

OBERON PRIMARY SCHOOL

ELECTRONIC FUNDS MANAGEMENT POLICY / INTERNET BANKING POLICY



PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set out how our school will manage electronic funds, including the use of Internet Banking 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 Oberon Primary School via the methods set out in this policy

POLICY

Oberon 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

- Oberon Primary School school council requires that all actions related to internet banking are consistent with The Department's [Schools Electronic Funds Management Guidelines](#).
- Oberon 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.
- Oberon Primary School school council will determine how refunds will be processed
- Oberon Primary School will undertake maintenance and upgrading of hardware and software as required.
- Oberon 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.

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 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.
- Oberon Primary School will ensure adequate funds are available in the Official Account for the "sweep" of funds to the supplier.

Direct Deposit

- Oberon 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 that need to be considered include:
 - the identification of staff with administrative/authorisation responsibilities
 - the identification of payment authorisers
 - 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

Oberon 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.

- Our School Council requires that we make BPay payments via the internet.
- Proper authorisation and approval of both the initial setting up of account details and any subsequent transactions against the account(s). The Principal and the previously mentioned School Council nominee only are authorised to use the security token associated with the CommBiz internet banking software.
- The proper segregation of duties at all times.
- The safe, secure and confidential storage of information and data, including the storage of PIN's and security tokens in the school safe.

- Proper retention of all transactions relating to accounts such as purchase orders, tax invoices/statements, vouchers, payroll listings, signed or initialled screen prints and payee details, relevant CASES21 reports etc., including Principal signed and dated internet transaction receipts attached to authorised payment vouchers.
- The retention of printed payment receipts that display all details of a payment so as to confirm payment details.
- Compliance with all bank imposed security measures, limits and requirements.
- The provision of printed documentation to the Finance Committee, School Council and auditors as required.

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: [School Financial Guidelines](#)
- [Schools Electronic Funds Management Guidelines](#)
- CASES21 Finance Business Process Guide
 - [Section 1: Families](#)
- [Internal Controls for Victorian Government Schools](#)
- [ICT Security Policy](#)
- [Public Records Office Victoria](#)
- [Archives and Records Management Advice for Schools.](#)

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last approved by school council on 16/06/2020 and is scheduled for review in February 2021.