



BRIGHTON
SECONDARY COLLEGE

Dear parent/guardian,

Brighton Secondary College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Brighton Secondary College's voluntary financial contributions for 2023.

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 education and support for our students.

We want to thank you for all your support, whether that's through fundraising 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 allowed us to provide:

- substantially faster and more reliable wireless network (compared to many other government schools) through upgrade to our switching systems
- a specialised IT support team
- extensive technology and multimedia infrastructure to enhance student learning opportunities and facilitate extra curricular activities and events
- upgraded facilities and grounds, such as our considerable local contribution to the construction of the north wing
- access to innovative and STEAM technologies (science, technology, engineering arts and maths) to help students build key 21st-century skills
- additional in-house student well-being counsellors psychologists and career advisors
- additional curriculum support materials for classroom use – eg science and sport equipment
- additional testing and diagnostic tools to diagnose student need – ed PATR and PATM
- additional software to enable effective use of student voice- ed Verso and Pivot

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

Yours sincerely,

Richard Minack
PRINCIPAL

Asaf Harel
SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT



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2023 Year 7 Parent Contribution Request	
Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum.	Amount
<i>Lock</i>	\$21
<i>College ID Card</i>	\$16
<i>College Student Diary</i>	\$16
<i>Classroom Music</i>	\$21
<i>Art Technology</i>	\$147
<i>English</i>	\$63
<i>Science</i>	\$63
<i>Humanities</i>	\$63
<i>Languages</i>	\$42
<i>Health and Physical Education</i>	\$63
<i>Maths</i>	\$63
<i>PASE (Physical and Sport Education)</i>	\$231
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Suggested
Student Learning Support Services Charge – this voluntary contribution will support the College in providing the additional staff for our in-house ICT support, psychologists, social worker, and student counsellors as well as careers and pathways counsellors and school facility maintenance staff. These staff run extremely valuable programs that support student wellbeing, student learning as well as ensure we have the best physical environment that promotes and supports student learning.	\$440
All College Sport - Swimming and Athletics Days – contributes to the cost of providing travel and venue hire for the whole school sports days – swimming and athletics carnivals.	\$48
College Chorals Festival – The annual House Chorals event is a celebration of the Arts in performance, music, and song. This contribution supports the cost of venue hire and of any equipment that is required.	\$20
Community Hardship Fund – this fund has been established for those who wish to support the students in our community in need. Your contribution ensure that all our students have the option of attending school camps and excursions and have the items they need for school.	\$50
PFA Parent Donation – The PFA is a group of volunteers who play an active and productive role in supporting, serving and caring for the members of the Brighton Secondary College community	\$50
Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure.	\$50
Library fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource.	\$50



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EXTRA-CURRICULAR ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES

Brighton 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 and will appear on the Compass payment portal.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
School magazine	\$25
Year 7 School Camp	\$500
Optional Instrumental Music Lessons (Group)	\$700
Optional Instrumental Music Lesson (Individual)	\$1500
Optional Instrument Hire	\$300

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund - for more information see <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>
- Sustainable School Shop for second hand books and uniforms - www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au
- our student Wellbeing team
- community Hardship Fund

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

Family Finance team

Ph: 03 9592 7488 | Email: familyfinance@brightonsc.vic.edu.au

PAYMENT METHODS

Contributions are made on the Compass Parent Portal via Course Confirmation in full or by instalments that are set up in the portal. Contributions can also be paid at the General office between 8am and 4pm Monday to Friday

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 Payment Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy, and any other relevant information.



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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

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.