



Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: 2026 VCE and VCE VM Parent Payments**

Patterson River Secondary College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary, with Extra-Curricular Items and Activities provided on a user-pays basis.

Patterson River receives very strong voluntary contributions from families which enables the College to provide students with a diverse range of experiences, facilities and resources. In 2021, we introduced the option for families to make voluntary contributions towards targeted areas that they could select from. This has resulted in a significant increase in contributions over and above normal subject fees which has enabled us to purchase a range of new equipment over the course of the year, including:

- Art SLR Cameras
- Digital Technology Microbit Accessories
- English Books for Year Level Centre's
- PE/Sport Portable Soccer Goals and Swimming Rescue Gear
- Vocational Major Cafe Equipment Upgrade
- Design Technology Sewing Machines
- Media Room Podcast Equipment and Green Screen
- Performing Arts Stage Lights M5
- Significant contributions to other areas that will roll over into 2026 targeted areas (see below)

We invite parents to consider making contributions towards our new initiatives, some of which are in tax deductible areas.

There are three financial contribution categories to ensure the successful operation and resourcing of our Educational Programs:

**Curriculum Contributions** – These are voluntary contributions which parents/Carers pay to the school to provide essential support to the standard curriculum program. This payment ensures that the College can offer high quality programs and facilities for all students.

**Extra-Curricular Items and Activities** – These items and activities are provided in addition to the standard curriculum program and are designed to broaden the school experience for your child. This includes activities such as camps, along with certain subjects that your child may have chosen that are in addition to the standard curriculum at that year level. For example, all students' complete technology in Year 8 however, your child may have also selected an additional subject such as Retro Metal, which has an associated user-pays contribution.

**Other Contributions** – These are voluntary contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives. Patterson River Secondary College continues to welcome your contributions to support our school. Your child will not be disadvantaged if you do not make a voluntary contribution. All records of voluntary contributions are kept confidential, as well as your decision about whether to contribute or not.

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#### 2026 Voluntary Contribution Target Areas:

Learning Area	Description	Target Amt	Current Amt
Library Trust Fund – Tax Deductible	ICT Upgrade	\$30,000	\$19,010.71
Library Trust Fund – Tax Deductible	Media Room – Podcast and Green Screen Equipment	\$8,000	New
Building Trust Fund – Tax Deductible	Playground and Outdoor Gym Equipment	\$20,000	\$14,152.15
Building Trust Fund – Tax Deductible	Outdoor Equipment & Seating for Student Areas	\$10,000	\$3,434.06
Instrumental Music	Instrument Upgrade	\$15,000	\$10,089.53
Visual Arts	SLR Cameras and Tablets	\$9,600	New
Digital Technologies	Microbit Accessories	\$1,600	New
English	Books for Year Level Centre's	\$2,000	New
Design Technology	Sewing Machines	\$3,000	New
Media Room	Podcast and Green Screen Equipment	\$8,000	New
Performing Arts	Additional Stage Lights for M5	\$1,000	New
PE/Sport	Portable Soccer Goals, Swimming Rescue Gear	\$8,500	New

We have set nominal amounts of \$25.00 for each of these target areas in Compass. You can change the amounts for each of these (including to \$0.00) so that you can target your contribution to a particular learning area if you wish.

#### Educational Items for Students to Own

Booklist information is now available on Compass and on the College website. Patterson River Secondary College recommends you purchase from Campion Education however, you may choose any suppliers to source these items from for your child to individually own and use.

#### Payment Methods

Parent Curriculum and Other Contributions will be available for viewing and payment from 21 November 2025, through the Compass Payments Centre. The College also accepts Cash, EFTPOS and BPAY (contact the General Office for details). The following 5 payment options are available:

- 1 Payment in full - of an amount of your choosing
- 2 Monthly Compass instalments on **31 January, 28 February, 31 March, 30 April, 31 May**
- 3 Individualised Compass instalment dates tailored to suit
- 4 Personalised payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities via Direct Debit
- 5 Centrepay deductions (option for CSEF recipients)

For assistance with Compass Billing or any of the above payment methods, please see [Guide to Compass Billing](#) for step by step instructions or contact the General Office.

### Financial Support for Families

Patterson River Secondary College understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) payment of \$400.00 per eligible student to assist with camps, sports, excursions
- State Schools Relief (SSR) for assistance with uniform, footwear, textbooks
- School Saving Bonus – rolled over from 2025
- Netbook Daily user program

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, contact:

Rachel Lindsey Ph: 03 8770 6700 | Email: [rachel.lindsey@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:rachel.lindsey@education.vic.gov.au)

Carol Darma Ph: 03 8770 6700 | Email: [carol.darma@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:carol.darma@education.vic.gov.au)

### 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.

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

Yours sincerely,



Daniel Dew  
College Principal



Nicole Eveston  
School Council President

## 2026 CONTRIBUTIONS – VCE & VCE VM

Curriculum Contributions – items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum*	Amount
<b>Student Planner</b> – Required for all students	\$20.00
<b>VCE Art Creative Practice Yr 11/12</b> - Materials for sculptural, mixed media, painting and canvas works	\$121.00
<b>VCE Biology Yr 11</b> - Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Biology Yr 12</b> - Student Workbooks	\$20.00
<b>VCE Business Management Yr 11/12</b> - Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Chemistry Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Dance Yr 11/12</b> - Costume hire and cleaning	\$22.00
<b>VCE English Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Food Studies Yr 11/12</b> - Ingredients for practical lessons	\$236.50
<b>VCE Geography Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE German Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Health and T@sk Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Health &amp; Human Development Yr 11</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Health and Human Development Yr 12</b> – Student Workbooks	\$20.00
<b>VCE History Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Legal Studies Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Literature Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Mathematics Yr 11/12</b> – Education Perfect (Online subscription), Classroom consumables	\$49.00
<b>VCE Media Yr 12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Music Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Physical Education Year 11/12</b> - Student Workbooks (Year 11 \$20.00, Year 12 \$20.00)	\$20.00
<b>VCE Physics Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Psychology Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom Consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Product Design and Technologies</b> - Materials to design a product of choice	\$192.50
<b>VCE Theatre Studies Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE Visual Communication</b> - Art materials to create and present final drawings, presentations and mock-ups	\$110.00
<b>VCE VM Learning for Future Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE VM Numeracy Yr 11/12</b> – Classroom consumables	\$20.00
<b>VCE &amp; VCE VM Curriculum Excursions/Events/Activities</b> (to be communicated via Compass as scheduled)	tba
<b>VET Sport &amp; Recreation Cert 11/Cert 111</b> - Course enrolment	\$250.00
<b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b>	<b>\$</b>

Applicable students only – see Compass Billing

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities		Amount
Instrumental Music – Instrument Upgrade (Percussion)	suggested contribution	\$25.00
Visual Arts – SLR Cameras and Tablets	suggested contribution	\$25.00
Digital Technologies – Microbit Accessories	suggested contribution	\$25.00
English – books for Year Level Centre's	suggested contribution	\$25.00
Design Technology – Sewing Machines	suggested contribution	\$25.00
Performing Arts – Additional Lighting for M5	suggested contribution	\$25.00
PE/Sport – Portable soccer goals, Swimming Rescue Gear	suggested contribution	\$25.00
Other Contributions – Tax Deductible		Amount
Building Trust Fund – Playground and Outdoor Gym Equipment	parent to complete	\$
Building Trust Fund – Outdoor Equipment & Seating for Student Areas	parent to complete	\$
Library Trust Fund – ICT Upgrade	parent to complete	\$
Library Trust Fund – Media Room – Podcast and Green Screen Equipment	parent to complete	\$
Total Other Contributions		\$
Total Other Contributions (Tax Deductible)		\$

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

Patterson River Secondary 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. If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child, please ensure payment is made to the College.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – Applicable students only, please see Compass Billing and Events	Amount
Student ID Card - PTV approved for concession fares on public transport (to be purchased at the General Office if required)	\$10.00
Student Printing (to be purchased at the General Office if required)	various
College Yearbook - A keepsake of the school year's highlights, achievements, memories, photos and activities	\$20.00
Year 12 Student Designed Commemorative Yearbook (approx. \$45.00)	tba
VCE Media Year 11* - Materials to produce media artworks such as for film, news reports, animation and music video's	\$66.00
VCE Media Year 12* - Materials to produce media artworks such as for film, news reports, animation and music video's	\$87.00
VCE Outdoor & Environmental Studies Year 11* - Excursions, camps and activities (tba)	\$550.00
VCE Outdoor & Environmental Studies Year 12* - Excursions, camps and activities (tba)	\$605.00
VCE Physical Education Year 11* - Gym sessions, leisure activity to be determined such as tree surfing or ice skating	\$88.00
VCE Physical Education Year 12* - Beast Gym and Goodlife Bus, Pilates instructor and trainer incursions	\$88.00
VCE Systems Engineering* - Design and create an operational mechanical, electro technological integrated controlled system	\$121.00
VCE Extra-Curricular Excursions/Events/Activities - communicated via Compass as scheduled	tba
VCE VM Excursions/Events/Activities Year 11* - communicated via Compass as scheduled (approx. \$300.00)	tba
VCE VM Excursions/Events/Activities Year 12* - communicated via Compass as scheduled (approx. \$160.00)	tba
Swimming Carnival - Transport (date to be confirmed)	\$12.00
Instrumental Music Program (with Instrument hire)* - Includes sheet music, photocopying	\$200.00
Instrumental Music Program (own instrument/Voice/Percussion)* - Sheet music, photocopying	\$40.00
Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$

\*Applicable students only – see Compass Billing and Events

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Category	Total
Curriculum Contributions	\$
Other Contributions (Non-tax deductible)	\$
(Tax-deductible)	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$
Total	\$



# 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.