

CASH HANDLING POLICY

PURPOSE

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

Templestowe Heights 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 Templestowe Heights Primary School.

POLICY

Roles and responsibilities of staff

At Templestowe Heights Primary School our Business Manager and office support staff are responsible for managing cash at our school.

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 (see attached to this policy).

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 in satchel bags by the classroom teacher as soon as possible after collection.

Money collected away from the classroom or general office (e.g. stalls, canteen days) is to be handed to the office on the day of receipt unless circumstances make this impracticable. Money received away from the office must be double counted at the point of collection and a control receipt issued before it is provided to the office for banking.

Cheques

No cheques are to be exchanged for cash.

Records and receipting

All receipts are to be processed in CASES21 as quickly as practicable upon receiving the funds. Monies received from the classroom/at the front office will be entered into CASES21 and receipts issued.

A CASES21 bank deposit slip will 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 at least twice per week 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.

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, for example, the Art Show or state/federal election voting booths. The designated responsible persons will complete relevant documentation as part of this process.

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

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](#)
 - THPS Segregation of Duties form (see attached)

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed annually by School Council to confirm/enhance internal control procedures.

Proposed amendments to this policy will be discussed with Administration Staff, Leadership Team, Finance subcommittee and School Council.

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated on 19 September 2018 and is scheduled for review in March 2019.

Appendix 1 - Segregation of Duties

Random check of the cash handling process

The prime method of ensuring this safeguard is to separate those responsibilities or duties which, if combined, would enable an individual person to process and record a complete transaction, such as ordering, receiving, approving and paying for goods.

Segregation of duties may appear difficult to achieve where a limited number of administrative staff are available for the accounting and finance function.

In very small schools, principals (or nominee) are advised to randomly (minimum of 2 checks a term) verify the cash handling and the recording process has been correctly undertaken. Please keep a signed record of these random checks for audit purposes.

The form below can be used to conduct the random check for cash handling and retained for audit purposes.

Deposit Amount:

C21 Batch Number/s:

Date:

	Steps to be checked	Process required (comments if needed)	Sighted/Check (v)
1.	Check how the money was received?		
2.	Check to see the reason for the amount received.		
3.	Check the amount of the sum received?		
4.	Was there a receipt processed for this amount/person?		
5.	Has the batch been finalised for banking?		
6.	Has the deposit slip been completed/banking finalised?		
7.	Have the funds been deposited at the bank?		
8.	Has the supporting documentation been filed appropriately?		

1. Was the money given to the teacher, collected by the Canteen/OHSC/Uniform Shop or paid in at the school office? If necessary, is there supporting documentation for the payment eg signed takings sheet to support the amount collected from Canteen; subsidiary receipts to support Uniform money; class cash lists?
2. Why was the money paid? Excursion, fundraising etc?
3. How much was received? Does the sum correspond to an outstanding invoice, or daily takings from sales? Eg (\$25 - \$25 lmax excursion). If not - is there a reason? Eg parent payment plan
4. Sight the receipt batch to display receipt.
5. Is the batch closed and finalised?
6. Has the deposit slip been completed? Banking/Cash checked and balanced with the amount on batch report.
7. Have the funds been deposited at the bank?
8. Is the batch and the deposit slip filed and accessible for audit purposes (appropriately)?

Signature of Principal/Nominee

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