5 April 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are excited to begin another year of teaching and learning at Auburn High School and would like to inform you about our voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

Your ongoing support plays a pivotal role in enhancing the educational experience for all our students. Whether through fundraising, volunteering, or making financial contributions, your involvement has a direct impact on the smooth operation of the school. With your continued support, we are able to provide an exceptional education that focuses on academic, social, and extracurricular development for every student.

Thanks to your contributions, we have been able to enrich the learning environment by offering a broader range of subjects and specialised curriculum opportunities. Additionally, we have established dedicated well-being and counselling spaces, employed additional staff, upgraded our wireless network for faster Wi-Fi speeds, engaged maintenance staff, and equipped every classroom with high-quality AV facilities.

To continue enhancing our school community, we kindly ask you to pay your year-level fee or consider contributing to our tax-deductible Building and Library Fund. Your financial contributions help fund the “extras” that truly make a difference in the lives of our students, allowing us to implement projects such as updating projectors in classrooms, constructing a designated Wellbeing Hub, and building a path between the main and senior buildings.

For more details, please refer to the attached one-page overview of the Department’s Parent Payments Policy.

Thank you for your continued support in making Auburn High School a place where every student thrives.

Yours sincerely,

 

Ross Pritchard Sue Haralambopoulos

Principal School Council President

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| **Curriculum Contributions** - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum | **Amount** |
| **Year 8 Student ID Card** | $30 |
| **Year 8 General classroom materials & equipment** (materials for English, Maths, languages, Art, Science, HPE, classroom stationery, paper) | $300 |
| **Year 8 Provision and upkeep of School Devices & ICT** (School devices, class sets, servers/system costs, device reconfiguration, maintenance) | $60 |
| **Year 8 Photocopying and Printing for students** (Classroom resource printing, exams, workbooks) | $100 |
| **Year 8 Assessments** (Standardised tests, revision packs, external exams) | $110 |
| **YEAR 8 2022 CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTION TOTAL** | **$600** |
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| **Other Contributions -** for non-curriculum items and activities | **Amount** |
| **School Sports Affiliation Costs** | $50 |
| **Student and parent communication tools** (Compass, newsletter, Facebook) | $50 |
| **Enhanced Student support (**Learning support programs, mentoring, tutoring, homework clubs) | $20 |
| **Enhanced student wellbeing support** (wellbeing programs, school counsellors, mental health practitioners) | $85 |
| **Lock and Locker Maintenance**  | $25 |
| **Engaging staff through local payroll** (Coaches, additional wellbeing and learning support staff, PE and excursion support, exam supervisors) | $100 |
| **Use and upkeep of specialised facilities (**gym equipment, music room) | $50 |
| **First aid & Hygiene Costs** (First aid supplies, waste disposal) | $50 |
| **YEAR 8 2022 OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS TOTAL** | **$430** |

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| **Other Contributions - Tax Deductible Contributions** | **Suggested Amount** |
| **Building fund.** A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure. | $300 |
| **Library fund.** A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource. | $300 |
| **Total Amount** | **$600** |

**Educational items for students to own**

**Booklist** - Please see the Year 8 booklist for textbooks and items the school recommends you purchase from Campion for your child to own and individually use.

**Laptop** – Laptops can be purchased through the LWT portal or BYOD (Bring Your Own Device). Before proceeding with purchaseplease refer to the Parent Student Laptop Information. Both parent and student will be required to read and sign this agreement. You are also required to read and sign the parent/student laptop information agreement.

**Extra-Curricular Items and Activities**

Auburn High School 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 to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

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| **Extra-Curricular Items and Activities (Optional)** | **Amount** |
| **Year 8-9 French Binational Program**  | $2783 |
| **Year 8-9 French Immersion Program**  | $500 |
| **Year 7-9 SEAL** | $500 |
| **International Baccalaureate Program** | $4500 |
| **Instrumental Music Program** - Individual per semester - Group per semester - Ensemble | $700$400$100 |
| **CHASE Basketball Program** | $1725 new$1639 returning |
| **Sport Education –** offsite or school-based sport participation per event | $20 |

### Payment methods

Parent contributions towards the requested curricular contributions is essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at Auburn High School. Parents are strongly encouraged to contribute to these funds listed through Compass.

### Our preferred payment method is via the Compass Portal, through the Payment Centre on your dashboard. We accept EFTPOS payments at the office or over the phone. Payments can be made in full or by instalments.

### Financial Support for Families

Auburn High School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

* Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/health/csefflyer.pdf>
* Education Chances Scholarship Program (Applications via AHS Wellbeing)
* Payment plans for all payments to school including extracurricular items and activities
* State Schools Relief (uniform) <https://stateschoolsrelief.org.au/>
* AHS Second-hand Uniform Shop (onsite)
* Sustainable Schools https://www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au/

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

 **Joanne Hayes, Business Manager** Ph: **03 9822 3247 |** Email: joanne.hayes2@education.vic.gov.au

### 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**

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|  | 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.
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|  | PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTSSchools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

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| Curriculum ContributionsVoluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum. | Other ContributionsVoluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school’s functions and objectives. | Extra-Curricular Items and ActivitiesItems 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).
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|  | 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.
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|  | 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.
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