



**Year 7 2025
Parent Payment
Contributions Booklet**

Dear Parent/Guardian

Somerville Secondary College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the college's voluntary and extra curriculum 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 under the categories of Curriculum Contributions and Other Contributions. However, under the category of Extra Curricular, please be aware that charges are provided on a user-pays system to enable us to enhance and broaden student experiences. 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 for all your support - this makes a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

As can be seen over the last few years, we have invested heavily in our college facilities, and in our staff and students. We continue to do this as we truly believe our students deserve the best possible opportunity to thrive and pursue their wide range of passions in state-of-the-art facilities as they move through our college and onto the next chapter of their lives.

We have also invested heavily in extra-curricular activities and wellbeing programs, as we know the importance of supporting students with their physical and mental health. Even though the categories of Curriculum Contributions and Other Contributions are voluntary, any extra funding we receive enables us to provide the best possible opportunities for our students. Somerville Secondary College is an inclusive school where every child is supported and provided for. Your support has allowed us to create this environment in our college and the resources required.

As we head into the future, we will continue to build our state-of-the-art educational program, and the resources required to operate at this level. Your continued support will allow us to provide the latest programs and equipment as we move forward.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES:

The School Saving Bonus was announced as part of the Victorian Budget 2024/25. We are sharing more information about how families will be able to access and use this support.

School Saving Bonus

This one-off support of \$400 will be available to parents and carers of every child enrolled in a Victorian government school in 2025. This one-off support will be used to help cover the costs of uniform, books, camps and excursions

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

- The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).
- State Schools Relief.
- 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 Lisa Jansens, Business Manager, 03 5973 1000.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please refer to the Department of Education (DET) parent payments one-page overview, included in this booklet.

Yours faithfully



SARAH BURNS
College Principal

JENNIFER BALLANTYNE
College Council President

YEAR 7 Curriculum Contributions

Subject/Elective	Curriculum Contribution	Extra-curricular Items (User Pays)	Total Curriculum & Extra-Curricular Contribution
Art <i>Basic practical materials and theoretical aspects of the course to support the program (\$20) and other materials for students to use to create and present their artwork (\$20)</i>	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$40.00
Food Technology <i>Ingredients for demonstrations</i> <i>Tasting ingredients (e.g., unfamiliar fruits/ vegetables, shop bought products for comparison), Recipe cards, Poster paper.</i> <i>Kitchen garden materials (e.g., seeds, compost etc) (\$15.00)</i> <i>Ingredients for weekly practical classes (average of \$3 per activity) (\$60)</i>	\$15.00	\$60.00	\$75.00
Integrated Technology <i>Basic class materials for the theoretical aspects of the course.</i> <i>CAD software and design equipment provision for the theoretical aspects of the course. (\$17)</i> <i>Practical materials that the students will use to make products, including wood, metal, plastics and electronic componentry. The finished products will be brought home. (\$50)</i>	\$17.00	\$50.00	\$67.00
Science <i>Class materials required for learning activities. Includes various paper (poster paper, coloured and graph paper), chemicals and materials to conduct practical activities.</i>	\$30.00	0.00	\$30.00
Health and PE <i>Theory activities provided on site using college facilities.</i>	\$20.00	0.00	\$20.00
Humanities <i>Basic class materials to run the program.</i> <i>-White, exam, butcher, white, and coloured poster paper for activities</i> <i>-Graph and tracing paper for activities</i> <i>-Index cards for presentations</i> <i>-Additional post-it notes if needed</i> <i>Booklets x 4 (\$15)</i>	15.00	0.00	15.00
Math <i>Learning Resource' sheets for units</i> <i>Materials required for Rich Assessment Tasks/projects:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coloured papers (A4 and A3) - Poster papers - Graph papers - post-it notes for collaborative work 	5.00	10.00	15.00
English <i>White, exam, butcher, and coloured poster paper for activities and booklets</i> <i>Additional post-it notes</i>	15.00	0.00	15.00
Indonesian <i>Coloured poster paper, materials for flashcards</i>	10.00	0.00	10.00
Music/Drama <i>Work booklets</i> <i>Basic materials or instructions to make items.</i>	10.00	0.00	10.00
Sub-total	\$157.00	\$140.00	\$297.00

Excursions/Incursions and Camps will be charged on

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS (Non-Curriculum Items and Activities)		Total Other Contributions
Sporting Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students are encouraged to attend our sporting opportunities as a participant or to support their house. Novelty events are included as an option for participation. Whole school event refreshments <i>*CSEF may contribute to these activities</i>	\$40.00*	\$40.00
School Sport Victoria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affiliation, transport to inter-school competitions, entry costs, provision of college representative sports uniforms. <i>*CSEF may contribute to some of these activities</i>	\$20.00	\$20.00
Online Subscriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compass Access (\$15), Library Systems (\$5), IT Security & Support (\$80). 	\$100.00	\$100.00
Compass Student ID Card Compass / PTV Student ID Card	\$5.00	\$5.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials. 	\$50.00	\$50.00
Somerville Curriculum Enhancement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports the College purchasing equipment & items that enhance the programs offered at the college. 	\$120.00	\$120.00
First Aid Equipment	\$20.00	\$20.00
Enhanced Wellbeing Support	\$20.00	\$20.00
State School Relief	\$20.00	\$20.00
Library Fund <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution to support book purchases & other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource. 	\$20.00	\$20.00
Building and Grounds Fund <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure. 	\$40.00	\$40.00
Total Other Contributions		\$455.00

Compass Pay “as you go” through the year

Indicative Costs for camps, excursions and Incursions.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charged during the year via Compass Pay/Events. - (Note: the costs for these camps, excursions and incursions are additional to curriculum contributions above.) CSEF may contribute to some of these activities - if your child has a CSEF credit balance, the cost of CSEF applicable events/activities will be adjusted accordingly. 	
Humanities Excursion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dandenong ranges 	\$35.00
PE Excursion – possible end of year excursion T4 to Cable Park	\$65.00
English Excursion	\$35.00
Instrumental Music <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are offering half price instrumental music tuition throughout the year for students in Year 7 - instead of the full \$400 for the year, we are offering a year of instrumental music tuition for \$200. (\$100 per semester). Complete music enrolment/expression of interest form. 	\$200.00
Year 7 Camp – CYC Cowes, Phillip Island, Wednesday 2 July – Friday 4 July 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Camp Information booklet will be provided outlining activities and costs, The Year 7 Camp Event will be uploaded on Compass. 	\$500.00

Payment Plan - Curriculum and Other Contributions	
Category	Total Amount Owing
Curriculum Contributions/ Extra Curricular Items	\$297.00
Other contributions	\$455.00
Total Charges for 2025	\$752.00

PAYMENT OPTIONS TO COVER CURRICULUM AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Payment options available commencing **21 November 2024** (via Compass). The college will be utilising the Compass Billing module for payments. The Parent's Guide to Compass Billing is included in this booklet.

- \$752.00 to be paid in full on 21 November 2024.
- \$150.40 equals 5 Monthly instalments commencing 21 November 2024.
- \$75.20 equals 10 fortnightly instalments commencing 21 November 2024.
- \$37.60 equals 20 Weekly instalments commencing 21 November 2024

NOTE: If you do not wish to use Compass Billing, please contact the office on 5973 1000 to discuss alternative payment options.

REFUND POLICY

- Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and made on 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. This applies in all circumstances including illness with a medical certificate.
- Any refund requests must be made in writing.
- Advice regarding refunds will be provided once all supplies have been paid and reconciliations have been completed. Please note that this could take approximately 30 days.
- The Refund Policy was endorsed by school council in February 2024.