Q&A

Beyond Barriers – Flexible Student Support
Coordinated by Beyond the Bell Great South Coast
Please read this Q&A carefully to ensure your request is eligible before applying.

What is Beyond Barriers?
Beyond Barriers is a flexible support opportunity for small government schools and all government schools across the Great South Coast.
It assists students experiencing disadvantage, disengagement, or complex barriers to participation in education, and can also fund small student-led or in-school initiatives that build inclusion, cultural safety, and belonging.
Schools may submit multiple requests each term, up to a maximum of $1,000 per term. If a request is not successful, schools are welcome to submit additional applications for other critical needs as they arise.

Who can apply?
- Small government schools and government schools in the Beyond the Bell region: Warrnambool, Moyne, Glenelg, Southern Grampians, Corangamite, and Colac Otway
- Schools must demonstrate need or disadvantage (e.g. low ICSEA, individual student or family circumstances)
- Applications must be endorsed by the Principal, Assistant Principal, or equivalent
- The application can be completed by an appointed staff member on behalf of the school

What can be supported?
Funding must be used to directly support students' participation, engagement, and wellbeing, or to foster inclusion and belonging within the school.
It cannot duplicate what is already covered by CSEF, SSR, or AgriFutures — but it can be used to fill gaps where these programs don't apply.

✅ **Eligible examples:**
- Individual learning tools and materials (e.g. books, devices, stationery)
- Excursion, camp, or pathway event participation
- Transport to attend education or wellbeing-related activities (e.g. bus hire)
- Emergency items (e.g. uniforms, shoes, school bags, textbooks)
- Wellbeing space or inclusion items (e.g. hygiene packs, laundry access, feminine products)
- Small student-led engagement projects
- In-school initiatives that build cultural safety, inclusion, and belonging

Q&A

Continued

❌ **Examples of ineligible requests:**

- Guest speakers or general incursions
- Certificate programs or short courses
- Professional development or teacher training
- Capital works or infrastructure upgrades
- Whole-of-school social events
- CRT costs
- Items already funded through other programs (unless gap funding is clearly demonstrated)

What about reporting?

We understand the nature of these requests and the demands on schools, so reporting is flexible and proportionate to the type of support provided.
This could include:

- A short, written impact summary from staff
- A student note or class retell (especially suitable for primary activities)
- A letter of gratitude from the school or class
- A brief photo story (with appropriate permissions)
- An email sharing outcomes

All reporting must include a simple financial acquittal showing how the funds were spent. Reports should be outlined in your application and completed within 4–6 weeks of the funded activity or purchase.

Where does the funding come from?

Beyond Barriers is coordinated by Beyond the Bell Great South Coast.
The program was established with start-up funds generously donated by the Waratah Education Foundation, and it continues to be supported through contributions from the Beyond the Bell Board of Directors Fund and other community partners.
Additional supporters come on board regularly. To see the full list of current partners or to learn more, visit:
🌐 www.btb.org.au

Questions or unsure if your request fits?

Contact Davina Forth, Executive Officer
✉ dforth@btb.org.au