

November 2024

## 2025 Parent/Carer Payment Arrangement – Year 8

Dear Parent/Carer,

Footscray High School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students.

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 contributions to a minimum, making education affordable and accessible for all.

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.

The continued financial support from our community has been critical in being able to provide exceptional learning resources and creating a safe and inclusive environment to foster positive student outcomes. Resources that have benefited directly from these generous contributions in 2024 included:

- High level IT equipment across all campuses
- Year 9 program (Community Enquiry, Eat Well and Bike Hub)
- A range of sports, technology, music & science equipment
- Online subscriptions such as Education Perfect, Edrolo, Maths Pathway, etc.
- Year 7-8 water safety program
- Compass portal

These arrangements have been approved by the School Council and comply with Department of Education guidelines.

Yours sincerely,

*Jillian English*

Jillian English (Nov 11, 2024 16:10 GMT+11)

Jill English  
Acting Executive Principal

*Alison Langley*

Alison Langley (Nov 11, 2024 16:05 GMT+11)

Alison Langley  
School Council President

| Curriculum Contributions - Voluntary Contributions for items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum.  | Amount          |
|--|-----------------|
| <p><b>Core Units</b></p> <p><b>Art</b> – Class Materials (tape, paint, markers, coloured paper, provision/upkeep of equipment)</p> <p><b>English</b> – Books and class Materials (tape, paint, markers, paper, English exams)</p> <p><b>Humanities</b> -Books and class Materials (tape, paint, markers, paper, Humanities assessments and trial exams)</p> <p><b>Literacy</b> -Books and class Materials (tape, paint, markers, paper)</p> <p><b>Maths</b> – Books, class Materials (tape, paint, markers, paper, Maths trial exams)</p> <p><b>Social and Emotional Education</b> -Books and class Materials (tape, paint, markers, paper)</p> <p><b>Drama</b> – Class materials for Projects.</p> <p><b>Food Studies</b> – ingredients, equipment upkeep</p> <p><b>Health &amp; Physical Education</b> – Provision/upkeep of equipment</p> <p><b>Japanese/Italian</b> – Language week activities, games, class materials</p> <p><b>Music</b> – Provision/upkeep of equipment, Google App.</p> <p><b>Science</b> – Chemicals, provision/upkeep of equipment</p> <p><b>Sport</b> – Sports equipment, facility hire.</p> <p><b>Community STEAM</b> – Class Materials for projects.</p> <p><b>Digital Technology</b> – Gamego / Makecode arcade.</p> <p><b>Technology</b> – Materials for Class Projects, upkeep and provision of equipment.</p> | <b>\$400</b>    |
| <p><b>Student resources, Infrastructure &amp; Programs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Student ID</li> <li>● Printing and photocopying of worksheet and materials.</li> <li>● Provision and upkeep of ICT infrastructure</li> <li>● Year 7-8 Water Safety Swimming Program</li> <li>● Curriculum Activities paid by the school (incursions and excursions)</li> </ul>   | <b>\$150</b>    |
| <p><b>Online Subscriptions (paid through JP Books Booklist)</b></p>  | <b>Amount</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Maths: Maths Pathway - \$78.30</li> <li>● Music: Music EDU - \$27.90</li> <li>● Education Perfect Languages (Italian/Japanese) \$ 33.30</li> </ul>  | <b>\$133.35</b> |
| <p><b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b></p>   | <b>\$683.35</b> |

| <b>Other Contributions - Voluntary Contributions for non-curriculum items and activities</b> | <b>Amount</b> |
|--|---------------|
| Student wellbeing programs (SEE)   | \$10          |
| Library Maintenance and enhancement  | \$10          |
| Interschool Sports I.e. School Sports Victoria Membership, Maribyrnong Division costs        | \$10          |
| School grounds maintenance and improvements  | \$10          |
| First aid and Hygiene  | \$10          |
| <b>Total Other Contributions</b>   | <b>\$50</b>   |

### **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 the instructions per the link provided.

### **Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis**

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

| <b>Extra-Curricular Items and Activities</b>   | <b>Amount</b> |
|--|---------------|
| Instrumental Music Program Lessons (Payment to be completed by Tuesday, February 28th, 2025) | \$350         |
| Instrumental Music Program – Instrument Hire   | \$140         |
| <b>Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities</b>   | <b>\$490</b>  |

| <b>Category</b>                                 | <b>Total</b>  |
|---|---|
| Curriculum Contributions                        | \$683.35  |
| Other Contributions <i>(Non-tax deductible)</i> | \$50  |
| Extra-Curricular Items and Activities           | \$XX <i>(Parent to Complete if the student is participating in the program)</i> |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>\$XX <i>(Parent to Complete)</i></b>   |

## **Financial Support for Families**

Footscray High School makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum to ensure these are affordable for families. We understand 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. Students 16 years and over are also eligible to apply for themselves if they hold a valid health care card. 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/PAL/csef-financial-assistance-information-parents.docx>

- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- School Saving Bonus
- Establishing individual/flexible payment plans. For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact the Student Finance Officer at 9112 9500 or [finance@footscray.vic.edu.au](mailto:finance@footscray.vic.edu.au)

## **Payment Methods**

Payments will be accepted via Compass Portal; access will be provided or EFTPOS payment at the Office (8.30 am - 4.00 pm)

## **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 or visit the website directly. [Parent Payments: Policy | education.vic.gov.au](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parent-payments-policy)

# 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.