



WANGARATTA  
HIGH SCHOOL

WANGARATTA HIGH SCHOOL  
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12<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Wangaratta High School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our Voluntary Financial Contributions Schedule for 2023.

Government schools provide students with free education to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all parent contributions to Wangaratta High School are voluntary.

Our School Council is proud of the excellent quality of the facilities and resources available for our students to enjoy, and few schools match the numerous programs we offer which cater for our students' needs and interests. These facilities, resources & programs have been enhanced and expanded as a direct result of parental voluntary financial contributions. This support has led to considerable improvements being carried out, especially in the areas of computer technology, numeracy and literacy support, and through the provision of outstanding resources.

Wangaratta High School staff and students want to thank parents both past and present for their support of the Voluntary Financial Contributions Scheme for the huge difference it makes to our school and the programs we can offer. Many of the resources and programs we have now are a direct result of the contributions made by parents of the past.

Department of Education guidelines now mandate that schools are no longer able to provide parents with a statement of fees for voluntary contributions. With this in mind we have provided an outline of the types of curriculum activities, materials and resources that will be enhanced through voluntary contributions and a recommended voluntary financial contributions schedule of costs for 2023. We invite parents to review this document and consider contributing to the fund to continue to support and enhance the education of children at Wangaratta High School.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see the overview attached to this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Dave Armstrong  
Executive Principal

Debi Fisher  
School Council President



2023 VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEDULE – YEAR 7

ITEM	Annual Amount per STUDENT		
<p><b>CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Classroom consumables, materials &amp; equipment for the following subjects (\$95)</li> </ul> <p><b>*Food Studies *Visual Arts *Digital Technology *Textiles *Plastics &amp; Metal</b></p> <p>Materials include; Watercolour paint &amp; paper, heavyweight paper, pastels, colour paints, fabrics, printing inks, thread, tailors chalk, elastic, wadding, visofix, sheet metal, rivets, solder, flux, acrylic, welding rods and wire, fresh and dried foods and containers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials. (\$10)</li> <li>Online subscriptions that your child has access to. (\$10)</li> <li>Swimming program. (\$35)</li> </ul>	\$150		
<p><b>OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student wellbeing programs (\$10)</li> <li>First aid equipment (\$10)</li> <li>School grounds maintenance and improvements (\$15)</li> <li>Parents' and Friends' donation (\$15)</li> </ul>	\$50		
<p><b>EXTRA-CURRICULUM ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excursions scheduled throughout 2023 will have a separate cost and families will be advised as they occur throughout the year.</li> <li>The Year 7 Camp in 2023 will be offered free of charge.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>SCHOOL MAGAZINE</b></p> <p>A fabulous showcase of student activities and student work throughout the year.</p>	\$22		
<p><b>TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS (per family)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure.</li> </ul> <p><i>*Donation to the Building Fund enables a tax deduction in your own personal income tax return.</i></p>	\$50		
ITEM	Item Amount	Number of students in your family	Annual Amount per FAMILY
Curriculum Consumables	\$150		\$
Other Contributions	\$50		\$
School Magazine	\$22		
Tax Deductible Contributions	\$50		\$
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTION</b>	<b>\$272</b>		<b>\$</b>



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### **Curriculum Contributions**

Items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum, include:

- Computer applications where our students have their own individual password – at Wangaratta High School we use COMPASS.
- Everyday items that your child will use in the classroom to learn the essential curriculum such as art supplies, science experiment equipment, cooking ingredients, technology materials.

### **Other Contributions**

Non-Curriculum items and activities to support the daily operation and objectives of Wangaratta High School. These contributions contribute towards student wellbeing programs, the purchase of first aid equipment and support the upkeep and improvements of our school grounds.

### **Tax Deductible Contributions**

Tax deductible contributions made per family towards Wangaratta High School.

- Building fund (to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure).

### **Extra-Curricular (OPTIONAL) Items and Activities**

Wangaratta High School offers a range of items and activities that enhance and broaden the schooling/educational experience of students and are above and beyond what it could provide if relying solely on Government and Departmental allocations. These are provided on a user-pays basis. Details of these items and activities will be provided to students and families throughout the year.

### **Educational items for students to own**

For some educational items (e.g. devices, stationery, text books), it makes sense for parents to purchase them from a third-party provider, so students can take personal ownership for use at school and/or at home. The school considers the necessity of these items, the cost and preferred suppliers.

Items can be purchased through Lilydale Books on the following link:

<https://www.lilydalebooks.com.au/BookList>

refer

### **Financial Support for Families**

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

- State Schools' Relief provides financial support for eligible families to purchase clothing/uniforms at a reduced rate
- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions
- Centrepay
- Payment

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact our Finance Officer Laura DeLacy on 03 57230500, or email

[wangaratta.hs@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:wangaratta.hs@education.vic.gov.au)



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### **Payment methods**

Parent contributions towards the requested payments are essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at Wangaratta High School.

We provide a number of payment options;

- CompassPay where you can log into Compass using your parent login and pay electronically. This will be provided to you upon commencement (ordinarily late January for Year 7 students)
- Centrelink Centrepay can be set up through Centrelink for fortnightly payments paid directly to Wangaratta High School on your behalf.
- EFTPOS, Cash or Cheque
- Direct Deposit – using the following information;  
Name: Wangaratta High School Council  
BSB 033-260 Account # 943639

*Please ensure you email the school on [wangaratta.hs@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:wangaratta.hs@education.vic.gov.au) with your receipt number as confirmation of payment as well as your child's name that the payment relates to.*

### **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. Please find on the school's website the Department's Parent Payment Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy and any other relevant information.



# PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY 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:

<b>Curriculum Contributions</b>	<b>Other Contributions</b>	<b>Extra-Curricular Items and Activities</b>
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.