



## Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the Principal.

## PURPOSE

Hamilton North Primary School is committed to ensuring that cash handling practices are consistent and transparent across the school.

Hamilton North Primary School will implement the measures outlined below, in accordance with Department guidelines. This policy intends to safeguard and protect the staff involved in the receipting and collection of monies and minimise the risks associated with cash handling.

## SCOPE

This policy applies to all school staff or volunteers involved in handling cash on behalf of Hamilton North Primary School.

## POLICY

### Roles and responsibilities of staff

At Hamilton North Primary School our administration staff are responsible for managing cash at our school.

Where possible, segregation of duties will be maintained so that no individual will be responsible for more than one of the following:

- receipting of cash and issuing receipts
- preparing the banking
- taking the monies to the bank
- completion of the bank reconciliation

If this is not possible due to lack of available staff, the Department's "Segregation of Duties – Cash Checklist" will be implemented and signed off for audit purposes.

Collection of cash will be minimised by the use of electronic payment facilities wherever possible, including mobile EFTPOS, direct deposit, and the Sentral platform.

### Storage of cash

Monies are to be kept in either a controlled access safe or cash drawer during the day. If funds are kept on the premises overnight, they must be locked in our school's secured safe.

No monies are to be kept in classrooms or left at school during holiday periods.

Any student who brings monies to the classroom will be redirected to the general office immediately.

Money collected away from the general office (eg student or parent fundraising activities) is to be handed to the office on the day of receipt unless circumstances make this impracticable. Money received away from the office must be double counted at the point of collection and a control receipt issued before it is provided to the office for banking.

## Records and receipting

All receipts are to be processed in CASES21 as quickly as practicable upon receiving the funds.

Where monies are received over the counter at the office, they will be entered into CASES21 and an official receipt issued to the payer upon request.

A CASES21 bank deposit slip will be printed and reconciled with total receipts for the day and with the total of cash/cheques to be banked.

Funds are to be banked at least monthly (more frequently for large amounts), on different days of the week and at different times of the day.

No receipt is to be altered. Where a mistake is made approval must be sought before reversing the incorrect receipt. Copies of the incorrect receipt should be retained with details of why it was reversed.

Prior to a receipt batch being updated a receipt can be reprinted if necessary. The word REPRINT appears on the receipt. After the batch has been updated, if a copy of the receipt is requested the Family Statement, Family Matching Transactions Report or the Family Transaction History can be printed.

## Cheques

No personal cheques are to be cashed.

## Fundraising

Two parents or staff members will be designated as 'Responsible Persons' for all school fundraising events or other approved events where monies may be collected, for example, the Art Show, Music Show, barbecues, or other school events. The forms which will be completed are "Cash Handling - Collection of Fundraising Money" form.

## Reporting concerns

Discrepancies that cannot be accounted for must be reported to the Principal.

All cases of suspected or actual theft of money, fraud, misappropriation or corruption are to be reported to the Executive Director, Audit and Risk Division by email addressed to: [fraud.control@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:fraud.control@education.vic.gov.au)

## COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our staff in the following ways:

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- **Finance Manual for Victorian Government Schools**
  - [Section 3 Risk Management](#)
  - [Section 4 Internal Controls](#)
  - [Section 10 Receivables Management and Cash Handling](#)

## EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed annually by School Council to confirm/enhance internal control procedures.

Proposed amendments to this policy will be discussed with all administration staff (including the Business Manager), Finance Committee and School Council.

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	27 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	February 2025