



31 October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

2023 marks a significant year for Fairhills High School as we celebrate 50 years of providing teaching and learning to our community. In 2023, we will make significant improvements to the facilities with the completion of the new Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math learning centre, new Music hub and landscaping. We will also continue to provide programs that provide rich learning opportunities that foster our belief in developing the whole child.

Government schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum. However, we know that it is the extra opportunities that make our students' school experience much more rewarding and impactful. The Parent Payment voluntary contributions not only contributes to the curriculum but also enables the school to organise and coordinate the best possible programs outside of the traditional teaching and learning classroom structure.

Below are some of the activities we were able to offer this year due to parent contributions:

- Year 9 CONNECT program that builds students' understanding of their place in the global community
- QuickSmart which is a nationally recognised numeracy program that supports students to build their confidence and math skills
- Wellbeing programs such as Respectful Relationships and the Fathering project
- Co-ordinated events raising awareness of diversity and inclusiveness
- The Breakfast Club to ensure students are ready for a day of learning
- An Alumni program that connects past successful students with our current students

In 2023, we are particularly seeking donations to our Building fund as funding for the capital works does not extend to the fit out of the new facilities. We will need to purchase items such as desks, chairs, lab equipment etc. Any contribution to the Building fund is tax deductible and will be gratefully appreciated.

Please find attached the Fairhills High School's *2023 Voluntary Financial Contributions Schedule Year 7*, which includes an overview of the items, activities, and equipment your contribution will support. We want to thank you in advance for considering a contribution at the level outlined.

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

With your support we look forward to offering your child the best educational opportunities.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ian Van Schie'.

Ian Van Schie
Principal

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kim Morris'.

Kim Morris
School Council President

2023 Voluntary Financial Contributions Schedule - Year 7

ITEM	Annual Amount per STUDENT
<p>CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS Items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Classroom materials and equipment (shared classroom stationery, paper, posters/charts) • Subject specific materials and equipment (materials for English, Maths, Science, Language, Art, Music, Technology, Health & PE) • Provision and upkeep of school devices, peripherals and ICT (e.g. devices owned by the school, class sets, device configuration, maintenance and server/system costs) • Photocopying and printing for students Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials • Curriculum activities (e.g. excursions, incursions, whole school carnivals including transport and entry) • Digital and online subscriptions for learning (e.g. Edrolo, Elevate, Essential Assessment) • Assessments (e.g. standardised tests, revision packages, external examinations) • Student ID cards 	\$425
<p>OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS Non-Curriculum items and activities to support the daily operation and objectives of Fairhills High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport affiliation costs (School Sports Victoria) • Student and parent communication tools (Compass, newsletter, website) • Enhanced student support (homework clubs, tutoring, learning support programs, mentoring, coaching) • Enhanced Wellbeing programs (wellbeing programs, counsellors, mental health practitioner) • Engaging staff through local payroll (groundskeepers, coaches, additional wellbeing and learning support staff) • School buildings and grounds enhancement and maintenance • First aid equipment and hygiene costs • Library maintenance and enhancements • Use and Upkeep of specialised facilities on campus (e.g. gym equipment, bikes, helmets) 	\$170
<p>LOCKER AND COMBINATION LOCK One-off fee - this fee covers the allocation and use of the locker, combination lock</p>	\$60
<p>EXTRA-CURRICULAR ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES Fairhills High School 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. Details of these items and activities will be provided to students and families throughout the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 7 Camp – Cost to be advised • Instrumental Music Hire (\$50) this will be advised at the start of Term 1, 2023 	
<p>TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS (per family recommendations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building fund (to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure) Suggested contribution \$100 • Library fund (to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource) Suggested contribution \$50 	Family choice or as per suggestion

Educational items for students to own

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

- Laptop (please contact the school for specifications and requirements)
- Subject textbooks / Stationery / Calculator (as indicated in the Year 7 Booklist/Resources)
- School Uniform

Financial Support for Families

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

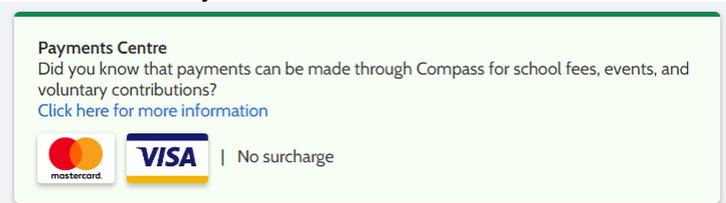
- State Schools' Relief provides financial support
- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions

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

Payment methods

Parent contributions towards the requested payments is essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at Fairhills High School. Contributions can be made in the following ways or by completing the attached *2023 Parent Contribution Form*.

- COMPASS: Payments Centre



- Electronically via BPAY. Please email fairhills.hs@education.vic.gov.au for your personalised details
- EFTPOS, cash and cheque payments can be made directly at Fairhills 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 for the current school year.

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.



2023 Parent Contribution Form - Year 7

I have read the 2023 Voluntary Financial Contributions Schedule as per the Department of Education and Training's 2023 Parent Payment Policy, and I would like to make a payment as per the amount indicated in the table below.

STUDENT NAME _____

ITEM	Amount	Amount Paying
Contributions		
Curriculum Consumables	\$425	\$
Other Contributions	\$170	\$
Locker and Combination Lock	\$60	\$60
SUB TOTAL	\$655	\$
Extra -Curricular Items and Activities		
Instrumental Music Hire (\$50) this will be advised at the start of Term 1, 2023	\$50	\$
Year 7 Camp – Cost to be advised	TBA	
SUB TOTAL		\$
Tax Deductible Contributions		
Building Fund (<i>Suggested donation \$100</i>)	\$100	\$
Library Fund (<i>Suggested donation \$50</i>)	\$50	\$
SUB TOTAL	\$150	\$
TOTAL PAYING		\$

I will be paying by:

PAYMENT METHODS

COMPASS: Payments Centre -  log on to Compass and click on Payments Centre listed top right above 'My News'.		
EFTPOS, cash and cheque - payments can be made directly at Fairhills General Office		
Electronically via BPAY - Please email fairhills.hs@education.vic.gov.au for your personalised details		
Credit card - Please debit my card NOW or on ____ / ____ / ____ (please indicate date) for the full amount of \$ _____		
Credit Card Number:	Expiry Date: / /	CCV:
Cardholder Name:	Signature:	

Parent Name: _____ Mobile: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____