

RATIONALE

Cash transactions are one of the most vulnerable areas of the school. To safeguard these assets, protect the staff involved in receipting and collection, and minimise the risks associated with cash handling, the school will implement the measures outlined below, in accordance with DET guidelines and best practice.

AIMS

- Minimise risk and protect staff/responsible persons involved in receipting and collection of cash.
- Provide a clear set of cash handling procedures to ensure all cash is receipted and recorded in CASES21 intact and in a timely manner.
- Provide clear understanding of the process and ensure it aligns with Departmental policy and guidelines.

IMPLEMENTATION

- No monies are to be kept in classrooms.
- All receipts are to be processed in CASES21 as quickly as practicable upon receiving the funds.
- Segregation of duties will be maintained so that where possible no individual has the responsibility 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
- 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.
- Money collected away from the classroom or general office is to be handed to the office on the day of receipt unless circumstances make this impracticable.
- Money received away from the office (e.g. Canteen) is to be double counted at the point of collection and a 'Canteen Cash Takings Form' completed and signed.
- Two staff will be designated as 'Responsible Persons' for all school fundraising or sanctioned events for the collection of monies and a 'Fundraising Cash Takings Form' must be completed and signed.
- No personal cheques are to be cashed.
- All cheques received by mail are to be receipted as quickly as practicable and all cheques, which have not already been crossed "not negotiable", should be crossed as soon as they are received.
- 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 the secured safe.
- CASES21 bank deposit slip to 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 daily when possible and at different times of the day.
- No monies are to be left on the premises over the school vacation periods.
- 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.
- 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 - fraud.control@education.vic.gov.au.

REFERENCES

Finance Manual for Victorian Government Schools

- Section 3 Risk Management
- Section 4 Internal Controls
- Section 10 Receivables Management and Cash Handling

Internal Controls for Victorian Government Schools

Cash handling Resources

- Cash Handling Best Practice Controls
- Cash Handling Authorised Form Fundraising Collection
- Cash Handling Authorised Form Ticket Sales Not at Office
- Cash Handling Authorised Form

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/management/finance/Pages/guidelines.aspx>

EVALUATION

To be reviewed annually and presented to first School Council each year.