



## Parent Payments Policy

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| <b>Preamble</b>          | The Education and Training Reform Act 2006, Parent Payments in Victorian Government Schools Policy ensures that the standard curriculum program is delivered free to all students. School Councils are empowered to charge for goods and services used in the course of instruction and to raise funds to enhance the quality and variety of educational programs offered.   |
| <b>Aims</b>              | To provide high quality learning opportunities for all students by supplementing limited government funds with approved financial contributions and payments supported by parents.   |
| <b>Implementation</b>    | <p>After considering the expectations of our wider community, School Council will continue to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All students have access to the standard curriculum program</li><li>• Payments and contributions will cover the three parent payment categories – essential education items, optional extras and voluntary financial contributions.</li><li>• Payments and contributions will be kept to a minimum and subject to the 'free instruction' provision to ensure charges do not exceed the cost of providing the relevant materials or services to our students.</li><li>• No student will be treated differently or denied access to the standard curriculum program on the basis of payments not being made for educational items and services.</li><li>• Subject charges will only be requested to cover the cost of the provision of materials to be used personally by the student, where the student consumes or takes possession of the finalised articles, for text hire in lieu of purchase of books, for high cost alternative subjects and various school based performances, events, camps and excursions.</li><li>• Parents/Guardians will be informed of alternative payment options, such as the 'payment plan' system.</li><li>• Parents/guardians experiencing difficulties in providing or paying the College to provide Essential Education Items, will be offered support via the Student Welfare staff on each campus.</li><li>• Parents/Guardians who hold a Pension/Health Care Card will be offered funding support under the Camps, Sport and Excursion Funding (CSEF), secondary students years 7 to 12 are eligible for \$225.</li><li>• The 'Parent Supported Materials and Services' will be distributed with the booklists in December each year. Each payment will have a clear definition of the appropriate category and the requested payment.</li><li>• Parents/guardians will be informed of the second-hand book sales and encouraged to use this service.</li></ul> |
| <b>Related Documents</b> | <i>Education and Training Reform Act 2006</i>  |
| <b>External Links</b>    | References: Vic Govt Schools Reference Guide - <a href="http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/referenceguide/resources/7_2.htm">http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/referenceguide/resources/7_2.htm</a><br><br><i>Parent Payments in Victorian Government Schools</i><br><a href="http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/pages/parentpayments.aspx">http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/pages/parentpayments.aspx</a>  |
| <b>Ratified Date</b>     | This policy was ratified by School Council on 27 October 2015  |
| <b>Review Date</b>       | This policy will be reviewed as part of the College's annual review cycle  |

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