

01/11/2025

Dear parent/guardian,

Whittlesea Secondary College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of *Whittlesea Secondary College's* voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school, the parent payment has allowed us to offer a wider range of subjects and special curriculum experiences, enriching the learning for all students across all year levels. This aligns with our targets and priorities in our School Strategic Plan and Annual Implementation Plan, including community, sporting, technology and academic opportunities. With access improved buildings & grounds and to the latest technology, and resources, our students are empowered to become successful contributors to their community in their chosen pathway.

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

Yours sincerely,



Kathy Mourkakos
Principal



Derek Whiteside
School Council President

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Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<i>Subject consumables, classroom materials and activities:</i> Science – laboratory equipment and materials Drama – costumes, scripts, equipment upkeep Outdoor Education/PE – class sets of clothing and equipment Food Technology – ingredients, equipment upkeep	\$250
<i>Student resources</i>	
<i>Digital technologies - provision of devices, software, and system support</i>	
<i>Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials</i>	
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$250

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<i>School Sports Victoria affiliation</i>	\$50
<i>Student wellbeing programs</i>	
<i>First aid equipment</i>	
<i>School grounds maintenance and improvements</i>	
Total Parent Payments	\$300

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Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Whittlesea Secondary 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.

**The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year. These are approximate cost.*

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount per student
<i>Sports Excursions</i>	\$30
<i>Outdoor Recreation Camp approx.</i>	\$400
<i>Year 7 Camp – Phillip Island approx.</i>	\$400
<i>Incursions approx.</i>	\$20
<i>Instrumental Music per term</i>	\$50

Financial Support for Families

Whittlesea 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)
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans via compass

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact: Family Accounts Ph 03 9719 1200

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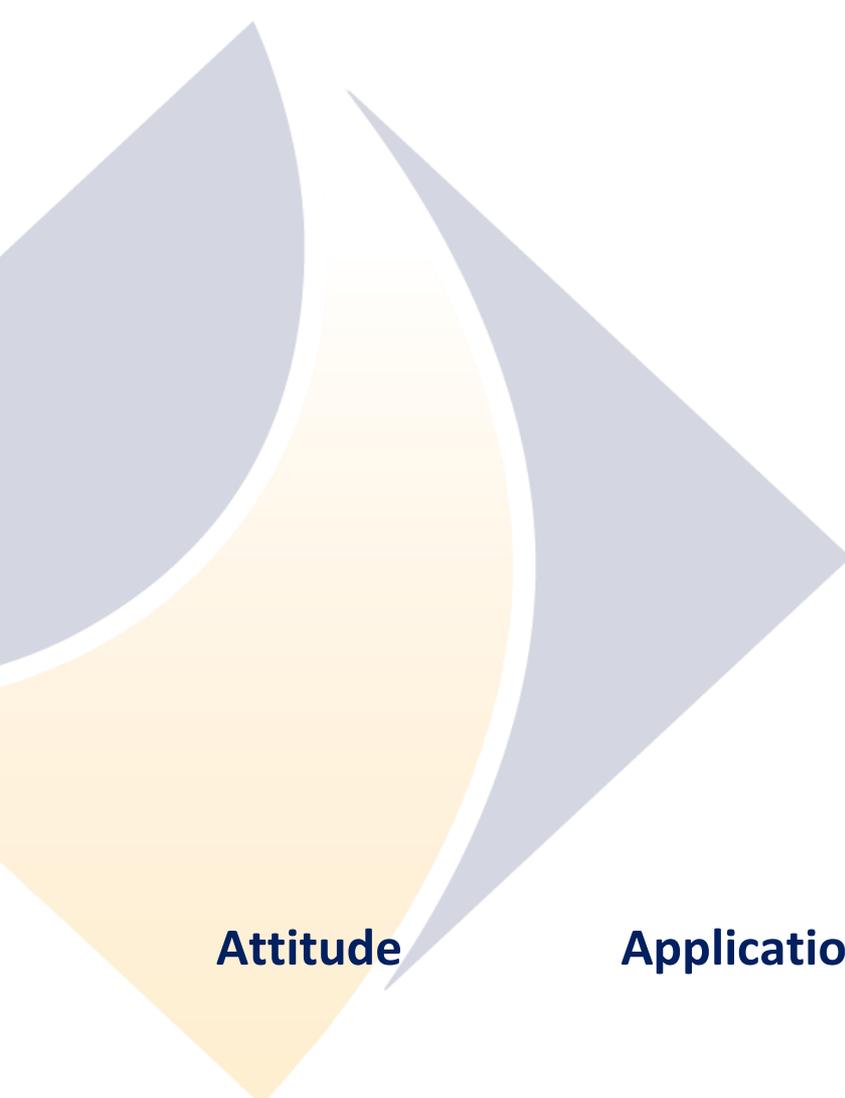
Payment methods

All payments for parent contributions and extracurricular activities must be made through Compass.



A guide for parents and carers to access attendance, reports, events, consent & payments: [A guide for parents & families | Compass Education AU](#)

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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	Other Contributions	Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.	Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.	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.