

October 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

2023 Student Resource Scheme (SRS) – Annual Parent Information Letter

Benowa State High School operate a Student Resource Scheme (SRS). This document contains important information about the 2023 Student Resource Scheme (SRS) including how the scheme operates and the annual participation fee.

The Queensland Government supports students' education by providing funding for:

- Instruction, e.g. teachers
- Facilities, e.g. buildings, amenities, furniture
- Administration, e.g. staffing and resources to administer the operations of the school.

Funding does not extend to individual student resources such as textbooks, computers or musical equipment for personal use, and many items used/consumed by the student in the classroom. Supply of these items is the responsibility of parents. To provide parents with a cost-effective alternative to purchasing textbooks and/or resources elsewhere, our school will operate a SRS for 2023. The scheme ensures that students have the resources required for them to engage with the curriculum for their education, and saves parents time and money in sourcing the prescribed materials elsewhere. Savings are gained through the school's bulk purchasing practices and hiring arrangements. The 2023 SRS scheme and participation fees were approved by the school's P&C Association at the meeting held on 11 August 2022.

SRS Participation

The objective of the scheme is to provide a convenient and cost-effective way for students to access the educational resources necessary to enhance their learning experience at school. The Department encourages parents to participate in the scheme. Participation in the SRS is optional, and no obligation is placed on a parent to participate. Participation is for the duration of your child's enrolment at the school.

Student is new to the school.....

Parents are required to complete and return the SRS Participation Agreement Form when joining the scheme for the first time. If no participation form is received by **23 January 2023** the school will take the view that the parent has chosen to opt out of the SRS. The parent is then required to provide the educational resources listed in the SRS for their child by the start of the school year. A parent can opt in or out of the scheme in subsequent years by completing another Participation Agreement Form.

Continuing student of the school.....

A parent's participation or non-participation in the scheme will continue as per their previously completed Participation Agreement Form. A parent can opt in or out of the scheme in subsequent years by completing another Participation Agreement Form. If a parent has opted out of the scheme the parent is required to provide the educational resources listed in the SRS for their child by the start of the school year.

Resource Inclusions

All resources included in the SRS are detailed in the SRS Resource list found on the school website. This is a comprehensive list of all resources included in the scheme and their associated costs. <https://benowashs.eq.edu.au/support-and-resources/student-resources>

Type of Resources provided

Generally, the three types of resources that could be included are:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Owned | These items are retained by the student and used as required (e.g. printed reference materials, student ID card). |
| Used | These items are used/consumed in class by the student (e.g. industrial technology/cooking/art supplies). Work/items produced from these resources will remain the property of the student. |
| Hired | These items are hired to the student for their personal use for a specific period of time (e.g. textbooks, musical instruments). Hired items must be returned to the school in good condition at the end of the hire period or if the student leaves the school. A repair or replacement cost may be charged to the parent for any hired items that are damaged or not returned. |

The Textbook and Resource Allowance

The Department of Education provides a Textbook and Resource Allowance (TRA) to assist parents with the cost of textbooks and other education resources for eligible Years 7 to 12 students. For those students who are eligible to receive the TRA, the TRA will be applied to reduce the cost of participation in the SRS. Information on the TRA can be found on the department's website (<https://education.qld.gov.au/about-us/budgets-funding-grants/grants/parents-and-students/textbook-resource-allowance>).

| Year level | 2022 TRA Rate* |
|----------------|----------------|
| Years 7 to 10 | \$136 |
| Years 11 to 12 | \$295 |

*2023 TRA allowance not published at the date of this correspondence

The SRS Participation Fee

The SRS fee payable for the year is available in the attached information and published on the school's website. This also includes the TRA component which has been deducted to reduce the SRS fee payable.

| Student in Year Level | Year 7 | Year 8 | Year 9 | Year 10 | Year 11 | Year 12 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------|--------|-----------------|---------|---------|
| 2023 SRS Fees | \$360.00 | | | \$460.00 | | |

Financial Hardship

If you are experiencing financial hardship, please email accounts@benowashs.eq.edu.au and you will be contacted to discuss your options.

Payment Arrangement and Payment Method

Several payment options including a single payment for the full year's fee or term instalments are available. An individual payment plan can also be negotiated with the school. Any unpaid invoices, will be managed according to the department's Debt Management Procedure and may result in the student being excluded from the scheme and/or from participating in non-curricular activities until payment is made (<http://ppr.det.qld.gov.au/corp/finance/accounts/Procedure%20Attachments/debt-management/debt-management.pdf>).

Please complete the Fee Payment Arrangement Form and return via email to srs@benowashs.eq.edu.au by 14 November 2022.

Yours faithfully



Alison Fahlbusch
Principal