

15 October 2020

## **2021 College Charges**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

East Doncaster Secondary College Council would like to thank you for your support of the College as we endeavour to provide the best possible education for your child. We are looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our parent payment arrangements for 2021.

East Doncaster Secondary College makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents.

### **Financial Support for Families**

East Doncaster Secondary College understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) and the provision of payment plans.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact Julie Lawrance Ph: 03 9842 2244 or Email: [east.doncaster.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:east.doncaster.sc@education.vic.gov.au).

In order to provide quality programs and a comfortable and effective learning environment for our students, the College relies on strong support from the College community. The College Charges are designed to supplement the Government's allocation to schools to provide materials and services. These charges enable us to enrich and extend the learning experiences of our students in each subject.

### **Fee schedule**

Please find attached the itemised list of Essential Student Learning Items and Optional Items for your child. We also continue to welcome your voluntary contributions for 2021.

Please complete this form and return to the school by **Monday 30 November 2020** so the school can prepare accordingly.

For further information regarding our Parent Payments Policy and Parent Payments document – Understanding Parent Payment Categories, please refer to our College website and the Compass Newsfeed.

<https://www.eastdonsc.vic.edu.au/parent-information/parent-payments>

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

### **Refunds**

Please refer to the Policy Handbook for our full Refund Policy. <https://www.eastdonsc.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Policy-Handbook-2020-Updated-for-website.pdf#page=226&zoom=100,92,37>

The College Charges are made up of three categories of payment:

**Essential Educational Items** are those items, activities or services that are essential to support student learning of the standard curriculum. These are items that the school considers essential for all students and which students take possession of. Parents may choose to provide the items themselves or buy the items from the school where practical and appropriate.

**Optional Items** are those items, activities or services that are offered in addition to or support instruction in the standard curriculum program. These items and activities are designed to broaden the school experience for your child and are provided on a user-pays basis so that if parents choose to access them for students, they are required to pay for them.

### **Voluntary Financial Contributions**

You can make a general voluntary contribution that goes towards all of our school's important priorities for 2021 as well as providing additional activities and services for all students. Alternatively, you can make a voluntary contribution to specific priorities. The Building and Library fund contributions are tax-deductible. The College Health Centre is staffed by a qualified nurse/first aid attendant and is provided during school hours so that immediate attention to illness or injury is available to our students at all times. This service is provided by the EDSC School Council and is not funded by the Department of Education and Training and is not tax-deductible.

Your child will not be disadvantaged if you do not make a voluntary contribution. All records of voluntary contributions are kept confidential as well as your decision about whether to make a contribution or not.

We seek your cooperation in the payment of the College Charges by **Monday 30 November 2020**.

We are offering two payment options for 2021:

1. Full payment can be made by CompassPay (*preferred*), Cash, EFTPOS or Credit Card on or before **Monday 30 November 2020**. *Please note, there is no additional fee to pay via CompassPay.*
2. Pay in two instalments with the first payment due on or before **Monday 30 November 2020** and the following payment of the total balance on **Tuesday 2 March 2021**. Payments will be processed on or after these dates.

In 2021 we will continue with our whole school 1 to 1 Digital Learning Program for all students.

All students will be required to purchase a laptop. The purchase of these devices is crucial to the learning program as students will access eBooks rather than an extensive number of expensive hardcopy textbooks. Details of the 1 to 1 Digital Learning Program for all students are available on Compass.

Some subjects will require the purchase of textbooks. Instructions for accessing booklists for each year level will be communicated via Compass News Feed.

We thank you in anticipation and look forward to continuing an enjoyable and rewarding relationship with your child and your family.

Yours sincerely,



John Roberts  
Principal - Executive Officer  
East Doncaster Secondary College Council