



Dear Parents/Carers,

Fairhills High School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the voluntary financial contributions schedule for 2022.

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

We want to thank you for all your support, whether that's through your fee contributions, fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

In 2022 we are implementing new programs and initiatives to increase student opportunities and enhance learning outcomes.

These include:

- Establishment of sub schools
- Student interest driven Year 9-10 electives
- THRIVE program in Year 7 & 8
- CONNECT program in Year 9
- QUICKSMART literacy program

These student-focused initiatives do not come cheaply, but we want to provide the best opportunities for our students and government funding is limited. Victorian government schools heavily rely upon parent contributions to help financially support these student focused programs.

On the following pages, please find the Fairhills High Schools voluntary financial contributions schedule for 2022, which includes an overview of what your contributions will go towards.

Department of Education guidelines now mandate that schools are UNABLE to provide parents with a statement of fees. With this in mind, parents are asked to please review the recommended voluntary financial contributions schedule for an indication of contributions for your child/ren.

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

Yours sincerely,

Ian Van Schie
Principal

Debra Mc Cabe
School Council President



2022 Parent Payment Policy

Year 8

| Category | Annual Amount per STUDENT |
|---|---------------------------|
| <p>CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS</p> <p>Items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom consumables, materials & equipment • 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. whole school events: athletics carnivals, house events, excursions) • Digital and online subscriptions for learning (e.g. Edrolo, Elevate, Essential Assessment) • Assessments (e.g. standardised tests, revision packages, external examinations) • Student ID card | \$325 |
| <p>OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS</p> <p>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) • Lockers and locker maintenance • Engaging staff through local payroll (groundskeepers, coaches, additional wellbeing and learning support staff) • School buildings and grounds enhancement and maintenance (e.g., Building fund) • First aid equipment and hygiene costs • Library maintenance and enhancements (e.g. Library Fund) • Use and Upkeep of specialised facilities on campus (e.g. gym equipment, bikes) | \$170 |
| <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) • Library fund (to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource) | \$50 \$50 |
| <p>EXTRA-CURRICULAR ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES</p> <p>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"> • College Magazine – Fairgo –payment required for order to be placed | \$20 |

Educational items for students to own

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

- Laptop (please contact the school for specifications and requirements)
- Subject textbooks / Stationery / Calculator (as indicated in the Booklist)
- 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 uniform assistance
- 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 finance@fairhillshs.vic.edu.au

Total

| Category | Amount |
|---|--------------|
| Curriculum Contributions | \$325 |
| Other Contributions | \$170 |
| Tax Deductible Contributions | \$100 |
| Extra-Curricular Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">• College Magazine – Fairgo - Payment required for order to be placed | \$20 |
| TOTAL CONTRIBUTION | \$615 |

Payment methods

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

- Completing the Parent Payment form
- COMPASS: Payment Centre (available from 29 November 2021)
- Credit Card can be done over the phone 9758 5022 or at the Fairhills High School Office, along with EFTPOS, cash, and cheque payments.
- Electronically via BPAY or via direct deposit. Please email finance@fairhillshs.vic.edu.au for your personalised details.

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 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.