481 2200	www.campaspe.vic.gov.au	"Community Directory" (include quotations)
Cardinia Shire Council	1300 787 624	www.cardinia.vic.gov.au	Community Service Organisations
Casey City Council	9705 5200	www.casey.vic.gov.au	Casey Directory
Central Goldfields Shire Council	5461 0610	www.centralgoldfields.com.au	Youth and Family Services
Colac Otway Shire Council	5232 9400	www.colacotway.vic.gov.au	Family & Children's Services Directory
Corangamite Shire Council	5593 7100	www.corangamite.vic.gov.au	Local Directory
Darebin City Council	8470 8888	www.darebin.vic.gov.au	Children Services
East Gippsland Shire Council	5153 9500	www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Frankston City Council	1300 322 322	www.frankston.vic.gov.au	Community directory listings
Gannawarra Shire Council	5450 9333	www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Glen Eira City Council	9524 3333	www.gleneira.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Glenelg Shire Council	5522 2200	www.glenelg.vic.gov.au	Community Directories

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTACTS (cont.)



Council Name	Phone	Website	Key Search Words
Golden Plains Shire Council	5220 7111	www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Greater Bendigo City Council	5434 6000	www.bendigo.vic.gov.au	Children and families
Greater Dandenong City Council	8571 1000	www.greaterdandenong.com	Directories and guides
Greater Geelong City Council	5272 5272	www.geelongaustralia.com.au	Community directory
Greater Shepparton City Council	5832 9700	www.greatershepparton.com.au	Community Group Directory
Hepburn Shire Council	5348 2306	www.hepburn.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Hindmarsh Shire Council	5391 4444	www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au	Community and Business Directory
Hobsons Bay City Council	9932 1000	www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Horsham Rural City Council	5382 9777	www.hrcc.vic.gov.au	Family and Children
Hume City Council	9205 2200	www.hume.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Indigo Shire Council	5728 8000	www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Kingston City Council	1300 653 356	www.kingston.vic.gov.au	Family Support Services
Knox City Council	9298 8000	www.knox.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Latrobe City Council	1300 367 700	www.latrobe.vic.gov.au	Community Group Directory
Loddon Shire Council	5494 1200	www.loddon.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Macedon Ranges Shire Council	5422 0333	www.mrsc.vic.gov.au	Community and Business Directory
Manningham City Council	9840 9333	www.manningham.vic.gov.au	Health and family
Mansfield Shire Council	5775 8555	www.mansfield.vic.gov.au	Family Services
Maribyrnong City Council	9688 0200	www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au	Families, children and youth
Maroondah City Council	1300 882 233	www.maroondah.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Melbourne City Council	9658 9658	www.melbourne.vic.gov.au	Health and support services
Melton City Council	9747 7200	www.melton.vic.gov.au	Families and children directory
Mildura Rural City Council	5018 8100	www.mildura.vic.gov.au	Children
Mitchell Shire Council	5734 6200	www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au	Community Directory

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTACTS (cont.)



Council Name	Phone	Website	Key Search Words
Moira Shire Council	5871 9222	www.moira.vic.gov.au	Families, children and youth
Monash City Council	9518 3555	www.monash.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Moonee Valley City Council	9243 8888	www.mvcc.vic.gov.au	Family and Children
Moorabool Shire Council	5366 7100	www.moorabool.vic.gov.au	Family Services
Moreland City Council	9240 1111	www.moreland.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Mornington Peninsula Shire Council	1300 850 600	www.mornpen.vic.gov.au	Community information directory
Mount Alexander Shire Council	5471 1700	www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Moyne Shire Council	5568 0555	www.moyne.vic.gov.au	Family and Children's Services
Murrindindi Shire Council	5772 0333	www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Nilumbik Shire Council	9433 3111	www.nilumbik.vic.gov.au	Community Inclusion
Northern Grampians Shire Council	5358 8700	www.ngshire.vic.gov.au	Family and children services
Port Phillip City Council	9209 6777	www.portphillip.vic.gov.au	Family, Youth and Children
Pyrenees Shire Council	5349 1100	www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au	Community Services
Borough of Queenscliffe	5258 1377	www.queenscliffe.vic.gov.au	Community Directory (scroll down to Quick Links)
South Gippsland Shire Council	5662 9200	www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Southern Grampians Shire Council	5573 0444	www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au	Children's Services
Stonnington City Council	8290 1333	www.stonnington.vic.gov.au	Children and Family Services
Strathbogie Shire Council	5795 0000	www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au	Families & Children
Surf Coast Shire Council	5261 0600	www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au	Families and children
Swan Hill Rural City Council	5036 2333	www.swanhill.vic.gov.au	Families and Children
Towong Shire Council	02 6071 5100	www.towong.vic.gov.au	Community Directory (scroll down to bottom of Home Page)
Wangaratta Rural City Council	5722 0888	www.wangaratta.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Warrnambool City Council	5559 4800	www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au	Child and Family

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTACTS (cont.)



Council Name	Phone	Website	Key Search Words
Wellington Shire Council	1300 366 244	www.wellington.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
West Wimmera Shire Council	5585 9900	www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au	Newsletters
Whitehorse City Council	9262 6333	www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au	Children, Families & Youth
Whittlesea City Council	9217 2170	www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au	Community Groups
Wodonga City Council	02 6022 9300	www.wodonga.vic.gov.au	A to Z guide
Wyndham City Council	9742 0777	www.wyndham.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Yarra City Council	9205 5555	www.yarracity.vic.gov.au	Support for families
Yarra Ranges Shire Council	1300 368 333	www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au	Community Directory
Yarriambiack Shire Council	5398 0100	www.yarriambiack.vic.gov.au	Community Services

**Further copies of the
Ardoch School Costs Guide
can be downloaded from
www.ardoch.org.au**

The information contained in this booklet was accurate at the time of printing. Please contact individual organisations to confirm current information prior to accessing services.

If you found this publication useful or have any suggestions, please send us an email at info@ardoch.org.au