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## Voluntary Financial Contributions 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Viewbank College is proud of the quality of our facilities and resources available for our students to enjoy, and few schools match the numerous programs we offer to cater for students' needs and interests. We would like to advise you of the voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

Schools provide free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary.

The College Council seeks your support with the following contributions.

- **Curriculum Contributions (p2-4)**
  - o General items and activities that students use across the curriculum; and
  - o Items specific to Year 9 & 10 Electives, VCE & VET
- **Extra-Curricular Contributions (p5)**
  - o College Magazine, Outdoor Education & Duke of Edinburgh Camps and Instrumental Music
- **Other Contributions (p6)**
  - o Value-Added, Building Fund and General Contributions

We want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. We understand that some families may experience financial difficulty; Page 6 includes information on a range of support options.

Please review the options and then complete your payment on the Compass Parent Portal. For more information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see a one-page overview attached.

**Together we can make a difference** in the programs, facilities, and services provided to best support student learning.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Grimes  
**Principal**

Sam Ricardo  
**School Council President**

## CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements. However, the school incurs numerous costs, highlighted in the tables below.

**Your voluntary contributions here will enable us continue to support student learning.**

Please note that all year level booklists will be available on the College website – this will list the items that the school recommends you purchase from Campion Books (or other book supplier) for your child to individually own and use.

### 2025 GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
Art & Design (specialist paper, paint, pastel, ink, charcoal, clay, textiles, 3D Printing)	\$30					
Digital Technology (classroom resources & materials)	\$15					
Drama (paper, masking tape, paint, felt pipe cleaners, other craft items)		\$20				
English (classroom resources, incursions, Y12 External exam marking)	\$20	\$20	\$25	\$30	\$35	\$40
Food for Health (cooking ingredients)		\$95				
Health & PE (classroom resources & equipment)	\$20	\$20	\$20			
Humanities (craft-based materials)	\$10	\$5	\$5			
Library (shared classroom resources)	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10
Materials Design (classroom resources & materials)		\$20				
Music (classroom resources & equipment)	\$20					
Overlay Program (resources & materials)	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$30	\$20	
Photocopying (printing & photocopying of worksheets, trial exams & other learning materials)	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$30	\$40	\$40
Provision and upkeep of ICT facilities - server/system costs	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
Science (chemicals and other classroom resources, PPE & equipment)	\$15	\$20	\$20			
Swimming & Athletics Carnival (2 days - buses, entrance fees)	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$225</b>	<b>\$295</b>	<b>\$165</b>	<b>\$145</b>	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$135</b>

### 2025 YEAR 9 ELECTIVES – Materials

Coaching and Enhancing Performance (use/upkeep of specialised equipment)	\$20
Designing & Engineering (plastics, wood, metal, paint)	\$60
Drama (specialist paper, masking tape, paint)	\$10
Food Whiz (cooking ingredients)	\$100
Forensic Science (paper, food items)	\$10
Game Programming (classroom resources)	\$20
Mask & Make-up (face paint, makeup, moulding materials)	\$25
Media- Photography & Photoshop (equipment hire & software subscription)	\$25
Micro-Computing (classroom resources)	\$20
Product, Design & Technology –(Wood/Metal/Plastics)	\$40
Sculptural Ceramics (variable clay, glaze, wire, tape)	\$60
Sport Science and Nutrition (use/upkeep of specialised equipment)	\$20

Arts (canvas, specialist paints, fixatives, inks etc)	\$60
Textiles – Fashion (fabrics, dyes, paint, craft items)	\$30
Visual Com Design (specialist paper, software subscription)	\$25

## 2025 YEAR 10 ELECTIVES – Materials

Applied Computing (classroom resources)	\$20
Chemistry & Physics in Motion (Chemicals, PPE & equipment)	\$20
Biology & Chemistry for Life (Chemicals, PPE & equipment)	\$20
Drama – Devising Theatre (Specialist paper, paint, craft items)	\$20
Emerging Technologies, Systems & Design (plastics, electronic components, wire)	\$60
Masterchef (cooking ingredients)	\$140
Lifestyle Physical Activity (use/upkeep of specialised fitness equipment)	\$20
Media Arts ‘Film’ (equipment hire, software subscription)	\$75
Media – The Digital Age (equipment hire, software subscriptions)	\$75
Product Design & Technology (Wood, Metal, Plastic)	\$60
Science Squared (Chemicals, PPE & equipment)	\$20
Sports Science (use/upkeep of specialised fitness equipment)	\$20
Art (paints, specialist paper, sculpture materials, inks, lino, inks)	\$75
Visual Com Design (specialist paper, paint, balsawood, software subscription)	\$55

## 2025 VCE – Materials

	Units 1/2	Units 3/4
Applied Computing (classroom resources)	\$20	
Biology (chemicals, dissection materials, PPE & equipment)	\$10	\$10
Creative Practice (paper, paints, and materials)	\$100	\$100
Chemistry (Chemicals, PPE & equipment)	\$25	\$25
Media (equipment hire, software subscription)	\$150	\$150
Product Design & Technology: Resistant Materials (wood, metal, plastic)		\$150
Product Design & Technology: Textiles- (fabric, thread, beads, craft items)		\$100
Psychology (dissection materials, PPE & equipment)	\$10	
Systems Engineering (plastics, wood, metal, electronic components)	\$100	\$60
Theatre Studies (design and tech resources for production)	\$50	\$50
Visual Com Design (print & craft items, software subscription)	\$105	\$105
Vocational Major (materials & resources for group projects)	\$20	\$20

## 2025 VET – Materials

*Year 10-12 Students enrolled in a VET course will be advised of voluntary contributions for course materials via Compass Events*

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR CONTRIBUTIONS

Viewbank College offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the Curriculum.

These are provided on a user-pays basis.

### 2025 YEAR 9 ELECTIVES – Materials

Duke of Edinburgh Award – Bronze (2 x camps, food, travel, awards, use/upkeep of specialised equipment)	\$450
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### 2025 YEAR 10 ELECTIVES – Materials

Outdoor Education (camps, food, travel, use/upkeep of specialised equipment)	\$420
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### 2025 YEAR 12 SUBJECT – Materials

Outdoor Education (camps, food, travel, use/upkeep of specialised equipment)	\$700
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### 2025 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Instrumental lesson	\$795
2 <sup>nd</sup> Instrumental lesson	\$580
Ensemble only	\$160
Instrument Hire	\$350
Individual lesson (as recommended only)	\$950

### 2025 ADDITIONAL ITEM

College Magazine	\$25
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## OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Recent contributions in this space have enabled the school in many ways

- ✓ Additional Support Staff hired in science, technology, numeracy, literacy, performing arts and PE
- ✓ Resources including 3D Laser printers, Induction cooktops, AV equipment
- ✓ The VCE Centre, which has created a unique facility for our senior students to study and collaborate
- ✓ The new Walking Track, completed with four fitness stations
- ✓ New cricket nets, soccer goals, fitness centre equipment and the restoration of the cricket pitch

The amounts allocated to these contributions within Compass are recommendations by the College Council to meet the budget requirements for 2025; however you may nominate any amount against these contributions.

CONTRIBUTIONS	Tax deductible?	Suggested Voluntary Contribution per family
<p><b><u>VALUE ADDED CONTRIBUTION</u></b>            School Sports Victoria and Banyule Sport Network affiliations, student wellbeing resources, additional IT support staff, first aid equipment, Compass online platform</p>	NO	\$280 Any amount can be entered by parents via Compass.
<p><b><u>BUILDING FUND CONTRIBUTION</u></b>            Supports additional facility upgrades such as the student toilet blocks and ongoing updates to the learning spaces. College council has established <b>tax-deductible</b> gift recipient status with the Australian Taxation Office for the Building Fund</p>	YES	\$170 Any amount can be entered by parents via Compass.
<p><b><u>GENERAL CONTRIBUTION</u></b>            Supports the upkeep of the College gardens, outside seating and student locker areas as well additional classroom resources for the library and other learning areas.</p>	NO	\$120 Any amount can be entered by parents via Compass.

## Financial Support for Families

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

- **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)**  
[Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund | vic.gov.au](#)
- **State Schools Relief**  
Please contact the Viewbank College Student Wellbeing team
- **Student scholarships** – the Department of Education and Training manages over 25 student scholarships programs, that are awarded for a range of reasons including academic achievement, participation in the school and local community or financial need.
- [Student scholarships | vic.gov.au](#)
- **Saver Plus Program** an initiative of Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ that assists families on lower incomes. The program matches family savings up to \$500 for education-related costs.  
[Saver Plus | Brotherhood of St. Laurence](#)
- **A Start in Life Program**  
[HOME | A Start in Life](#)
- **Good Shepherd Australia** provides affordable financial programs, including the No Interest Loans (NILs) scheme , for people on low or limited incomes that may assist families to afford educational costs and other expenses.  
[Good Shepherd AU - not for profit charity - women, girls, families](#)
- **St Vincents De Paul Society** offers a range of assistance including food or food vouchers, clothing, furniture, budget support, back to school costs, information and advocacy.  
[Vinnies - Good Works](#)
- **The Smith Family's Learning for Life program** provides financial support, guidance and mentoring for disadvantaged students. The Smith Family works with a select number of schools and may require referral from the school principal.  
[Learning for Life Program | Creating Better Futures](#)

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements please contact the Business Manager, Kathleen Hannan on 9458 2811 or [viewbank.co@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:viewbank.co@education.vic.gov.au)

## Payment Methods

- *Compass*
- *BPAY*
- *Cash/Credit Card/EFTPOS*

**Refunds** Please refer to the Refund Policy at [www.viewbank.vic.edu.au](http://www.viewbank.vic.edu.au)

To discuss further, please contact Kathleen Hannan (Business Manager) by emailing [kathleen.hannan@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:kathleen.hannan@education.vic.gov.au)

## 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.