



Dear parent/carers,

Strathmore Secondary College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Strathmore Secondary College's voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

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. This support has allowed us to provide a comprehensive challenging academic curriculum as well as providing additional activities and services for all students.

We want to thank you for your financial support. This makes a huge difference to our school and all our students.

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

Yours sincerely,

*Vanessa Pratt*

*Vanessa Pratt*  
*Acting School Principal*

*Michael Pakakis*  
*Acting School Principal*

*Michael Grant*  
*School Council President*

Curriculum Contributions- Year 8 Items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Suggested Amount (\$)	Total Contribution (\$)
<b>Student ID Card</b>	10	
<b>Student Planner</b>	10	
<b>Year 8 classroom consumables, materials &amp; equipment to supporting the college's educational programs</b>		
<b>English-</b> PAT testing Comprehension, Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials, assessments, testing materials	20	
<u>Support for Literacy</u>	20	
<u>Advanced English</u>	20	
<b>Maths-</b> PAT testing Numeracy, Smarter Maths, Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials, assessments, provision of equipment	30	
<b>Science</b> – Chemicals, Practical items, Maintenance of equipment, provision of equipment, Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials, assessment	50	
<b>Humanities-</b> Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials, assessments	20	
<b>Language other than English (LOTE)-</b> Printing and photocopying of worksheets and Learning materials, assessments	25	
<b>Health and Physical Education–</b>		
<u>HPE</u> -HPE workbook, Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials, maintenance of equipment, provision of equipment, assessments.	50	
<u>Sport-</u> Intraschool sports-hired facilities, provision of new equipment maintenance of equipment	40	
<b>Art</b> – Provision of equipment, Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials, assessments		
<u>Art &amp; Design 1</u>	70	
<u>Art &amp; Design 2</u>	70	
<u>Visual Communication Design</u>	70	
<u>Artist in Residence</u>	100	
<b>Performing Arts-</b> Provision of equipment, Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials, Theatre kit		
<u>Drama</u>	35	
<u>Dance</u>	35	
<u>Media</u>	50	
<b>Music-</b> Online subscription, Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials, provision of equipment, maintenance of equipment, assessments		
<u>Strings-</u>	35	
<u>Ensemble-</u>	35	
<b>STEAM-</b> Provision of equipment, Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials, maintenance of equipment, assessments	35	
<b>Digital Technologies-</b> Provision of equipment, maintenance of equipment, Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	35	
<b>Technology-</b> Provision of equipment, printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials, maintenance of equipment, assessments		
<u>Design Technology-</u> (Wood & Textiles)	80	
<u>Systems Technology</u>	65	
<u>Food Technology-</u> , Recipe ingredients and food tasting products	125	



<b>Year 8 Online Subscriptions</b>		
<b>Mathspace</b> - <i>This contribution will appear on Champion Booklist</i>	25	
<b>Year 8 ICT Devices</b> – <i>Provision and maintenance of whole school ICT equipment (photocopiers, projectors, computers)</i>	35	

Other Contributions For non-curriculum items and activities	Suggested Amount (\$)	Total Contribution (\$)
<b>Student and parent communication tools</b> - <i>Compass</i>	50	
<b>School Sports Victoria membership</b>	5	
<b>Enhanced student wellbeing support</b>	50	
<b>Library enhancement &amp; maintenance</b>	50	
Tax deductible Contributions	Suggested Amount (\$)	Total Contribution (\$)
<b>Building fund.</b> <i>A tax-deductible contribution (\$2 or more) to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school building infrastructure</i>	220	
<b>Total Amount</b>		\$

### Educational items for students to own

There is a list of items that the school recommends you purchase from **Campion** for your child to individually own and use.

This list can be found on the college's website <https://www.strathmore.vic.edu.au/parent-portal/booklists/>

### Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Strathmore 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.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount (\$)
Optional Instrumental Music Program	500
Optional Instrument Hire	250
Optional Instrument Purchase	TBA
Other optional Year 8 camps and excursions to be scheduled	TBA
Optional Year 8 school camp	TBA
Optional Year 8 Interschool Sports program	TBA
<b>Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities</b>	\$



## TOTALS

Category	Contribution Amount (\$)
Curriculum Contributions	\$
Other Contributions	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>

## Financial Support for Families

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

### Second-hand books, electronic texts and uniforms

In order to support families in meeting the costs of their children's education the college has second-hand school uniform items for sale at reduced prices. Families need to approach the General Office for assistance. The publishers of electronic texts offer a number of free subscriptions which are offered to families on recommendation of Student Wellbeing or Student Coordinators.

### Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend essential school activities - camps, school trips and sporting activities.

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. An application form can be accessed via SSC general office or via the [CSEF link](#) on the DET website. \$225 per year is paid for eligible secondary school students. Payments go directly to the school and are tied to the student.

Victorian government Year 7 students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform package. Applications are made through the school. For more information regarding this initiative please see State Schools' Relief.

### Year 7 Uniform Pack

Families who are eligible for the CSEF are also eligible for assistance with uniform items. The uniform pack includes basic uniform items needed to start secondary school. This is provided by State Schools' Relief. A form can be picked up from the General Office or can be emailed to you.

### State Schools' Relief assistance

Families who are struggling to meet the cost of school uniforms, shoes, books and expensive items, may be able to receive these for free or at a discount through State Schools Relief. Families need to talk to the Student Wellbeing Coordinator to arrange assistance.

### Student Assistance Fund

SSC has set up a fund from donations from St Aidan's Anglican Church, the community, sale of second-hand uniform items and residual CSEF monies. Parents are also invited to contribute. This fund is to help families who are experiencing financial difficulty in paying for essential educational items or camps. Please contact The Finance Office or Student Wellbeing for more information.

Families with general enquiries regarding fees, or who wish to have a confidential discussion regarding fees, should contact the Wellbeing Coordinator or email [Strathmore.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Strathmore.sc@education.vic.gov.au)



## School Saving Bonus

In Term 4, 2024, families with a child enrolled in a government school from Prep to Year 12 in 2025 will receive a one-off \$400 School Saving Bonus. The \$400 School Saving Bonus provides families with support for education-related costs, such as school activities and/or school uniforms and textbooks.

To learn more about the School Saving Bonus visit: [vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus](https://vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus)

## Payment arrangements

Parents and guardians will be provided with early notice of payment requests for SSC voluntary financial contributions (e.g. a minimum of six weeks' notice prior to the end of the previous school year).

Contributions can be made through Compass or directly to the Finance Office. Payment requests are kept to a minimum with payment requests and letters being fair and reasonable. Invoices/statements for unpaid Extra Curricular items accepted by parents can be generated and distributed according to parent payment arrangements, **but no more than monthly**.

Alternative payment options are available through the school and families are encouraged to contact SSC Finance Office to discuss circumstances and available options.

Payments may be requested but not required prior to the commencement of the year in which the materials and services are to be used.

Receipts will be issued to parents immediately upon making payment.

All records of payments or contributions and any outstanding payments by parents and guardians are kept confidential.

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

Ph: 03 9379 7999 | Email: [strathmore.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:strathmore.sc@education.vic.gov.au)

## Payment Methods

- Compass Pay
- BPay
- Over the phone transactions
- Finance Office onsite

## 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.

# 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.