



RINGWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE
Parent Payment Arrangements 2026

Dear Families,

Ringwood Secondary College is excited for another successful year of teaching and learning and would like to share information about our voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Your ongoing support plays a vital role in helping us provide the best education and resources for our students. We sincerely thank you for your contributions during your time at the College; they have significantly enhanced our programs and facilities. In 2025, your support enabled us to upgrade classroom facilities, renew teacher learning resources, and improve access areas across the College.

While schools provide free instruction to meet standard curriculum requirements, we want to emphasise that all contributions are voluntary. We encourage families to review the recommended financial contributions detailed within this communication as a guide for supporting your child/ren.

We welcome full contributions, and we also offer the option of making instalments (recurring contributions).

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

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Rosina Fotia
Principal

Ian Roadnight
School Council President

| Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum | | |
|---|------------|-----------|
| | Year Level | Amount \$ |
| General classroom materials & equipment | | |
| • Materials, Equipment & Service | 7-12 | 400 |
| Provision and upkeep of school devices, peripherals, ICT | | |
| • IT Support | 7-12 | 90 |
| • Laptops school software installation that enables IT to provide all school software on student devices | 7-12 | 50 |
| Other Contributions – Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives | | |
| First Aid and hygiene costs | | |
| • First Aid Attendant | 7-12 | 50 |
| Student and parent communication tools | | |
| • Compass parent communication | 7-12 | 40 |
| Enhanced wellbeing support | | |
| • Support Program | 7-12 | 50 |
| School buildings and grounds maintenance and enhancement | | |
| • Building Fund Tax Deductible contributions* | 7-12 | 100 |
| • Grounds | 7-12 | 55 |

*Building Fund: School council has requested these donations to undertake building works, building maintenance, purchase of major capital items and installation infrastructure.

| Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – The College 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. | | |
|---|-------------|-----|
| Optional items | | |
| • Student Accident Insurance | 7-12 | 10 |
| • Interschool sport bus transport | 7-12 | 15 |
| • College Yearbook – Digital copy – Yr12 complimentary | 7-11 | 15 |
| Private instrumental music lessons and instrument hire (Select) | | |
| • Music Choir Levy | Via Compass | 210 |
| • Music Program Levy | Via Compass | 550 |
| Other optional camps and excursions & activities to be scheduled | | |
| • optional camps and excursions | Via Compass | TBA |
| Optional items within subjects | | |
| • High cost items within subjects – parents will be billed via compass events | Via Compass | TBA |

Educational items for students to own

Below is a list of items that the school recommends you purchase from third party providers for your child to individually own and use.

| Educational items for students own use | Amount |
|---|---|
| Text Books per book list available from Campion Australia | Refer to book list |
| Bring your own device (BYOD) MacBook Program – available from JB Hi fi Australia https://byod.jbhifi.education/auth?code=RingwoodSC2025 | \$ Options available including accessories |

Payment arrangements and methods

School approved contributions are available to pay on Compass and is Ringwood Secondary College’s preferred method of payment. Parents will be provided with early notification of annual payment requests. Reasonable notice will be given for any other payment requests during the year (i.e. excursions on Compass).

Parents will be permitted to pay in full or instalments via Compass, we also provide other methods of payment EFTPOS. Parents are able to enter into a confidential payment arrangements by emailing 8270-finance@schools.vic.edu.au.

Family support options

There are a number of support options available for parents including, but not limited to;

- Second hand books and uniform sales www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au
- Camps, Sports & Excursion Funding (CSEF) available to eligible parents
- State Schools Relief support for uniforms/footwear/calculators/textbooks (via College Wellbeing team)
- Local community support (Wellbeing team can provide further information)

Information regarding support options is available from the Administration Office and will be advertised periodically in the College Newsletter and on the website.

Consideration of hardship

The College understands that families may experience financial difficulties or hardship at times and may be unable to meet full or part payments requested. Families are invited to contact the College to make payment arrangements or alternatively, can contact the Wellbeing team for a confidential discussion and available options.

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.

Communication with families

The Parent Payment Policy is published on the College website. Further information can be found on the DET Parent Payment Policy link <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/parent-payment/policy>

General enquiries regarding parent payment may be made to the College via email 8270-finance@schools.vic.edu.au

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.