

Dear Parent/Carer,

Western Port Secondary College along with all government schools, provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian Curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Extra- curricular items and activities are provided on a user-pays basis.

Ongoing and continued support from our families regarding financial contributions to our College has ensured our school can go beyond offering a standard curriculum program and allow our students to have a wide choice of subjects to pursue their chosen pathways. ***Working with our School Council we have ensured our school contributions remain at one of the lowest levels in the state.***

We believe our students deserve the best possible opportunity to thrive and pursue their wide range of passions in state-of-the-art facilities as they move through our College and onto the next chapter of their lives.

Student well-being is a key priority, and we strive to develop our student's personal and social skills to become confident, resilient, and valued members of the community. Your continued support has allowed us to create this environment in our College and the resources required.

Our Senior and Junior hubs are now completed with our students using our state-of-the-art equipment and furnishings. We are committed to further enhancing the rest of our college with the latest equipment and resources to continue to support learning and well-being.

Your support will allow us to provide the latest programs and equipment. Please refer to the table below regarding further information on family contributions.

School Council thank you in advance for supporting these voluntary funds, so that we will remain in a financial position to deliver significant programs and facilities upgrades for the Western Port Secondary College Community.

Kind regards,



Chris Quinn
Principal



Lorna Bagworth
School Council President

WESTERN PORT SECONDARY COLLEGE CONTRIBUTIONS – 2025	
<p>Curriculum Contributions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom consumables, materials and equipment including: poster/coloured paper, food technology items, wood technology, science equipment chemicals and materials to conduct practical activities and learning tasks, workbook and practice exams, printing and photocopying supplied by WPSC, licensed programs accessed by student. 	\$250.00
<p>Extra –Curricular Items and Activities i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camps, excursions, incursions and activities etc. that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are beyond what the College provides in order to deliver the curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis – These will be invoiced prior to an activity. 	TBC
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NON-CURRICULAR ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES	
<p>Student Wellbeing Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Western Port Secondary College we support students' wellbeing at an individualised level, this includes the engagement of external professionals on a need's basis. This support assists in developing staff knowledge, and at times, individual students, and families. The aim is to provide individual and group support. 	\$40.00
<p>First Aid Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school provides first aid consumables required to treat students and to meet student health needs when at school and offsite. Staff also undertake professional development in first aid, CPR, welfare, asthma, anaphylaxis and diabetes management on regular basis. 	\$30.00
<p>ICT Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Software and equipment required to sustain and enhance our ICT program. 	\$50.00
<p>Grounds/Equipment and Maintenance Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To assist in redevelopment of recreational and sustainable environmental areas for students use including the upkeep of the College ovals. 	\$40.00
<p>Building Fund – Please note this is a Tax-Deductible Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A formal receipt will be given to support the claim. The Building Fund is a voluntary fund established to support the college maintenance and continued upgrades which enhances and supports the learning environment for students. 	\$60.00

Financial Support

For families experiencing financial difficulty, alternative payment options or plans are available. Parents/carers wishing to explore this option are encouraged to make an appointment with the College's family Payment Contact, Nicole Simmonds where a confidential discussion will take place. You can do this either by phone on 5979 1577 or via email at western.port.sc@education.vic.gov.au.

Educational Items for Students to Own

Items on the booklist can be purchased from Champion or other suppliers of your choice. Details on how to access the year level booklist will be available on the WPSC website during Term 4.

Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) is an initiative of the Victorian State Government to assist families holding a valid concession card. CSEF provides a single payment to schools for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions during the year. An application form is available by contacting the College office on 5979-1577.

State Schools Relief (SSR) may assist families in providing uniforms, books, shoes and more. Please contact our Wellbeing team for more information or to make an appointment to discuss assistance available.

Please note the following payment options are available:

- Compass Pay – this is the preferred payment option
- CASH
- EFTPOS
- Credit Card
- Bpay
- Centrepay (Families holding a valid means-tested concession card) – please speak with the College office staff for details and to obtain a form.
- Camps, Sports, Excursion Fund (CSEF) provides financial support for eligible students to be able to attend camps, sports and excursions. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card, or temporary or permanent foster parents are eligible to apply.

Refunds

Family requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the College 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.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please refer to our College website: <https://westernportsc.vic.edu.au/policies/>

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.