

## WHAT CAN I DO IF I NEED HELP WITH SCHOOL COSTS?

If you are struggling financially to provide for your child's education, we suggest you come and speak with one of our friendly volunteer Community Support Workers about the assistance options available with Back to School grants, and referral to other organisations that may be able to help.

Families facing hardship may also be eligible for assistance through the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund to attend school trips and other school organised activities, and assistance with uniforms and footwear through State Schools' Relief. Applications for these programs must be made directly through your school

DVCS is a drop-in service - there is no appointment necessary to come & speak with someone about assistance, information and referral.



**DIAMOND VALLEY**  
community support

### Contact Us

Phone: 9435 8282  
Email: [info@dvsupport.org.au](mailto:info@dvsupport.org.au)  
Web: [www.dvsupport.org.au](http://www.dvsupport.org.au)  
Address: Shop 378a, Level3  
Greensborough Plaza,  
Greensborough 3088  
(near Kmart)  
Hours: Monday to Friday  
9.30am - 4.30pm



**DIAMOND VALLEY**  
community support

**Strengthening Opportunities  
for All Children  
in our Community**



**Diamond Valley Community Support (DVCS) is committed to helping children at risk reach their full potential and provides financial assistance to families who are experiencing financial difficulties and are unable to meet the full cost of school.**

**Through the DVCS Back to School Program we support eligible families with school related expenses including:**

- Stationery and Text Books
- Electronic Devices
- Excursions and Camps
- School Sports
- Other essential school items

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible to receive **Back to School assistance** a child or young person must:

- Live within Banyule City Council, in the suburbs of Briar Hill, Bundoora (part of), Eltham North (part of), Greensborough (part of), Lower Plenty, Montmorency, St Helena and Watsonia.
- Children must attend a primary or secondary school
- Hold a valid Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- Be experiencing financial hardship and not able to meet the full cost of school

### Assistance Rates:

Assistance Rates are:

- Up to \$100 per Child
- Up to \$500 per Family (with 5 or more students)

Back to School payments are paid directly to the School via EFT or in the form of pre-paid Vouchers to North of the Yarra Bookstore.

## HOW TO APPLY:

Applications can be made in person at the DVCS office where a confidential assessment with a volunteer Community Support Worker will take place.

**Applicants must bring a valid Centrelink Concession Card with the child/ren listed for which grants are being applied for.**

**The DVCS Education Assistance Directory listing other supports is also available in the office.**

## WHEN TO APPLY:

Back to School applications can be made from

**1st November 2019**

**to 18th December 2019**

the program will reopen from

**6th January 2020**

**to 28th February 2020.**

