Box Hill Senior Secondary College

Dear Families,

This letter provides information about voluntary contributions you can make to support Box Hill Senior Secondary College for 2027 and other payments you may choose to make.

Victorian government schools provide free instruction. This means all students have free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disabilities.

Some families choose to make a voluntary financial contribution to support the school, and we are very grateful for this support. Making a voluntary contribution is your choice. There is no expectation or pressure for families to contribute.

Box Hill Senior Secondary College offers a range of items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Financial help is available for extra-curricular items and activities if you are experiencing financial hardship (see further details under Financial Help for Families in the attached information). For a confidential discussion about how to access the financial help available, please contact our Assistant Principal, Chris &/or our Business Manager, Jen, on 03 9890 0571, Email: *box.hill.senior.sc@education.vic.gov.au*

If you need an interpreter, please contact 03 9605 3053 and give our school's phone number 03 9890 0571. An interpreter can help you speak with us. This service is free. For more information, please see How to use an interpreter to contact your school.

For more information on the Department of Education's Parent Contributions policy please see the information attached. You can read the full policy at Parent Contributions: Policy | education.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

*NICK HEALEY*
*Principal*

*REBECCA KEOGH*
*President, School Council*

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**HOW VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL**

At Box Hill Senior Secondary College, we are very grateful for the ongoing support of our families and school community.

While all voluntary contributions are entirely optional, contributions received from families help BHSSC provide additional resources, enhanced educational opportunities and improvements to our school environment that complement the free instruction provided to all students.

**Within our school, this support has helped us to:**

- Offer a wide range of subjects and special curriculum experiences for students across all year levels, with additional resources, subscriptions and supplies.
- Provide social and emotional learning opportunities for students, including additional activities, incursions and excursions.
- Maintain and gradually upgrade school grounds, buildings and classroom equipment, including projectors, TVs, ICT systems, hardware, heating and cooling.
- Renew and enhance literacy and numeracy resources.
- Provide additional health and wellbeing support and opportunities for students and families.

**In 2027, we are planning further important improvements, including**

- Commencement of the Senior School Hub to enhance student wellbeing, engagement and strong study habits.
- Continued investment in school grounds and building improvements, including an upgrade to our student toilets.
- Upgrades to lunchtime activities and recreational opportunities to further engage students in school life.
- Development of an Artist in Residence program for our senior Art students, supporting pathways into the art or fashion industry.
- Further resourcing of our VET offerings to support genuine and successful trade pathways for students.
- Expansion of School Sport Victoria (SSV) sporting opportunities and activities to encourage greater student participation, wellbeing and school engagement.

**Thank you for supporting BHSSC**

Every voluntary contribution, regardless of the amount, is appreciated. Families can choose whether to contribute, how much to contribute and when to contribute. Your support helps us continue to enhance the opportunities, resources and environment available to our students.

**Thank you for being part of the BHSSC community.**

**BOX HILL SENIOR SECONDARY COLLEGE 2027 PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS ARRANGEMENTS**
**Voluntary contributions**

If you are the carer of a student in out-of-home care or hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card), please disregard the invitation to make voluntary contributions.

We encourage any family experiencing financial hardship to contact the school for information about the financial help available for extra-curricular activities like camps and excursions.

| Voluntary contributions | Suggested amount – parents can contribute more or less | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| ***General Classroom materials & equipment*** *– shared classroom materials and equipment eg stationery, paper, posters, charts, assessment materials, revision packages, standardized tests etc for each faculty, Advocacy program materials, workbook & incursions. Orientation & end of year activities* | **$500.00** | **$** |
| ***Provision & Upkeep of school devices, peripherals & ICT*** *eg devices owned by the school, class sets, device configuration, maintenance & server system costs* | **$100.00** | **$** |
| ***Student and Parent Communication Tools*** *eg COMPASS, reporting and timetable software* | **$250.00** | **$** |

| Tax-deductible voluntary contributions | Suggested amount – parents can contribute more or less | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| **Voluntary - Building fund:** a tax-deductible contribution to support renovations and upgrades of school infrastructure | **$500.00** | **$** |
| **Voluntary - Library fund:** a tax-deductible contribution to support library maintenance and enhancements | **$500.00** | **$** |
| **Total Voluntary Contribution Amount** | **$1,850.00** | **$** |

**Extra-curricular items and activities**

Box Hill Senior Secondary College offers a range of optional items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Accessing these items and activities does require payment, however financial support is available (see further details under *Financial Help for Families* below).

Example extra-curricular items and activities include:

- optional activities, camps, excursions and programs
- class photos
- social events like formals.

We have provided confirmed or indicative costs of known extra-curricular items and activities below.

Payment for extra-curricular items and activities with a confirmed cost can be made now or later. Payments can also be made via instalment.

Please contact the school for advice on financial help available for extra-curricular items and activities.

| Extra-curricular items and activities | Confirmed cost (where known) | Parent/carer to select |
|---|---|---|
| ***Optional Interschool Sports program (SSV events)–*** students can represent BHSSC in SSV sporting competitions throughout 2027. Payment is to be made per event via COMPASS Event module | **$30 per event** | **$** |
| ***Optional Instrumental Music Lessons - Private*** | **$620.00** | **$** |
| ***Optional Instrumental Music Lessons - Paired*** | **$310.00** | **$** |
| ***Sport Academy Programs***<br>• ***Basketball***<br>• ***AFL/AFLW***<br>• ***Tennis A (5hours/week)***<br>• ***Tennis B (10hours/week)***<br>• ***Weight Training***<br>*Payment is to be made by COMPASS Event Portal &/or by arrangement with the College* | ***$2,200.00***<br>***$1,800.00***<br>***$4,300.00***<br>***$6,800.00***<br>***$ 700.00*** | **$** |
| **Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities** | | **$** |

**Booklist items:**

You can choose to buy learning materials for your child to individually use and own. These items can be bought from any supplier.

Box Hill Senior Secondary College has an arrangement with the following suppliers for the materials that you can buy:

- ***Campion Education - https://order.campion.com.au/index.html#homeView***
- ***Edrolo - https://edrolo.com.au***
- ***Zart Art - https://www.zart.com.au***
- ***Edunet - https://bhssc.technologyportal.com.au***

Links to these companies are also located on the front page of the College website.

**Financial help for families**

Box Hill Senior Secondary College understands families can experience financial difficulty. Help is available, including:

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) – this program provides funding for eligible students, including those in out of home care, and holders of eligible financially means-tested cards (such as health care cards), to attend activities like camps, sporting activities, excursions and incursions that are offered on a user-pays basis.
- access to State School's Relief support for required clothing components.

Applications for support from the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and State Schools Relief are submitted by the school - please contact us to discuss these and other financial help.

For a confidential discussion about how to access financial help, please contact:

Assistant Principal &/or Business Manager:

Ph: 03 98900571 | Email: box.hill.senior.sc@education.vic.gov.au

**Student Full Name:**

**Student Year Level in 2027:**

**Total**

| Category | |
|---|---|
| Voluntary Contributions | $ |
| Extra-Curricular Items and Activities | $ |

**Payment methods**

Parent payments and contributions to the College can be made by using the COMPASS Payments Centre Portal. Payments can be made in full or by instalments which can be set up on COMPASS through deductions from a credit card.

If you like to make voluntary contributions throughout the year, you can:

- decide when to make each contribution
- choose the amount of each contribution

**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 of Education's Parent Contributions policy and guidance, Financial Help for Families policy, and any other relevant information.

For further detailed information please refer to the following documents which are available on the BHSSC website: -

- BHSSC Parental Payments Voluntary Contributions Refund Policy 2027
- BHSSC Sport Exit Refund Policy 2027
- BHSSC Sport Injury Refund Policy 2027

# Parent Contributions policy

## Information for families

### FREE INSTRUCTION

Schools give students free instruction in the curriculum. This includes:

- Free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability.
- The Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major, and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Free access to all subjects, including elective subjects.
- Free access to select-entry and accelerated programs.

### FAMILIES CAN CHOOSE TO CONTRIBUTE

Schools can invite 2 types of voluntary contributions:

| Voluntary contributions | Tax deductible contributions |
|---|---|
| Used towards enhanced educational programs and school environment, and additional resources and opportunities offered by schools | Used towards building and/or library fund (for those schools who have such funds) |

Schools must advise the carers of students in out-of-home care and parents and carers who hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card) that the invitation to make voluntary contributions does not apply to them.

In addition, schools can invite parents and carers to pay for optional:

- Extra-curricular items and activities that go beyond the curriculum - for example, school photos, some excursions and some camps.
- Learning materials for students to individually use and own - for example, textbooks, stationery, and in secondary schools only, digital devices. If these items are not bought or provided from home, schools will provide students with free access to what they need for curriculum delivery.

### FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

Each school has a contact person who can discuss with parents and carers the financial supports that are available.

Schools must publish their Parent Contributions arrangements on their school website, along with a link to the department's Parent Contributions policy.