



North Lakes | STATE COLLEGE

Booklist Alternative Scheme 2009

Preparatory Year

At North Lakes State College our core business is to maximise learning outcomes. One initiative that has been implemented in Prep at North Lakes State College, to empower the teaching and learning process, is the Booklist Alternative Scheme.

This Booklist Alternative Scheme is different to an annual family contribution scheme that many schools have as these are usually in addition to parents having to buy a full booklist of school stationery items. Parents are then faced with the accumulative expense of ongoing replacement of items throughout the year.

Our scheme involves parents making a payment to the school instead of buying the usual booklist items and may include the purchase of required workbooks, textbooks and a fee for photocopying for items not contained in workbooks.

Years of experience with the traditional booklist methods (*parent purchase according to a list*) has highlighted frustrations such as:

- not every student having what is required, when it is required
- well meaning parents having paid good money for the wrong item - discovered when labelled and cannot be returned
- parents unaware their student requires replacement items
- teachers having to work with booklist items (*often determined by other teachers*) that are not required or not ideal to support the teacher's individualised program
- lack of flexibility for the teacher
- waste if a teacher is unable to use items purchased because they are not aligned to the evolving program
- last minute dash to the corner shop on the way to school by frazzled parents and upset students to buy a "must have now" item.

The Booklist Alternative Scheme is preferred because the scheme ensures your student receives exactly what they need at the time they need it.

This is a very powerful difference in the teaching and learning process. Teachers are able to make lessons happen as they are planned and students are not disadvantaged or unprepared for a lesson.

The scheme gives teachers the opportunity to determine exactly what students require as the units of work are planned at key times throughout the year. The spin-off is that teachers are not constrained to use the booklist requirements that parents have bought according to a booklist set long before the exact requirements of individual teachers and current units of work is known. The prevention of waste and the flexibility that supports learning, made possible by this scheme is obvious.

Replacement items are provided throughout the year. This means you would not have to worry about your student's ongoing requirements.

This year we ask parents to pay The Booklist Alternative Scheme and the Voluntary Technology Contribution.

Prep - \$120.00 per student for the year.
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This payment consists of the following:

Prep		
Resource Voluntary Scheme	Discovery Journey 1 (<i>includes start-up pack</i>)	\$30.00
	Discovery Journey 2	\$30.00
	Duplicating	\$60.00
Total of Resource Voluntary Scheme		\$120.00
Voluntary Technology Contribution	Technology Contribution	\$50.00

Enrolments during the year are charged on a pro-rata basis. You will be invoiced and payments can be made as an up front payment or per Semester and are payable at Client Services by cash, EFTPOS or credit card.

Students arrive at school on Day One to find their resources available; therefore the initial payment must be completed before Friday 23rd January, 2009. Families not wishing to join the voluntary scheme must make arrangements with the Principal.

The payment schedule options for the Resource Scheme are as follows:

Option A	Once only annual payment paid before Friday 23 rd January 2009.
Option B	Split payment, \$60.00 per semester. (<i>Due dates are 23rd January 2009 and 24th June 2009</i>)

Families suffering genuine hardship must contact the Junior School Principal to make alternative arrangements and all discussions are treated in strict confidence. In accordance with department policy, families who have joined the scheme but have failed to pay the full contribution, a debt recovery process will be enforced in line with FNM-PR-010 to recover the outstanding amount. Students leaving the college during the year will be refunded on a pro-rata basis.

As the booklist requirements are determined as teachers plan throughout the year, the exact set of items your student will receive will differ from class to class. It is therefore not possible to confirm exactly what we will provide your student over the year as flexibility is at the essence of the scheme's benefit to learning. The way in which teachers organise student access to resources will vary according to the nature of lessons and variations in the way teachers prefer their class to operate.

Each year teachers carefully select specialised items and we are then faced with the challenge of sourcing those specialised items to ensure adequate stock. In addition to these texts and specialised requirements, teachers select from a base range of stationery items and order in any specialised item as requested. Since we order enormous quantities of stock, the prices are very favourable and enable us to ensure your money is economically spent. We also are well positioned to monitor the quality, durability and appropriateness of the stock we buy for a school setting and improve on the range wherever possible. (*Yes, we will scoop on back to school specials to ensure the potential of your money is maximised.*) Remember, we pay a GST free price as well.

Items are not handed out all at once although a significant number of items are provided at the beginning of the year or upon enrolment. Items are presented as required and replacement of items automatically occurs throughout the year. This means that it takes all year for your student's full set of provisions to appear.

Our experience tells us that the loss of writing materials is very high when they make the journey to and from school. Therefore, writing materials stay at school and you are asked to provide pencils, rubbers and rulers required for homework at home. Some books will commute and you are encouraged to cover and label them as they appear.

Enrolling students arriving with provisions from other schools are instructed to leave all writing instruments at home for home use. Book items which match classroom book items will be used in class.

Due to the expense of providing ongoing replacement, we have never been in the position to have money left over at the end of the year, however if we did, we would accumulate what is remaining to purchase and/or replace reading books for all year levels.

This scheme has been exceptionally well supported and is valued by our community. Its success however depends on every parent paying. Your payment supports your student's learning. Teachers manage student usage carefully to ensure wastage is minimised and all students care for the items provided. Excess usage of items such as pencils, due to lack of care, will be followed up with respective parents. Parents will be invoiced for lost or damaged items.

This initiative and the expenses are approved and supported by our Parents' and Citizens' Association and is reviewed each year by the P&C and staff. Teachers are very strong advocates because they believe it really does greatly assist the learning process and enhance the way activities can be organised.

Please indicate on the slip provided if you intend supporting the scheme and your preferred method of payment. Please return this form to the school. Although part of this scheme is voluntary, we welcome the opportunity to discuss with any parent not wishing to support the scheme and any issue they have so that we can understand their reservations and seek ways to improve the scheme.

Obviously we seek your support because our job is to maximise the learning opportunities for your student. The success of the scheme lies in full, not partial support from our parent community.

If you have any concerns with this initiative, please ring the school and discuss your concerns with the Principal of the relevant sub school. We welcome the opportunity to clarify any questions you may have. Full accountabilities associated with the program will also be available upon request.

Booklist Alternative Scheme Preparatory Contribution Costs

Parent/Caregiver Consent Form

[please tick one in each section]

Membership of the Booklist Alternative Scheme

Yes, I have read and understand the conditions for membership of the school's Booklist Alternative Scheme in 2009. I agree to be bound by them and to pay the scheduled fee.

I **do not** wish to participate in the Booklist Alternative Scheme in 2009.
Please note: If you do not wish to participate in the Booklist Alternative Scheme, please contact the school office and arrange an appointment with the Junior School Principal to discuss alternative arrangements for provision of books.

Payment Options:

Option 1: Upfront payment of **\$120.00** per student payable by **Friday 23rd January 2009**.

Option 2: Split payment, **\$60.00 / \$60.00** per semester.
(Due dates are **23rd January 2009** and **26th June 2009**).

Voluntary Contribution (Technology) - \$50.00

Please note: If you are selecting Option 2 - Students are invoiced for the whole year and payments are receipted against the invoice. Regular statements sent home with the eldest student in the family will show a record of all payments made.

Name of student	Year level in Year 2009

Payment may be made at Client Services by cash, EFTPOS or Credit Card between the hours of 8:00am and 11:30am.

Method of payment <i>(please tick appropriate box)</i>	Cash/Eftpos	Credit Card

2008	Payments can be made at Client Services until Friday 12 December 2008
2009	Payments can be made at Client Services from Monday 19 January 2009

Name of parent/caregiver (please print)			
Signature		Date	