



Dear Parent/Guardian,

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 2025.

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. Four years ago, 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 this year enabled us to purchase a range of new equipment and resources, including:

- Health CPR Dummies
- Music Midi Keyboards
- Art Pottery Wheels
- Maths CAS Calculators
- Science Electronic Balances
- Significant contributions to other areas that will roll over into 2025 targeted areas (see below)

We invite parents to consider making contributions towards our new initiatives, some of which are in the 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/guardians 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.

PERSISTENCE · EXCELLENCE · COMMUNITY · RESPECT

79 – 98 Eel Race Road, Seaford VIC 3198

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### 2025 Voluntary Contribution Target Areas:

Learning Area	Description	Target Amt	Current Amt
Library Trust Fund – Tax Deductible	ICT Upgrade	\$30,000	\$13,231.95
Building Trust Fund – Tax Deductible	Playground and Outdoor Gym Equipment	\$20,000	\$10,805.01
Building Trust Fund – Tax Deductible	Outdoor Shade Sails for Student Areas	\$30,000	New Project
Building Trust Fund – Tax Deductible	Outdoor Equipment & Seating for Student Areas	\$10,000	New Project
Instrumental Music	Instrument Upgrade (Percussion)	\$15,000	\$7,783.79
Music	Percussion Equipment for Classroom Music	\$1,500	New Project
ICT	Programmable Drones	\$3,500	\$2,461.00
German	German Books (leveled readers)	\$2,000	New Project
PE	Table Tennis Tables	\$5,000	New Project
Food Studies	Kitchen Garden Wicking Beds	\$3,000	New Project
Maths	Ti Inspire CX Navigator 30 System	\$3,800	New Project
Science	Electricity Kits	\$1,000	New Project
Families in Need	Stationary Starter Pack & Calculator (\$50 = 1 pack)	Ongoing	New Project

We have set nominal amounts of \$20.00 for each of these target areas in Compass and \$50.00 for PRSC families in need. 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 Champion Education however, you may choose any suppliers to source these items from for your child to individually own and use.

### Payment Methods

Parent Contributions are now available for payment through the Compass Portal (preferred method). The College also accepts Cash, EFTPOS, BPAY (contact the General Office for details). Payment is requested by January 31st, 2025.

### 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 \$250.00 per eligible student to assist with camps, sports, excursions
- State Schools Relief (SSR) for assistance with uniform, footwear, textbooks
- School Saving Bonus (SSB) A one-off payment of \$400.00 provided to all students to assist with uniform, textbooks and School activities
- Flexible payment arrangements including Centrepay
- 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)

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## 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D Dew', written in a cursive style.

Daniel Dew  
College Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'N Eveston', written in a cursive style.

Nicole Eveston  
School Council President

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## 2025 CONTRIBUTIONS – YEAR 8

<b>Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Classroom Consumables - Food Studies, Visual Arts, Science, Design Technology	\$132.00
Workbooks - Health, Music, Food Studies	\$15.00
German* - Student Workbook	\$5.00
EXCEL Academic Program* Includes challenge days, STEM challenges, EXCEL testing, DaVinci Decathlon	\$66.00
Robot Challenge* - Robot design, building and programming to complete set challenges, equipment maintenance	\$33.00
Curriculum Excursions/Events/Activities (to be communicated via Compass as scheduled)	tba
<b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b>	<b>\$</b>

\*Applicable students only – see Compass

<b>Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Instrumental Music – Instrument Upgrade (Percussion) suggested contribution	\$20.00
Music – Percussion Equipment for Classroom Music suggested contribution	\$20.00
ICT – Programmable Drones suggested contribution	\$20.00
German – German Books (leveled readers) suggested contribution	\$20.00
PE – Table Tennis Tables suggested contribution	\$20.00
Food Studies – Kitchen Garden Wicking Beds suggested contribution	\$20.00
Maths – Ti Inspire CX Navigator 30 System suggested contribution	\$20.00
Science – Electricity Kits suggested contribution	\$20.00
Families in Need – Stationary Starter Pack & Calculator (\$50 = 1 pack) suggested contribution	\$50.00
<b>Other Contributions – (Tax Deductible)</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Building Trust Fund – Playground and Outdoor Gym Equipment parent to complete	\$
Building Trust Fund – Outdoor Shade Sails for Student Areas parent to complete	\$
Building Trust Fund – Outdoor Equipment & Seating for Student Areas parent to complete	\$
Library Trust Fund – ICT Upgrade parent to complete	\$
<b>Total Other Contributions</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Total Other Contributions (Tax Deductible)</b>	<b>\$</b>

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### 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 by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	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
Art* - Materials to design animated cartoon and Claymation characters	\$22.00
Ceramics* - Clay and sculpture materials to create a piece of art	\$33.00
Community Arts* - Materials for artworks and visual diary development	\$22.00
Design Drop - Merch Edition* - Materials to create promotional music merchandise	\$22.00
EXCEL Sport Program* - Specialised program involving elite sporting activities	\$363.00
Food with Flair* - Individual cooking ingredients for baking, pastries and preserves	\$88.00
Make it with Timber* - Materials to design and produce a serving platter and a wall mounted coat rack	\$33.00
MasterChef* - Cooking ingredients for individual and team cooking challenges	\$88.00
Retro Metal* - Materials to design and produce an enamelled copper bowl and a silver soldered ring	\$33.00
Sew Cool* - Fabric, decorations, sewing and embroidery materials for pattern making and individual Tote bags	\$33.00
Sports and Recreation* - Transport and venue hire for excursions such as tennis, squash, golf, lawns bowls, and rock climbing	\$55.00
STEM Race Cars* - Materials including 3D filament to design and produce a 3D printed car	\$33.00
Street Art* - Materials to design and create stencil making artworks and paste-ups	\$33.00
Instrumental Music Program (with Instrument hire) - Includes sheet music, photocopying	\$200.00
Instrumental Music Program (own instrument/Voice/Percussion) - Sheet music, photocopying	\$40.00
Swimming Carnival - Transport (date to be confirmed)	\$12.00
Interschool Sports - Transport (\$12.00 per event)	tba
Roses Gap Camp - 'Step up' camp at year end to The Grampians National Park (approximate cost \$575.00)	tba
Optional Excursions/Events/Activities (to be communicated via Compass as scheduled)	tba
<b>Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities</b>	<b>\$</b>

\*Applicable students only – See Compass

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

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# 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.