



WARRAGUL NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Electronic Funds Management Policy

Rationale:

Internet banking is banking practice that provides several advantages, whilst at the same time offering high levels of security and convenience.

Aims:

To utilise the advantages of internet banking for our school whilst simultaneously enhancing banking security, increasing transaction speed, improving convenience and lessening environmental impact.

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.

Implementation:

The Electronic Funds Management Policy has been developed consistent with the DET [Schools Electronic Funds Management Guidelines](#) and [Section 4 Internal Controls of the Finance Manual for Victorian Government schools](#).

- WNPS School Council requires that all actions related to internet banking are consistent with The Department's [Schools Electronic Funds Management Guidelines](#).
- WNPS School Council approves the use of Bank Australia 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.
- Refunds will be processed in accordance with the WNPS Cash Handling Policy.
- WNPS 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, will ensure all staff operating the merchant facility are aware of security requirements.
- School Council minutes must record which staff are authorised to process transactions.
- No "Cash Out" will be permitted on any school EFTPOS facility.
- WNPS will accept EFTPOS transactions via telephone.
- WNPS will not process refunds through 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 eg. VicSuper to debit 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.
- WNPS will ensure adequate funds are available in the Official Account for the "sweep" of funds to the supplier.

Direct Deposit

- WNPS 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 that need to be considered include:
 - the identification of staff with administrative responsibilities [e.g. Business Manager to access statements and upload batches]
 - the identification of staff with authorisation/signatory responsibilities [e.g. The Principal and School Council delegate for the authorisation of payments]
 - the Business Manager must not have banking authorisation/signatory responsibilities other than for the transferring of funds between school bank accounts
 - the allocation and security of personal identification number (PIN) information or software authorisation tokens
 - the setting up of payee details in CASES21
 - the authorisation of 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

WNPS School Council has approved 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.

Evaluation:

This policy is required to be reviewed by School Council annually.