

2027 Parent Payment Arrangement

Dear Parent/Carer,

We would like to advise you of Bentleigh Secondary College's voluntary financial contributions for the 2027 school year.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary.

At Bentleigh Secondary College, we believe that education is about more than what happens in the classroom. It is about giving students opportunities to discover what they are capable of, develop their strengths and skills, and build confidence for their future.

The voluntary support of our families helps us make these opportunities possible, and help us to:

- Invest in educational opportunities and resources that are comparable in quality and diversity to those offered by neighbouring schools,
- Effectively deliver subjects that require practical materials for student use, such as Science, Food Technology, Woodwork, Media, Visual Communication Design, Art, and Studio Art,
- Support enhanced student learning programs and enriched opportunities,
- Deliver initiatives that strengthen student wellbeing, engagement, and learning outcomes,
- Enhance digital learning through continued investment in technology infrastructure, including reliable and high-speed Wi-Fi access.

We encourage families to make a voluntary contribution where they are able, through the Compass Portal via the Payment Centre, by direct deposit, or by contacting the College directly to arrange payment by credit card or cash.

Every contribution makes a difference. Together, the support of our school community helps us create a richer learning experience and provide opportunities that allow every student to learn, grow, and thrive.

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

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Tristan Lanarus
Acting Principal

Ms Yvette Herff
School Council President



Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum <i>Curriculum Contributions cover items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the curriculum</i>		Amount
Student ID card and Diary/Journal/Whiteboard		\$40.00
Subject consumables, classroom materials		\$320.00
Whole school events – athletics, swimming, & house events		\$65.00
Total Curriculum Contributions		\$425.00

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities <i>Other Contributions support non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives</i>		Amount
Contributions are essential to the college and supports: • Classroom items used for learning and shared class sets; • Teaching and learning equipment; • Sports affiliation costs • Enhanced student support – e.g. tutoring, coaching, mentoring, learning support, clubs; • Locker maintenance; • IT and network levy – e.g. technology equipment/software; • Photocopying and printing – e.g. worksheets; exam papers; • Student and parent communications tools - Compass and Timetabling packages; • Data Analysis • Enhanced wellbeing support; • School buildings, grounds maintenance and enhancements; • First aid and hygiene costs		
Total Other Contributions		\$375.00

Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. (non-refundable) <i>A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure.</i>	\$150.00
School Library. (non-refundable) <i>A tax-deductible contribution to purchase, preserve and maintain the collection of books and other materials for reading, study or reference housed in the Bentleigh Secondary College Library.</i>	\$100.00

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Bentleigh Secondary College offers a range of optional items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis and will be via Compass throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities <i>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.</i>		Amount
Instrumental Music <i>Participation via application acceptance</i> Please note: Participation in the Instrumental Music Program is mandatory for all students enrolled on the Gifted and Talented program.		\$680.00
Instrument Hire		\$320.00
Sports Academy <i>Participation via application acceptance</i>		\$1,500.00
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities		\$

Educational items for students to own

The resource/booklist recommends you purchase from Campion Education for your child to individually own and use. Resource/booklist access information provided in the 2027 information email to parents.

Contributions requests will be via Compass

Category	Total
Curriculum Contributions	\$
Other Contributions	<i>(Non-tax deductible)</i>
	<i>(Tax-deductible)</i>
	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$
Total	\$

Financial Support for Families

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

Government assistance programs:

- The Camps, Sports, and Excursions Fund (CSEF) application. Information is provided in the enrolment or re-enrolment process and via Compass.
- State Schools Relief provide support for school items. Requests must go through our Wellbeing Team.

Second-hand school items:

- College second-hand uniform shop

College support:

- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities.
- For families identified as experiencing hardship by our Wellbeing Team, items may be available to loan e.g., textbooks, graphing calculator.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, contact our Wellbeing Team via email wellbeing@bentleighsc.vic.edu.au or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact our Finance Team via email finance@bentleighsc.vic.edu.au (Ph: 03 9579 1044)

Payment methods

The preferred payment method is via Compass Parent Portal. Payments can be made in full or via designated payment dates. BPay payments are accepted using individual family reference numbers. Families can email a request to finance@bentleighsc.vic.edu.au for alternative payment arrangements.

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 Payments Policy and Guidance, Financial support for families, and any other relevant information. Building fund and School Library contributions are non-refundable.

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.