



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Epping Secondary College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our 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 sincerely thank you for your ongoing support, which has made a significant difference to our college and the programs we are able to offer.

Thanks to this support, our college has been able to offer a broader and more diverse range of subjects, special curriculum experiences, and wellbeing programs, giving students opportunities to explore their interests, develop new skills, and strengthen their personal growth. Contributions have also allowed the upgrade and modernisation of our basketball courts, providing improved sporting facilities, and the enhancement of our Food Technology centre, ensuring students have access to high-quality, hands-on learning environments. These improvements directly enrich the educational experience and support student engagement, wellbeing, and achievement across the college.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mr Neil Baillie
Principal

Ms Melissa Stojkovski
School Council President



Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
These contributions provide essential support towards the running expenses of all senior subjects, helping to cover the cost of classroom materials, consumables, equipment maintenance, and other vital resources that directly enhance student learning. They also assist with the ongoing delivery of our VCE, VET, VM, and VPC programs, which require additional materials, certification costs, exam marking, and practical resources to ensure students gain valuable academic knowledge and hands-on experience. This support extends to core areas such as English and Mathematics, as well as a broad range of specialised study areas, ensuring all students have access to high-quality learning opportunities that prepare them for future education, training, and employment pathways.	\$100.00
Student resources - student ID card	\$5.00
Digital technologies - provision of devices, software, and system support	\$20.00
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$15.00
Whole school events - Athletics carnival - entry and transport	\$10.00
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$150.00

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School Sports Victoria & Whittlesea Division affiliation	\$13.00
Student wellbeing programs	\$35.00
First aid equipment	\$6.50
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$45.50
Total Other Contributions	\$100.00

Educational items for students to own

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

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

Epping 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.



Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
<i>Instrumental Music Lessons</i>	\$250.00
<i>Excursions and activities to be scheduled (estimated: \$50-\$100)</i>	TBA
<i>Year 10 Camp (estimated: \$500)</i>	TBA
<i>Year 10 Formal and Valedictory (estimated: \$100)</i>	TBA

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*
- *State Schools Relief (SSR)*
- *Referring families to government or community support programs*
- *Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities*

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

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

Total

Category	Total
Curriculum Contributions	\$150.00
Other Contributions <i>(Non-tax deductible)</i>	\$100.00
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$TBA
Total	\$250.00

Payment methods

The preferred method of payment is via Compass, 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 Payments 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 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.