

5 November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

As we look towards the new academic year, we would like to take a moment to express our gratitude for your continued support of our school community.

At Fairhills, our vision – *“Empowering our school community to be curious, creative and confident learners”* – guides everything we do. It reflects our deep commitment to nurturing the essential qualities that help students not only succeed academically, but also grow into thoughtful, innovative, and resilient individuals.

We believe every student has the potential to grow, thrive, and succeed – and we are proud to see our vision come to life in classrooms, in co-curricular programs, and across our wider community each day.

This commitment to growth is strongly reflected in our outstanding 2025 NAPLAN results. Among Year 7–9 students, 85% achieved strong growth in writing, 81% in numeracy, and 75% across other key areas – all well above the state average. As a result, Fairhills High School was recognised as one of the **top ten metropolitan schools for the most significant improvement in NAPLAN results**.

Our students also continue to report a highly positive experience at Fairhills. In the 2025 Attitudes to School Survey (completed by students across all Victorian government schools from Grade 4–Year 12), Fairhills students rated their learning, wellbeing and sense of belonging to the school well above the state average. Highlights include:

- **90%** of students said their teachers expect them to do their best
- **98%** reported having friends at Fairhills
- **91%** said their teachers ensure they are included in class activities

These results are a celebration of the dedication of our students, staff, and families working together as a learning community.

As a government school, we rely on voluntary contributions from families to continue enriching the learning opportunities we provide. These contributions directly support vital programs and resources that enhance student life at Fairhills – including STEM initiatives, sporting and arts equipment, updated IT facilities, breakfast programs, team-building activities, and specialist programs.

Every contribution, big or small, makes a meaningful difference and is deeply appreciated. For further details, please refer to the attached one-page overview of the Department of Education’s Parent Payments Policy.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Together, we are shaping a vibrant, inclusive, and empowering educational journey for every student.

Warm regards,



Ian Van Schie
Principal



Nicole Blanchard
School Council President

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.

2026 Year 8 Contributions

Year 8 Curriculum Contributions <i>Important items and activities that the students use, or participate in, to access the curriculum</i>	Annual Amount per STUDENT	CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT
- Classroom Consumables - <i>All Year 8 students participate in these subjects</i> - STEM – eg chemicals, steel rod, corflute, superglue, tapes, wheels (\$60) - Food Tech – eg flour, butter, fruit, vegetables, meat, rice, pasta (\$100) - Art – eg paint, canvas, crayons, glitter, coloured paper etc (\$50) - Health & PE – eg basketballs, netballs, soccer balls, tennis balls, rackets, shuttles (\$30) - Printing and photocopying of worksheets and materials (\$20) - Learning Support subscriptions: eg clickview, Maqlit, Quicksmart (\$40) - Provision and upkeep of school devices and ICT eg devices owned by the school, class sets, device configuration, maintenance, and server/system costs (\$80)	\$380	\$
Other Contributions <i>Non curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives</i>	Annual Amount per STUDENT	CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT
- Year 8 Team Building activities / Welcome week activities including catering / End of Semester activities eg classroom behaviour rewards (\$40) - School Sports Victoria membership (\$16) - Student and Parent Communication tool – Compass (\$50) - Student Wellbeing support programs – respectful relationships, cyber bullying, anger management, counselling supports (\$80) - Breakfast Club (\$10) - House Group activities – eg end of term BBQ's, activities and prizes (\$14) - First Aid equipment – eg ice packs, bandages, excursion first aid kits (\$10)	\$220	\$
Student ID Card		
Student ID Card – includes PTV concession (\$20) <i>Details via Compass event</i>	\$20	

Tax Deductible Contributions <i>Per family recommendations</i>	Annual Amount per STUDENT	CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT
▪ Building fund (to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure) - <i>Suggested contribution \$100</i> ▪ Library fund (to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource) - <i>Suggested contribution \$50</i>	Family choice or as per suggestion	
Extra Curriculum Items and Activities <i>Payment for extra curriculum items and activities will be via separate Compass events</i>	Annual Amount per STUDENT	CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT
▪ Athletics Day – whole school activity (\$25) ▪ Interschool Sports program - each student who participates in an interschool sporting event will be required to pay \$35 per event. ▪ Year 8 excursions and incursions – to be scheduled ▪ Instrumental Music (\$350) ▪ Instrument Hire (\$100) <i>Details via Compass Events</i> <i>Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) and School Savings Bonus balances can be used towards camps and excursions</i>		
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS		\$

Please return this form to the Office if you **ARE NOT** paying via Compass: Payment Centre.

Student Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

I will be paying by:

☐	Credit card: Please debit my card NOW or on ____ / ____ / ____ (please indicate date) Credit Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: ____ / ____ CCV _____ For the amount of \$ _____ Cardholder Name: _____
☐	Instalment Plan
☐	Electronically via BPAY
☐	EFTPOS, direct deposit, cash, check payments directly to Fairhills High School Office

Payment Methods

Parent contributions towards the requested payments are essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at Fairhills High School. Payment can be made in the following ways:

- Compass: Payment Centre
- Electronically via BPAY. Please email Fairhills.hs@education.vic.gov.au for your personalised details.
- EFTPOS, direct deposit, cash, and cheque payments can be made directly at Fairhills High School Office.
- Instalment Plans are available. Please return this form to the Office and the school will contact you to arrange your plan.

Educational items for students to own

Below is a list of items that the school recommends each individual student purchases:

- Laptop <https://fairhillshs.vic.edu.au/learning/digital-learning/>
- Subject textbooks / Stationery / Calculator (as indicated in the Enrolments tab) <https://fairhillshs.vic.edu.au/our-school/policies-and-documents/>
- School Uniform <https://fairhillshs.vic.edu.au/enrolment/uniform/>
- VET resources (Year 10-12 only)

Financial Support for Families

Fairhills High School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- State Schools' Relief provides financial support
- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact Accounts Receivable on 03 9758 5022, or email Fairhills.hs@education.vic.gov.au

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 for the current school year. <https://fairhillshs.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/FIN5-Refunds-Policy.pdf>