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November 2021

2022 Parent/Carer Payment Arrangement - Year 11

Dear Parent/Carer,

Footscray High School is looking forward to a great year of teaching and learning in 2022 and would like to advise you of Footscray High School's parent payment arrangements.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, the ongoing support from our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students. We want to thank you for all your support. This has made a significant difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Footscray High School has great expectations for learning that maximises engagement, progress and achievement for each student. Each year the school will work hard to ensure financial stability whilst keeping fees to a minimum, making education affordable for all.

Please find the arrangements for Year 11 attached. Families will be invoiced for curriculum contributions and other contributions. Participation in extra curricular items and activities will be arranged separately.

As a new multi campus school, Footscray High School has received significant government funding to upgrade and build our three campuses at Kinnear, Barkly and Pilgrim. Our School Council is proud of the excellent quality of our facilities and resources available for our students, staff and community to enjoy and few schools match the numerous programs we offer to cater for students' needs and interests. However, many of these programs are not funded through the Department or Government grants.

The environment and resources that we enjoy today represent the co-contributions made by our parent/carers community and Government funding. Parent/Carers voluntary contributions make a significant difference to the quality of our programs and in ensuring a safe and inclusive environment. This financial support ensures that we can continue to provide an excellent range of facilities and resources for your children.

Within our school this support will allow us to continue to provide a differentiated curriculum that responds to the learning of all students, and provide essential learning resources to students that include:

- Updated teaching equipment and resources, including library books to reflect current interests and passions of our students
- Maintenance and development of the school grounds including outdoors teaching and learning spaces
- High end WIFI and internet infrastructure to ensure multi campus consistency
- High end STEAM infrastructure and equipment across three campuses
- A multi campus food service – EAT WELL
- State of the art audio/visual equipment across three campuses
- Access to Education Perfect online subscription
- Bike Education Program including bike safety infrastructure
- Mindfulness, Growth and additional Positive Climate programs
- A range of additional sporting equipment including gym equipment

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Vetere".

Frank Vetere
 Executive Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Laing".

Karen Laing
 School Council President



2022 PARENT/CARER PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS – Year 11

Please find the itemised list of Curriculum Contributions, Other Contributions and Extra Curricular and Activities for your child.

Families will be invoiced for **Curriculum Contributions** and **Other Contributions**. Participation in extra curricular items and activities will be arranged separately.

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<i>Year 11 Student ID Card</i>	\$10
<i>Year 11 printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials</i>	\$20
<i>Provision and upkeep of ICT infrastructure</i>	\$10
<i>Year 11 whole school events</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Athletics carnival - entry and transport \$15</i> • <i>Swimming carnival – entry and transport \$15</i> 	\$30
Sub Total	\$70
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<i>Student and Parent Communication tool COMPASS</i>	\$10
<i>School Sports Victoria membership</i>	\$10
<i>Student wellbeing/programs (Social Emotional Education)</i>	\$10
<i>First aid and hygiene equipment</i>	\$5
<i>School grounds maintenance and improvements</i>	\$10
<i>Library maintenance and enhancement</i>	\$10
Subtotal	\$55
Total Amount of Curriculum and other contributions	\$ 125

Educational items for students to own

All families will receive a link to JP Books with the booklist indicating items recommended for each subject, that we encourage you to purchase. Please follow instructions.

Extra-Curricular items and activities

Footscray 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 in order to deliver the curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child, please indicate on the table below.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
<i>Optional Year 11 Instrumental music lessons (if selected)</i>	\$400
<i>Instrument Music Program – instrument hire cost</i>	\$140
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities (Approx.)	\$ 540

Total

Category	
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 70
Other Contributions	\$ 55
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$ 540

Financial support for families

Footscray High School makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents. Footscray High School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- The **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)** will provide payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. Eligible secondary school students receive a payment of \$225 per year. These payments are made directly to the school and are attached to the student. <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/health/csefflyer.pdf>
- **State Schools' Relief** – offer a range of support to families. <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/services-for-parents/Pages/financial-help-school-items.aspx#ssr>
- **Centrepay** – if you receive Centrelink payments you may set up regular payments to the school.
- **Establishing individual/flexible payment plans for Extra-curricular Items and Activities.**

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

Student Finance Officer on Ph: 03 9112 9500 or email: finance@footscray.vic.edu.au

Payment Methods

Payments will be accepted via Compass Portal; access will be provided or EFTPOS payment at the Office (8.30am - 4.30pm) from **MONDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2021**.

Refunds

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and are 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.

If the school decides to provide a refund, then parents/carers need to agree and advise the school where the refund should be paid. If that agreement cannot be reached, the refund is usually paid into the account from which the money came.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments 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 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:

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.