Geelong East Primary School

ELECTRONIC FUNDS MANAGEMENT POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set out how our school will manage electronic funds in accordance with applicable Department of Education and Training policy and law.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- all staff/responsible persons involved in management of funds transacted electronically
- all transactions carried out by Geelong East Primary School via the methods set out in this policy

POLICY

Geelong East Primary School has developed this policy consistently with the Schools Electronic Funds Management Guidelines and Section 4 Internal Controls of the Finance Manual for Victorian Government schools.

Implementation

- Geelong East Primary School school council requires that all actions related to internet banking are consistent with The Department's Schools Electronic Funds Management Guidelines.
- Geelong East Primary School school council approves the use of Combiz as the approved software for all internet banking activities as individual authority and security tokens are required.
- All payments through internet banking software must be consistent with Department requirements and must be authorised by the Principal and one other member of school council nominated by the school council.
- Geelong East Primary School Council will determine how refunds will be processed and any refunds processed through the EFTPOS terminal will be recorded in a refund register.
- Geelong East Primary School will undertake maintenance and upgrading of hardware and software as required.
- Geelong East Primary School will ensure proper retention/disposal of all transaction records relating to accounts such as purchase orders, tax invoices/statements, vouchers, payroll listings and relevant CASES21 reports.

EFTPOS

- The Principal of Geelong East Primary School, will ensure all staff operating the merchant facility are aware of security requirements. At our school, this includes: use of a personal fob with security codes for each transaction.
- School council minutes must record which staff are authorised to process transactions.
- No "Cash Out" will be permitted on any school EFTPOS facility.
- Geelong East Primary School will accept EFTPOS transactions via telephone or post.
- All refunds will be done through direct deposit not EFTPOS

Direct Debit

- All direct debit agreements must be approved and signed by school council prior to implementation.
- The school council requires all suppliers to provide tax invoices/statements to the school prior to direct debiting any funds from the school's account
- A direct debit facility allows an external source e.g. VicSuper, DET to a pre-arranged amount of funds from the school's official account on a pre-arranged date. Any such payments will be authorised as appropriate and required.
- Geelong East Primary School will ensure adequate funds are available in the Official Account for the "sweep" of funds to the supplier.

Direct Deposit

- Geelong East Primary School utilises a "two user authorisation of payments" banking package, as it contains a greater degree of security and access controls.
- Creditor details will be kept up to date and the treatment of GST for creditors will be monitored.
- Payment transactions will be uploaded as a batch through the CASES21 system.
- All payments made through the internet banking system must be authorised by two authorised officers.
- The various internal controls include:
    - The Business Manager has administrative responsibilities to access statements and upload batches.
    - The Principal and School council delegate for the authorisation of payments and are the official signatories.
    - The Business Manager must not have banking authorisation/signatory responsibilities other than for the transferring of funds between school bank accounts
    - The Business Manager, Principal and School Council President have security of personal identification number (PIN) information or software authorisation tokens
    - The Business Manager sets up payee details in CASES21
    - The Principal and School council President authorises transfer of funds from the official account to payee accounts
    - alternative procedures for processing, using the direct deposit facility, for periods of Business Manager's and Principal leave of absence

BPay

Geelong East Primary School- school council will approve in writing the school council's decision for the utilisation of BPAY.

Payments made by BPay are subject to the same requirements as for all transactions relating to accounts such as:

- purchase orders
- tax invoices/statements
- payment vouchers
- signed screen prints and payee details
- relevant CASES21 reports etc.

This includes a requirement for the principal to sign and date BPay transaction receipts attached to authorised payment vouchers.

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

  Available from: Finance Manual – Financial Management for Schools
- Schools Electronic Funds Management Guidelines
- CASES21 Finance Business Process Guide
  - Section 1: Families
- Schools Certification Checklist
- Information Security Policy
- Public Records Office Victoria
- Records Management – School Reports

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	March 2026
Approved by	School Council 23/3/202
Next scheduled review date	March 2027 or if there are significant changes made that require a revision