

## **PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS 2024**

Forest Hill College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the College's voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements 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 thank you for your contributions which make a valuable difference to the resources and programs that our school can offer.

This support allows us to continue our commitment to the robust delivery of the standard curriculum, and compliment this with other activities and initiatives that are representative of our values and vision to create passionate, positive and curious learners.

These include Student Parliament, Leo Club, Homework Club, Basketball Marathon, school production and various sub-school activities.

Our excellent facilities provide optimal learning environments for each student, allowing for greater engagement.

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

### **Financial Support for Families**

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

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)
- Personalised payment arrangements
- Second-hand options, eg second hand book sale
- State Schools Relief (SSR)

For a confidential discussion about accessing these support options, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact the General Office Administration Team via email at [fhc@fhc.vic.edu.au](mailto:fhc@fhc.vic.edu.au) or 03 9814 9444.

### **Payment methods**

Payments for 2024 can be made from November 2023.

We request families' support in making payment on or before **15 December 2023**. Payment may be made via Compass, BPAY, cash, EFTPOS or credit card. Payment instalment plans may also be arranged either directly through Compass or by contacting the General Office Administration Team.

**David Rogers**  
Principal

**Robert Nash**  
School Council President



<b>Curriculum Contributions</b> - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	<b>Amount</b>
<p><i>Classroom consumables, materials &amp; equipment required within the learning areas to support the delivery of the standard curriculum.</i></p> <p><i>This includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>paint and art supplies, printing supplies</i></li> <li>• <i>general subject consumables and classroom materials</i></li> <li>• <i>food ingredients, 3D laser printer consumables, kitchen class sets of utensils and equipment, science chemicals and equipment</i></li> <li>• <i>class sets of equipment across learning areas</i></li> <li>• <i>contribution to support the provision of our VET offerings</i></li> <li>• <i>provision and upkeep of school devices, peripherals and IT, including server maintenance and upgrades and parent portal communication system</i></li> <li>• <i>student ID card</i></li> </ul>	\$285
<b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b>	<b>\$285</b>

<b>Other Contributions</b> - for non-curriculum items and activities	<b>Amount</b>
<p><i>A voluntary contribution to support the delivery of activities and initiatives (whole and sub school) that enhance a student's journey with our College including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>School Production</i></li> <li>- <i>Basketball Marathon</i></li> <li>- <i>Presentation Evening and Award</i></li> <li>- <i>Year 7 Welcome BBQ</i></li> <li>- <i>Activity Days</i></li> <li>- <i>Year 12 Assembly and Morning Tea</i></li> <li>- <i>Guest Speakers</i></li> <li>- <i>Student Parliament Initiatives</i></li> <li>- <i>Breakfast Club</i></li> <li>- <i>Tribes Events</i></li> <li>- <i>Student wellbeing support</i></li> <li>- <i>College facilities and grounds maintenance</i></li> </ul>	\$200
<p><b>FHC Performing Arts Academy</b> - <i>A voluntary contribution to support the acquisition and replacement of Performing Arts related equipment and resources.</i></p>	\$50
<p><b>FHC Sports Academy Programs</b> - <i>A voluntary contribution to support the acquisition and replacement of strength and conditioning equipment and resources.</i></p>	\$50
<b>Total Other Contributions</b>	<b>\$300</b>

Tax deductible contributions	
<b>Building fund.</b> A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure.	\$50
<b>Library fund.</b> A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource.	\$50

### Educational items for students to own

Following is a list of items that the College recommends you purchase from third party providers for your child to individually own and use:

- Notebooks from Edunet – See School Preferred Device Program
- Textbooks, stationery (including locker padlock) and digital subscriptions – See Campion Books booklist

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

The 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.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
School Sports Victoria and Cluster membership	\$15
SSV Interschool Sports Events	\$25 per event
Forest Hill College Swimming Carnival	TBA per event
Forest College Athletics Carnival	TBA per event
Student Library photocopier/scanner access	\$50
Instrumental Music Tuition – Years 8-12*	\$400
Instrument Hire**	\$300
FHC Basketball, Netball, Soccer and Tennis Academy Elite Coaching Activities – Optional elite coaching components provided by third party	As charged directly to the family by third party provider
Camps and excursions to be scheduled	TBA per event
College Magazine	Priced when available for sale
Year 12 Student Bomber Jackets	Priced when available for sale



<b>Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities</b>	per items and activities accessed

**\*\* The charge of Instrumental Tuition will not apply for students in Year 7 in 2024. Instrument hire is subject to availability.**

**Refunds**

Parent 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 College 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 Help for Families Policy, and any other relevant information.

# 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	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.