

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: 2024 Years 7 and 8 Parent Payment Arrangements

Bairnsdale Secondary College is looking forward to another successful year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Bairnsdale Secondary College's voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Extra-curricular items are on a user pays basis. Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and outcomes for our students. We want to thank our families for all their financial contributions in providing for the educational needs of our students. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Parent/Carer contributions in 2023 allowed us to:

- provide high quality programs and specific subject materials and equipment for our new buildings in English, Mathematics, Science, Art, Humanities, Technology, Language and Health and PE
- maintain and develop the school grounds and buildings
- ensure the upkeep of our computer devices to enhance learning opportunities
- maintain sufficient class sets of books for students to develop their reading skills
- provide hands on maths equipment e.g., measuring materials for teaching purposes
- facilitate Literacy and Mathematics online digital subscriptions
- deliver a range of sporting equipment
- provide an exceptional student wellbeing program

For further information on the Department's Parent Payment Policy please see a one-page overview attached.

The full version of the Department's Parent Payment policy can be accessed from the Bairnsdale Secondary College website or <https://ww2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/parent-payment/policy>.

Attached are the parent payment arrangements for 2024 including:

- Voluntary Curriculum Contributions and Subject Consumables
- Other Voluntary Contributions
- Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis. Our College offers a range of optional items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum.
- Parent Payments Policy – one page overview.

Educational items for students to own

Please find enclosed your student's booklist that we recommend you purchase from Schoolworks Supplies for your child to individually own and use.

Compass Pay

Compass Pay is available using the Compass which is accessible for all families. Through Compass we invite Parents/Carers to make a financial contribution to support our school in the following categories:

- Voluntary Contributions to the College's curriculum
- Other Voluntary Contributions
- Extra - Curricular Items and Activities – not voluntary – these are charged on a user pay basis.

Parent/Carers new to our College will be provided with login details to the Compass App and a booklet of instructions.

Financial Support for Families

Bairnsdale Secondary College understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)
- regular contributions plan for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
- State Schools Relief (SSR) e.g. uniform and textbook support

If you hold a current concession card, Veteran Affairs Gold card or are a temporary foster carer, you are eligible for the CSEF (Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund). Please complete the application form and return it to the College for processing. This needs to be completed each year.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss the Parent Payment contributions, please contact our Finance Team:

Phone 03 5150 4800

email accounts@bairnsdalesc.vic.edu.au

Payment Methods

- Via Compass using your credit card or Mastercard/Visa debit cardsBPAY
- Direct Deposit
- Cash and EFT at the Administration office
- Centrepay for Extra-curricular items - please contact the Finance Team.

For those families currently making regular payments for extra-curricular items and activities, or if you would like to arrange regular payments, please contact our Finance Team for a 2024 Parent Payment Contributions form.

Refunds

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of our College and made on a case-by-case basis. Refunds will be provided where the College deems it is reasonable and fair to do so, taking into consideration whether a cost has been incurred, the Department's Parent Payment Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy and any other relevant information.

All refunds will be credited to the family account and where the family requires a payment, the Family Finance Officer is to be contacted.

If you would like to discuss any of the options or would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the College.

Yours sincerely,



Trudie Nagle
Executive Principal



David Radford
Council President

2024 Year 7 and 8 Parent Payments – Extra Curriculum Items/Activities and Voluntary Contributions

Amounts listed are per student.

Voluntary Curriculum Contributions	
Years 7 and 8 classroom consumables, materials, equipment and activities Includes but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science experimental materials • Humanities and English projects created in the classroom • International cooking in LOTE • Art Materials – e.g. -paint, special paper and pencils • Ingredients for Food Technology • Materials for Design Technology projects • Physical Education – travel to PA, equipment • Online Subscriptions • Incursions/guest speakers 	\$260.00
ICT Support – Includes but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment needed to sustain and enhance our ICT program • Ongoing technical support 	\$55.00
Student Resources - Includes but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning material 	\$25.00
Laptop program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 7 - Bairnsdale Secondary College is offering a 1:1 tablet / laptop program in 2024 to all students. The laptop will be purchased by the school to allow the legal installation of required software and will also include warranty and insurance. Students will have full use of the laptop throughout the school year as a loan device. • Year 8, families loaning a device in 2023 will have the option of continuing to participate in the 1:1 tablet / laptop program in 2024. Students will have full use of the laptop throughout the school year as a loan device. 	\$150.00

Other Voluntary Contributions	
Sports Program - School Sports Victoria membership and to support student participation in inter-school sports	\$25.00
Student Wellbeing Program - support individual students wellbeing; Your contribution supports us in developing our knowledge of student needs and the best approach to assist them and their families.	\$25.00
Building and Grounds - to keep the school looking its best	\$25.00
Equipment and Maintenance - provide students with up-to-date equipment that supports their learning	\$25.00

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – User Pays:	
Music - Instrumental Program Tuition Fee	\$200.00
Music - Instrument Purchase - Min 25% of instrument cost per semester	TBA
Music- Instrument Hire	\$200.00
Bus Fares for non-eligible travellers (\$125.00 per Term)	\$500.00
Year 7 Camp – approximately \$300.00	TBA
Excursions and Activities are invoiced prior to event – Sports excursions approximately \$10 per activity	TBA

PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

ONE PAGE OVERVIEW



FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction and ensure students have free access to all items, activities and services that are used by the school to fulfil the requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Schools may invite parents to make a financial contribution to support the school.



PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

Schools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

Curriculum Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.

Other Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

- Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (e.g. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).



FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

- Schools put in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child doesn't miss out.
- Schools have a nominated parent payment contact person(s) that parents can have a confidential discussion with regarding financial hardship arrangements.



SCHOOL PROCESSES

- Schools must obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and publish all requests and communications for each year level on their school website for transparency.