



Year 8 Parent Payment Arrangements 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Buckley Park College is proud to provide an outstanding secondary school experience for our students, and your voluntary financial contributions play an important role in this.

Your financial support has allowed us to offer a wider range of subjects, special curriculum experiences and enhanced digital learning opportunities for students across all year levels.

In 2024 we were able to direct your contributions towards:

- Commencing the process for science room upgrades and re-imagining existing classrooms to create spaces for the Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) program.
- Introducing an ongoing maintenance program across the school to repaint and re-carpet rooms and corridors to enhance the learning environment for students.
- Increasing and upgrading the sun-protected areas across the school to create learning spaces in the library courtyards and east of the portables.
- Landscaping courtyards and the library areas to create more useable and engaging outdoor spaces.

In 2025 we will focus on:

- Updating external lighting and CCTV facilities in C, D and E Blocks to support school safety.
- Continuing the ongoing maintenance program across the school, focusing on A, B and C blocks and the Locker areas.
- Extending landscaping projects across C and D block courtyards.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. However, the ongoing support of our families ensures that Buckley Park College can continue to offer the best possible education, support, and infrastructure for our students.

On behalf of the school community, we would like to thank you for your support, whether that is through voluntary financial contributions, fundraising or volunteering your time. This makes a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer and enables us to continually invest in the future of our school community.

We look forward to welcoming our Year 8 students in 2025. Thank you for your continued support of Buckley Park College.

Yours sincerely,

Harold Cheung
Principal

Chris Wood
School Council President

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

Buckley Park College offers a range of optional 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.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year as events are scheduled. Below is an example of some of the extracurricular items that are offered.

Further information is available through COMPASS, **Payments will be made through COMPASS.**

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Year 8 Camp – Tasmania tour to be scheduled in Term 2. Based on the 2024 experience, the indicative cost is \$1400 - \$1600	\$TBC COMPASS Item
School yearbook: The Benalta. Please pay by End of Term 2, Friday 4 July 2025 to allow for ordering	\$24 COMPASSTIX
School Production: Costume, equipment, specialist technician and premises hire, makeup	\$35 COMPASS Item
Instrumental Music Lessons (Optional) (once enrolment confirmed, will appear on COMPASS – equates to approx. \$19 per lesson, paid in 2 instalments Term 1 and Term 3)	\$800 COMPASS Item
Instrumental Music Lessons for 2nd Instrument (Optional)	\$400 COMPASS Item
Instrument Hire - Includes instrument repairs and maintenance	\$180 COMPASS Item

Financial Support for Families

Buckley Park College understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- The School Saving Bonus provides a one-off \$400 to help Victorian families cover the costs of school uniforms, textbooks, excursions and activities for 2025.
- The Camps, Sports, and Excursions Fund - CSEF (Health care or Pension card required) - Application form available at Office and College Website under DOCUMENTS
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities (via COMPASS)

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact: **Alexia Kanellakos – Welfare Coordinator Email: buckley.park.co@education.vic.gov.au**

Payment methods

Parent contributions towards the requested curricular contributions is essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at Buckley Park College. Parents are strongly encouraged to contribute to these funds listed through the booklist. There will be further opportunity to contribute through Compass. Our preferred payment method is via the booklist or the compass portal, through the payment centre on your dashboard. We also accept EFTPOS and Cash payments at the office or over the phone.

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, the Department's Parent Payments Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy, and any other relevant information. Full details available on college website – Documents/School Policy manual (pages 135 & 136)

Educational items for students to own.

Please see the year 8 booklist for textbooks and items the school recommends you purchase from champion for your child to own and individually use.

The following items listed in RED are listed on the booklist. If you have paid for these items through Champion, you are NOT required to pay for them again. If you would like to contribute to these items throughout the year, they will be available in Compass on 3rd March 2025

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Year 8 Incursions and events – May include Vaping program, Aristotle (Emotional Intelligence program) and Class display competition, Elephant ED (Consent & Sex Education program) Cyberia brainstorm productions, Project Rockit (Empowers students to tackle bullying), Pat Cronin (Be Wise Education Program) & ‘We are Gibber’ production.	\$150 COMPASS ITEM
Wellbeing Incursions – May include Chill out space and Cyber safety workshop, bullying presentation and workshop	\$40 COMPASS ITEM
Student resources - Student planner, optional	\$17 BOOKLIST ITEM
Student Printing	\$22 BOOKLIST ITEM
Year 8 Subject Specific contributions – Used for materials, consumables, equipment (subject specific breakdown available on Booklist)	\$450 BOOKLIST ITEM
Credit Provision & Upkeep of ICT devices - consumables, PIVOT assessment & reporting software for Student Teacher Feedback additional firewall/SPAM protection and system support	\$35 BOOKLIST ITEM
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
Year 8 activities (School based) – May include Year 8 Carnival Day, House group activities (Hoffman, Graves, Croft & Buckley)	\$50 COMPASS ITEM
School grounds maintenance and improvements (engagement of service provider to maintain lawns, turf, gardens, paths etc)	\$150 COMPASS ITEM
Cyclical Carpet & Painting upgrades – each year the school prioritise an area to be recarpeted or repainted	\$60 COMPASS ITEM
Compass – Student and Parent communication tool	\$35 BOOKLIST ITEM
Locker provision and maintenance	\$35 BOOKLIST ITEM
Career Tools website	\$11 BOOKLIST ITEM
Athletics carnival (\$15 each) Swimming carnival (\$15 each)	\$30 BOOKLIST ITEM
School Sports Victoria affiliation and membership	\$17 BOOKLIST ITEM
Student wellbeing program & services	\$32 BOOKLIST ITEM
First aid equipment - upkeep, maintenance, and replacement of supplies incl., emergency EpiPens, bandages, wheelchair, tissues, cold/heat packs, Defibrillator etc.	\$30 BOOKLIST ITEM
Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure, in 2025 the focus will be on improving the Arts facilities and general-purpose classrooms. Suggested amount \$250	\$250 COMPASS ITEM
Library fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, purchase of books and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource. Suggested amount \$250	\$250 COMPASS ITEM

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.