

# CASH HANDLING POLICY

## PURPOSE

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

Ardeer 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 Ardeer Primary School.

## POLICY

### Roles and responsibilities of staff

At Ardeer Primary School the Business Manager is responsible for managing cash at our school. However at times in the absence of the Business Manager John Mifsud (Principal) and Chris O'Brien (Assistant Principal) will be responsible.

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.

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

All monies that are collected in the classroom will be forwarded to the office as soon as possible after collection.

Money collected away from the classroom or general office e.g. Canteen, is to be handed to the office on the day of receipt unless circumstances make this impracticable. Money received to classroom teachers must be counted at the point of collection, documented in the cash book before it is provided to the office.

### 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 approximately 7 days.

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. If this falls at the end of month when the batch has already been finalised the money is held until after the end of month procedures have been run, hand written receipts are given upon request during this time.

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

Funds are to be banked as soon as possible after being reconciled 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**

All cheques received by mail are to be entered in a remittance book, and all cheques, which have not already been crossed "not negotiable", are crossed as soon as they are received. Cheques are receipted into cases21 and remittances (if the cheque comes with one) are filed.

### **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, e.g. Mother's/Father's Day Stall, chocolate drive, end of year concert, book fair and book club.

### **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@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:fraud.control@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- [School Financial Guidelines](#)
- [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 the School Council to confirm/enhance internal control procedures.

Proposed amendments to this policy will be discussed with the Business Manager, Principal and School Council.



## REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last reviewed and approved by the School Council in March 2023 and is scheduled for evaluation and review in March 2024.