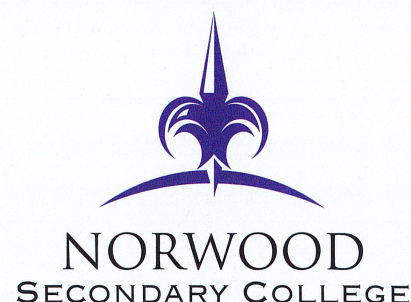


7 November 2025



Dear Norwood Secondary College Families,

At Norwood Secondary College, we are proud to offer a rich and diverse curriculum that supports every student to explore their interests, develop their strengths, and prepare for their future pathways. Our commitment is to provide an education that is not only comprehensive and relevant, but also engaging and well-resourced.

We are writing to share information about our voluntary contributions for 2026. Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy, please see the one-page overview attached.

Following extensive consultation with staff and the College Council Finance Committee, we have maintained our 2026 parent contributions at similar levels to 2025.

While the State Government provides core funding, it does not fully cover the cost of the broad and high-quality programs we offer. Your contributions help us provide:

- A wide range of elective and specialist subjects
- Practical, hands-on learning experiences
- Subject-specific equipment and materials
- Access to enhanced digital learning tools

In addition to curriculum-based programs, your support also helps fund vital non-curriculum initiatives, including:

- Student Wellbeing programs
- IT infrastructure upgrades
- Compass Education portal access
- Student Health Centre maintenance
- Furniture and locker upgrades
- Grounds and facilities improvements

We also welcome tax-deductible donations to our Building Fund and Library Fund, which directly support the ongoing development of our learning spaces and resources.

Detailed information about Curriculum Contributions, Other Contributions, and Extra-Curricular Items and Activities is provided in the following pages. We encourage you to read through this carefully and reach out to the College if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can ensure that Norwood Secondary College remains a place where every student can thrive.

Warm regards,

Jacqueline Harris
Principal

Susan Brophy
College Council President

Year 7

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use or participate in to access the curriculum	
Student ID card	\$20
Student printing credit – provided as credit on student ID card	\$25
Year 7 Classroom consumables, materials & equipment (including English, Maths & Humanities)	\$110
<i>Art – paint, clay, canvas, glazes, coloured paper, collage materials, etc.</i>	
<i>STEM – 3D printer filament, craft packs, index cards, etc.</i>	
<i>Music and Drama – poster paper, cardboard</i>	
<i>Science – logbook, experimental and dissection materials</i>	
<i>Textiles – fabrics, thread, zippers, felt, elastic, tracing paper, buttons</i>	
Year 7 Classroom worksheets and learning materials	\$25
Digital and online subscriptions	\$30
Guest Speakers and incursions	\$10
Provision and upkeep of school IT devices and peripherals, including device configuration, maintenance of core network infrastructure and server/system costs	\$20
Whole school events: Venue hire for Athletics and Swimming carnivals (bus transport not included)	\$20
Curriculum Contributions	\$260

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	
Classroom furniture and equipment - to support replacement of classroom furniture	\$30
First aid resources and equipment - to support the maintenance and upgrades of the Student Health Centre	\$30
Locker provision and maintenance	\$20
Compass - Student and Parent communication portal	\$30
Maroondah District Secondary Schools Division of School Sport membership	\$15
Gym maintenance	\$15
Production – to support provision of licencing, costumes, makeup and venue hire	\$15
Student Wellbeing Programs - to support additional wellbeing services for students	\$70
School grounds maintenance and improvements - to support the maintenance and upgrades of student outdoor recreational spaces	\$60
Other Contributions	\$285

Tax Deductible Contributions	
Building Fund tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure	\$60
Library Fund tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the Resource Centre as a valuable resource	\$60
Tax deductible contributions	\$120

Norwood offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students that are above and beyond what the college provides in order to deliver the curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	
Year 7 Satchels – (pack of 6) organisation tool to assist students	\$45
Year 7 combination padlock	\$22
Optional private group Instrumental Music lessons	\$500
Optional instrument hire	\$200
Optional Year 7 school camp to ADANAC CYC (2025 cost)	\$328
Other optional Year 7 excursions to be scheduled during the year	TBA
Extra-curricular Items and Activities	

Educational items for students to own

Please refer to the Campion Education booklist for a list of items that the school recommends you purchase for your child to individually own and use. Available via the NSC website www.norwood.vic.edu.au under the 'Learning' tab, Junior School.

Financial support for families

We have endeavored to keep the costs of items and programs to a minimum and affordable for all parents. We do understand that some families may experience financial difficulty and offer a range of support options, including:

- The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)
- Centrepay (Payments made via Centrelink)
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Wellbeing Team support

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

Ms Jane Arnold

Ph: 9871 0400

Email: businessmanager@norwood.vic.edu.au

Payment methods

Families may make contributions online via the Compass Education Portal, or by paying with credit card/cash at the General Office.

Refunds

The Norwood Secondary College Refund Policy is available on the website:

<https://www.norwood.vic.edu.au/policies/>

Parent Payment Policy

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

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.