VERMONT SECONDARY COLLEGE
Integrity, Respect, Excellence

Year 8 Parent Payment Arrangements 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian,

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

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum requirements and we want to assure you that your contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our college can offer the best possible education and support for our students that far exceeds the standard curriculum offerings.

Your contributions assist us to enhance and broaden the educational experience for our students. It has allowed us to offer students significant subject choices, equipment, and full access to a wide range of materials. Furthermore, the generous contributions from our school community allows us to enhance the quality programs we offer. We want to thank you in advance, as your assistance, allows us to continue enhancing the educational experience for our students.

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

Yours sincerely,

Tony Jacobs
Principal

Frank Drost
School Council President

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Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
General classroom materials and equipment (English, maths, languages, science, drama, geography, history, physical education).	$75
Subject specific materials and equipment (food studies, visual communication design)	$80
Print Credit (for student use)	$25
Digital technologies - provision of devices, software, and system support	$60
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	$40
Student ID Card	$10
Whole school events • Athletics carnival - entry and transport ($15) • Swimming carnival – entry and transport ($15)	$30
Total Curriculum Contributions	**$320**

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	**Amount**
Sports affiliation costs	$15
Student and parent communication tools	$50
Student wellbeing programs	$40
Lockers/locker maintenance	$5
Maintenance and upkeep of resources & equipment	$20
School grounds maintenance and improvements	$20
First aid equipment	$10
Yearbook	$10
Total Other Contributions	**$170**

Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure. **Suggested amount $200, but donations of any size are welcomed**	$
Library fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other technology equipment to continuously update this valuable resource. **Suggested amount $100, but donations of any size are welcomed**	$

Educational items for students to own

The Year 8 Booklist includes items that the school recommends you purchase from Campion for your child to individually own and use.

We recommend that you purchase a Lenovo Yoga Touch Notebook Series with stylus for your child to individually own and use. If you would like to purchase one, visit the Learning with Technologies order portal on the college website under Curriculum.

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

Vermont 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.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Year 8 Excursions	TBA
Year 8 Camp	TBA
Year 8 Interschool sports program	$20 per event
Vermont Secondary College Instrumental Music Program	Information available upon request

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (for eligible families)
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Flexible contribution arrangements
- VSCCA Second-hand Uniform Shop
- Student Wellbeing Team

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

Sherryn Davies, Business Manager Ph: 03 8872 6300 | Email: sherryn.davies@education.vic.gov.au

Total

Category		Total
Curriculum Contributions		$ 320
Other Contributions	*(Non-tax deductible)*	$ 170
	(Tax-deductible)	$ (parent to complete)
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities (to be invoiced individually via Compass)		
Total		**$**

Payment methods

Payment is available online via Compass (preferred method), or by credit card or cash.

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.

Extra-Curricular Activities, Camps and Excursions.

The school must ensure that the provision of any activity for students does not incur a cost directly on the school and that the activity does not run at a loss. When students withdraw from an activity after payment has been made to the school a refund may be applicable.

- All refunds must be applied for in writing, other than when the school cancels and activity.
- Parents/Guardians must apply for a refund no later than 14 days after the activity was due to take place and include the reason the student did not attend including a medical certificate if applicable.
- A refund will be considered once the viability of the activity and any possible monetary loss to the college is ascertained.

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.