

ELECTRONIC FUNDS MANAGEMENT POLICY

PURPOSE

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.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- all staff/responsible persons involved in management of funds transacted electronically
- all transactions carried out by Fountain Gate Secondary College via the methods set out in this policy

POLICY

Fountain Gate Secondary College 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

- Fountain Gate Secondary College school council requires that all actions related to internet banking are consistent with The Department's [Schools Electronic Funds Management Guidelines](#).
- Fountain Gate Secondary College 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.
- Fountain Gate Secondary College school council will determine how refunds will be processed and any refunds processed through the EFTPOS terminal will be recorded in a refund register.
- Fountain Gate Secondary College will undertake maintenance and upgrading of hardware and software as required.
- Fountain Gate Secondary College 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 of Fountain Gate Secondary College, will ensure all staff operating the merchant facility are aware of security requirements. At our school, this includes: segregation of duties.
- School council minutes must record which staff are authorised to process transactions.
- No "Cash Out" will be permitted on any school EFTPOS facility.
- Fountain Gate Secondary College will accept EFTPOS transactions via telephone or post.
- Fountain Gate Secondary College school council have decided that no refunds will be processed through Eftpos terminal. The only exceptions are errors made at the time, e.g., incorrect amount processed refund will then be completed immediately and correct amount processed.

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. Vic Super, Various Super Funds, Ampol, Westpac Credit cards 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.
- Fountain Gate Secondary College will ensure adequate funds are available in the Official Account for the "sweep" of funds to the supplier.

Direct Deposit

- Fountain Gate Secondary College 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 and two Finance Officers.
 - the identification of staff with authorisation/signatory responsibilities e.g. Principal and authorised school council representative.
 - 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

Fountain Gate Secondary College 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.

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: [Finance Manual — Financial Management for Schools](#)
- [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](#)
- [Records Management — School Records](#)

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last approved by school council in March 2025 and is scheduled for review in March 2026.

DATE RATIFIED: FOUNTAIN GATE SECONDARY COLLEGE SCHOOL COUNCIL MARCH 2025

FOR REVIEW: MARCH 2026

Jo Cuchiara
Principal

Michelle Generowicz
School Council President