

VERMONT SECONDARY COLLEGE**PARENT PAYMENT INFORMATION 2021**

Dear Parent

The students of Vermont Secondary College are privileged to attend one of Victoria's most successful non-select entry government secondary schools. Underlying the success and quality of the wide-ranging academic and co-curricular programs available to meet the diverse needs of our students, is the voluntary financial support that ensures we have the materials and facilities to run programs successfully.

Vermont Secondary College Council and its Finance Committee work closely with the Principal Team and Business Manager to set recommended student charges that meet the budgetary requirements of the school and make every effort to keep the cost and number of items that need to be paid for by families to a minimum and in keeping with The Department of Education and Trainings' Parent Payment Policy. We work to ensure that the costs are affordable for all parents. Our set charges ensure that the provision of student wellbeing and support programs, major and minor upgrades to buildings, grounds and classroom technology is made available for the benefit and enjoyment of your children.

Financial Support for Families

A range of support options are available, including:

- Access to State Schools' Relief Committee support for clothing/uniforms
- The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund, which provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions.
- VSCCA Second-hand Uniform Shop
- VSCCA Second Hand Book Sale
- The Student Wellbeing Team

Parents experiencing hardship can contact the Business Manager on 8872 6317 to discuss their situation and how Vermont Secondary College can offer support.

Payments by instalments is most welcome and can be set up on Compass to be debited from credit cards should parents wish to take up this option.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payment Policy please see information attached.

Yours sincerely,



Tony Jacobs
Principal



Steve Siems
College Council President

PARENT PAYMENT CATEGORIES 2021

(1) Essential Education Items (see example below)

Includes items that students take permanent possession of, material for final products that students take home and curriculum related activities that students participate in.

- Online subscriptions to learning activities e.g. Edrolo
- Consumable materials which students use to make something and then take possession of or consume e.g. Food subjects, Art/Technology subjects.
- Curriculum Excursions – directly related to curriculum outcome
- Student ID card

Please note: This is not an exhaustive list of charges that may be applicable under this category but is an example only; see your family statement via Compass for your own students' individualised charges

| Essential Education Items | Amount |
|--|--------|
| Student ID Card | |
| Student Printing Credit – allocated at the beginning of every year | |
| Year 7 Foods – Consumable Materials | |
| Year 8 Art – Consumable Materials | |
| Year 10 – Edrolo – Online Learning subscription | |

(2) Optional Items (see example below)

Vermont Secondary College offers a range of “Optional Items” and activities that are additional to the delivery of the standard curriculum.

Includes items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum such as:-

- Electives and additional academic programs
 - Instrumental lessons
 - Elective extension classes
 - School events such as graduations, formals etc
 - Extra-curricular activities
 - Optional camps & excursions that are not directly related to the curriculum
 - Sports activities

Note: Electives subjects only: Applicable for Year 9 – 12 students

If your payment for your choice of Elective subjects has not been received by 27th January, 2021 you may be allocated your next available preference/subject that does not attract a charge.

Please note: This is not an exhaustive list of charges that may be applicable under this category but is an example only; see your family statement via Compass for your own students' individualised charges

| Optional Item | Amount |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| College Year Book | |
| Elective - Food Studies | |
| Elective - Media | |
| Instrumental Music - Hire Instrument | |
| Sport – bus charge | |
| VET | |

(3) Voluntary Contributions (see anticipated donations below) all donations are most welcome

Parent contributions towards the voluntary payments is essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at Vermont Secondary College. Parents are strongly encouraged to contribute to these funds, which are listed on Compass Parent Portal as follows:

1. General – Voluntary Contribution

At \$300 per student this contribution directly funds a number of important programs including classroom technology, consumables for each faculty, class sets and school equipment.

2. The Building & Library Fund – Tax Deductible

Are used to directly support building projects, upgrades to our grounds and facilities that enhance and support the learning environment for students.

Voluntary contributions received to date have been used to enhance a variety of building projects around the college, such as the Senior Science Centre and the New C wing. We now look to the future and to building our reserves, as our next endeavour will be a new sports precinct where our vision for the college will go beyond the entitlement that we have received via the latest government grant, your contributions allow us to grow our vision into reality. Over the last decade Vermont Secondary College has lobbied to improve our facilities in the Physical Education and Sporting area of the college. The college was very happy with the recent Government announcement in the State budget of \$6.5 million. However, the college will now need to make a significant co-contribution to turn the rest of our vision into reality.

Such investments for our community are all marvellous additions to our facilities for the benefit of all of our students and staff. Thank you in advance for your continued support for projects of this kind, your donation means that we will remain in a stable financial position enabling us to deliver future facilities upgrades and significant programs for all of the Vermont Secondary College Community

| Voluntary Contribution | Tax deductible? | Suggested Contribution | Voluntary | Amount |
|--|-----------------|------------------------|-----------|--------|
| General Subject Contributions Levy - per student | No | \$300 | | |
| Building Fund – Tax Deductible - per student | Yes | \$150 | | |
| Library Fund – Tax Deductible - per student | Yes | \$ 50 | | |

Parent Payment Methods

Parent payments towards the requested charges is essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at Vermont Secondary College.

Parents are strongly encouraged to contribute to our voluntary funds, which are listed on and can be paid via Compass.

You may choose to pay charges in full or by direct debit instalments from your credit card setup on Compass.

The 4 instalment payment dates are 18 December 2020, 18 March 2021, 18 June 2021 and 18 August 2021.

We would appreciate payment in full* or the first instalment by 18 December 2020.

Please view your charges and make your payment on the Compass parent portal “Course Confirmation”

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If your payment for your choice of Elective subjects has not been received by 27th January, 2021 you may be allocated your next available preference/subject that does not attract a charge.