

8<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

## Financial Contributions for 2024

Dear parent/guardian,

Walcom Ngarrrwa Secondary College is looking forward to its first great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Walcom Ngarrrwa Secondary College's voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

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. We want to thank you now in anticipation of your support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This will make a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

The following pages set out our financial contributions for next year and your payment of these will support us in building bright futures for our students. Our decision to provide all students with a laptop device has been made to provide equal learning opportunities for our students and to also ease the financial burden on our families. The Digital Technology contribution will allow us to service and support these devices for students in both 2024 and beyond.

All government schools are funded using the same, per capita, model. For Walcom Ngarrrwa Secondary College to provide a high-quality education to our students, the financial support of families is essential.

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

Yours sincerely,



Brad Moyle  
Principal



Geoff Griffin  
Interim School Council President



*Building Bright Futures*

**WALCOM NGARRWA**  
SECONDARY COLLEGE

<b>Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<i>Year 7 Classroom consumables, classroom materials and equipment</i>	<i>\$150.00</i>
<i>Digital technologies - provision of devices, peripherals, service and system support</i>	<i>\$25.00</i>
<i>Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials</i>	<i>\$25.00</i>
<b>Total Curriculum Contributions</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>

<b>Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<i>Sports Affiliation costs - School Sports Victoria &amp; District affiliation</i>	<i>\$5.00</i>
<i>Student &amp; Parent Communication Tool – COMPASS</i>	<i>\$30.00</i>
<i>Student wellbeing programs &amp; enhanced supports</i>	<i>\$25.00</i>
<i>First aid equipment</i>	<i>\$5.00</i>
<i>School grounds maintenance and improvements</i>	<i>\$25.00</i>
<i>Locker maintenance, cleaning and repairs</i>	<i>\$10.00</i>
<b>Total Other Contributions</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>

### **Educational items for students to own**

Attached is a list of items that the school recommends you purchase from **Lilydale Books** for your child to individually own and use.

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

Walcom Ngarra 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.

*The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year, with payment required on a user pays basis.*

<b>Extra-Curricular Items and Activities</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<i>Year 7 – YMCA Lady Northcote Camp</i>	<i>\$400.00</i>
<i>Incursions and excursions to be scheduled throughout the year</i>	<i>TBA</i>
<b>Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities</b>	<b>\$TBA</b>



### Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact:

*Clarissa Spencer, Business Manager*

Ph: 0447 906 221 | Email: [Walcom.Ngarrwa.SC@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Walcom.Ngarrwa.SC@education.vic.gov.au)

### Total

Category	Total
Curriculum Contributions	\$200
Other Contributions	\$100
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$ as required
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>

### Payment methods

Payment of financial contributions for 2024 can be made from the commencement of the school year and further details will be provided.

Payment options will include COMPASS Pay, BPAY and EFTPOS.

### 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.

# 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.