



PATTERSON LAKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

No. 5190

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Phone 9772 4011

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P.O. Box 330, Patterson Lakes, 3197

Principal: Carole Mayes

Website: <http://www.patterson-lakes-ps.vic.edu.au>

CASH HANDLING POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school office on 9772 4011.

PURPOSE

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

Patterson Lakes 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 Patterson Lakes Primary School.

POLICY

Roles and responsibilities of staff

At Patterson Lakes Primary school our Business Manager, Office Manager and Administrative 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.

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.

Due to the closure of local Bank Branches, cash will be deposited once per week or when cash held is in excess of \$500.00.

No monies are to be kept in classrooms or left at school during holiday periods with the exception of the petty cash float held in the controlled access safe during the Term 2 and Term 3 holiday breaks.

All monies that are collected in the classroom will be forwarded to the office in the red pencil case provided to classes by 9.30 am on the morning cash has been handed to the teacher.

Money collected away from the classroom or general office (e.g. fundraising event) 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.

Monies received from the classroom will be entered into CASES21 and receipts returned to the classroom to be handed out to students within 48 hours.

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

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 weekly, due to staffing limitations and the distance to the nearest Westpac bank branch or daily where funds held are in excess of \$500.00.

No receipt is to be altered. Where a mistake is made approval must be sought from the Business Manager before reversing the incorrect receipt. Copies of the incorrect receipt must 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.

All cheques received by mail are to be entered in a remittance book, and all cheques, which have not already been crossed "not negotiable", should be crossed as soon as they are received.

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 school Trivia Night. The forms which will be completed are

- Float Collection Form
- Cash Handling Authorised 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

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 the Principal, Business Manager, Administration Staff and Finance Subcommittee.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	19.02.2025
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	February 2026

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