

2023 PARENTS PAYMENTS POLICY

Dear Parent/Guardian

As in previous years, Yarrowonga College provides free education for all students and there is no charge for any curriculum related expenses to enable your child to access the highest possible learning outcomes.

Rather than a financial statement as in previous years, parents will be informed of events (camps, excursions, sports day etc) that require payment through Compass. Financial statements will be sent to families no more than once per term.

Please Note: Yarrowonga College P12 does not request that parents make a contribution to any item that is deemed to be part of the curriculum delivery for your child such as subject levies, photocopying, electronic devices, etc.

Yours sincerely

Damien Keel
PRINCIPAL

Carolyn O'Dwyer
SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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.

Financial Support for Families.

Refer to Financial Help for Families from the Parent Payments Policy: Department of Education (Page 2)

The school appreciates that families may sometimes experience financial difficulties in meeting requests for payments and contributions towards activities. A range of support options are available to assist eligible parents, including the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) and State Schools Relief Committee support and our local St Vincent De Paul Society.

Families experiencing financial difficulty are welcome to discuss possible support options and flexible payment arrangements. The Business Manager will give due consideration to hardship arrangements in respect to payment requests and provide families experience long term hardship or short-term crisis on a case by case basis.

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

Vicki Ramsdale, Business Manager

03 5744 1751

vicki.ramsdale@education.vic.gov.au

PAYMENT METHODS (prior to events):

Parent Payment Options:

- **Event payment through Compass**
- **Cash or EFTPOS at the P-8 Administration Building, Gilmore Street.**
- **Electronic Banking via BPAY or Funds Transfer**
Direct Entry Details: BSB: 063 537 Account Number: 101 388 33
Please quote your individual reference number from your Statement or obtainable by contacting the office on 03 5744 1751
- **Centrelink deductions direct from your Centrelink payment**

Refunds

Parents 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.