DONCASTER
SECONDARY COLLEGE

PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS YEAR 8

Dear parent/guardian,

Doncaster Secondary College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Doncaster Secondary College's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

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 learning resources and programs to maintain the high quality education programs and support services for our students. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that's through financial contributions or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support has gone towards areas such as: Building Fund (tax deductible), Library Fund (tax deductible), College Wellbeing, Information Technology Support and additional classroom support. As an example, the College currently has a full time Health Centre Officer, added Careers/Pathways support and also a significant financial commitment through a Co-op loan for our self-funded sport stadium. We also run many more educational programs and remedial support options to create a positive environment and improved learning outcomes.

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

Yours sincerely,

GLENN MORRIS
Principal

ROSS MOLL
College Council President

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Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	**Amount**
Year 8 Planner	$24
Year 8 classroom consumables, materials & equipment • *Science – chemicals* • *Drama – costumes, masks, scripts* • *Health and Physical Education - equipment*	$26
Year 8 printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	$65
Year 8 whole school events • *Athletics carnival* • *Swimming carnival*	$5
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	**Amount**
School Sports Victoria membership	$12
First aid & hygiene costs	$80
Parent & student communication tool (e.g. Compass, Edval, ICT Support)	$166
Outdoor Learning Spaces	$74
Communications – Newsletter/Alumni	$68
Student Wellbeing Services	$200
Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure.	$
Library fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource.	$
Total Amount	**$**

Educational items for students to own:

BYOD is compulsory for students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.
"Bring Your Own Device" (BYOD) refers to students bringing a personally owned device (Microsoft based Laptops and Netbooks) to school for the purpose of learning.

How will my child be using their device during the school day?
Students will use their registered devices to complete in-class activities, check their student portal, collaborate in real time, research for projects, and access websites with curriculum-related content.

A number of parents have asked about recommendations for specific brands and models of Netbooks/Laptops. Students may use any model or brand as long as it meets the specifications as listed. It is recommended that all devices have an application which will provide the equivalent to the following elements of the Microsoft Office Suite: word processing, spreadsheet and presentation software [Word, Excel and Power Point] and a web browser.

Preferred devices are: Microsoft based Laptops and Netbooks.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities:
Doncaster Secondary 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.

These items or activities will be added to Compass for payment at the appropriate time.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	**Amount**	
School magazine/ yearbook	$25	
Optional Year 8 private music lessons	$600	
Food Technology – Supplementary Program	$110	
Other optional Year 8 camps and excursions/incursions & guest speakers to be scheduled	TBA	
Optional items within subjects (e.g. Elective materials &/or experiences)	TBA	
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities (user-pays basis)		**$735**

Financial Support for Families

Doncaster Secondary College understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- State Schools' Relief

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative flexible contribution arrangements, contact: Business Manager

Tel: 03 98484677 | Email: doncaster.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Category	
Curriculum Contributions	$120
Other Contributions	$600
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities (user-pays basis)	$735

Payment methods

- Payments can be made through the Compass Portal
- In person at the student payment office

Parents and guardians will be provided with early notice of payment requests for Curriculum Contributions, Other Contributions and Extra-Curricular Items and Activities. There will be a minimum of six weeks' notice prior to the end of the previous school year.

To further assist parents / guardians with payments, payment options have been developed, including:

Option A Full amount by the beginning of Term 1
Option B Payment instalments; or
Option C Other payment arrangements, including individual payment plans.

Alternative payment options are available through the College and parents / guardians are encouraged to make an appointment with the school Business Manager to discuss circumstances and available options.

Refunds

Please refer to our refund policy available www.doncastersc.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 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	Other Contributions	Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.	Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.	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.