

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Epping Secondary College eagerly anticipates another enriching year of teaching and learning and wishes to inform you about our voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

Schools are committed to providing students with free instruction to meet the standard Victorian curriculum, and it's important to emphasise that all contributions are entirely voluntary. However, the continued support from our families plays a crucial role in ensuring that our school can deliver the highest quality education and support for our students. We extend our sincere gratitude for your support as it has significantly impacted our school and the range of programs we can offer.

Thanks to this support, we've been able to expand our curriculum, provide special educational experiences, enhance digital learning opportunities, upgrade our WIFI and internet capabilities, offer assistance to families facing financial hardship, and implement youth programs. Additionally, we are excited to share that with the ongoing support, we have plans for the upgrade and refurbishment of the food technology wing in 2024.

For more details on the Department's Parent Payments Policy, please refer to the attached one-page overview.

Warmest regards,



Mr Anesti Anestis
Acting College Principal



Mr Stuart Lord
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Year 7-9 Student ID Card	\$5.00
Year 7-9 classroom consumables, materials & equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>English/EAL – shared classroom stationery, paper, posters/charts (\$5.00)</i> • <i>Mathematics - shared classroom equipment and stationery, paper, posters/charts (\$12.50)</i> • <i>Science – chemicals, posters, supplies for pracs, equipment (\$30.00)</i> • <i>Health and Physical Education – equipment, posters/charts (\$10.00)</i> • <i>LOTE - shared classroom stationery, paper, posters/charts (\$7.50)</i> • <i>Humanities - shared classroom stationery, paper, posters/charts (\$5.00)</i> • <i>Arts (one semester) – arts materials and shared classroom tools and equipment (\$30.00)</i> • <i>Design (one semester) – design materials and shared classroom tools & equipment (\$45.00)</i> • <i>Learning for Life - shared classroom stationery, paper, posters/charts (\$5.00)</i> 	\$150.00
Year 7-9 printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$25.00
Year 7-9 whole school events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Athletics carnival</i> 	\$5.00
Provision and upkeep of school devices, peripherals and ICT	\$55.00
Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Standardised testing</i> 	\$10.00
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
Sports Affiliation Costs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>School Sports Victoria</i> • <i>Whittlesea Division Membership</i> 	\$5.00
Student and Parent Communication Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>XUNO</i> • <i>edVal</i> 	\$30.00
Enhanced Wellbeing Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Student Wellbeing Programs</i> • <i>Wellbeing Counsellors, Psychologist & Multicultural Aide</i> 	\$25.00
First aid equipment	\$5.00
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$35.00
Total Amount	\$350.00

Educational items for students to own

The school recommends you purchase from Campion Education (Aust) Pty Ltd for your child to individually own and use.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Epping Secondary College offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount	Purchase (Please tick)
<i>Optional Instrumental Music Lessons</i>	\$250.00	
<i>Other optional camps and excursions to be scheduled</i>	TBA	
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities		

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- Financial Assistance Program
- BYOD Support
- Textbook & Uniform [State Schools Relief]

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact general office.

Ph: 03 9401 2599 | Email: epping.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Total

Category	
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 250.00
Other Contributions	\$ 100.00
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$ TBA

Payment methods

The preferred method of payment is via XUNO, alternatively payments can be made over the phone or in person at the general office.

Refunds

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and made on a case-by-case basis. Refunds will be provided where the school 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.

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 standard curriculum requirements in Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.
- 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.