

2026 Parent Contribution – Year 8

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to begin by acknowledging the ongoing support we receive from families at Sandringham College. Our success as a school is built on our strong sense of community and the continued support of our parents and carers, which enables us to provide high-quality teaching, enriching co-curricular opportunities, and a broad range of wellbeing and social emotional supports for all students.

Schools are funded at a base level to deliver the Victorian Curriculum and the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE). While all financial contributions are voluntary, we rely on the generosity of parents and carers to help our students excel and to enhance the quality of learning experiences across the College.

From 2026, the College will implement explicit teaching practices across all classrooms. A key component of this approach involves **a move away from heavy reliance on technology and a return to more paper-based teaching and learning approaches.** This shift is grounded in educational research and reflects our understanding that while technology can support learning, it can also be a source of distraction. As paper-based resources are surprisingly costly, we are seeking your voluntary contribution to help offset this increased expense.

Sandringham College prides itself on a culture of high expectations. While our facilities are ageing, we remain committed to creating safe and vibrant learning environments for our students. **In 2026, our focus will include replacing student desks and chairs and installing new soccer goals, football goals, and outdoor basketball rings.** Through our Building Fund and the generosity of families, we hope to raise the funds required to make improvements of infrastructure for sport and classrooms for students to enjoy during physical education, recess and lunchtime.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support and commitment to our school. Sandringham College continues to be an outstanding school because of the partnership we share with our families and community.

Yours sincerely,



Amy Porter
College Principal



Andrew Barlow
School Council President

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Curriculum contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Year 8 classroom consumables, materials & equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English - class materials and printed worksheets/academic resources (\$25) • Visual Communication and Design - consumable subject specific specialist paper, graphic design markers, pencils, fine liners (\$20) • Multimedia - STYLE Specialist Software and essential model making classroom consumables (\$32) • Food Technology - consumable food items, printed worksheets/academic resources (\$90) • Science - chemicals, organic materials, minerals, model making materials, shared class materials and printed worksheets/academic resources (\$25) • Humanities - class materials and printed worksheets/academic resources (\$15) • Languages - class materials and printed worksheets/academic resources (\$10) • Music - class materials, printed worksheets/academic resources and print music (\$10) • Health and Physical Education - class materials and subject specific equipment (\$30) • Mathematics - class materials and printed worksheets/academic resources (\$15) • Mentor Group - class materials and printed worksheets/academic resources (\$5) 	\$277
Student online assessment tools to support teacher ability to differentiate work to enhance student learning and curriculum related assessment tools	\$30
Student card	\$10
Total Amount	\$317
Other contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
Student/Parent communication tools COMPASS modules - parent teacher interviews, chronicle, newsfeed and attendance alerts	\$30
Enhanced wellbeing support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment of 3 full-time qualified wellbeing staff (only 1 wellbeing staff member is funded by Department of Education) • Employment of a college attendance officer 	\$50
First aid equipment and items for students	\$15
School grounds maintenance and improvements including employment of staff Maintenance of the College grounds and facilities to create safe and clean learning environments including the employment of a school handyman (not funded by the Department of Education)	\$100
Family Assistance Fund A contribution to support families in our community in financial need	\$30
Total Amount	\$225

Tax deductible contributions	Amount
Building Fund A tax-deductible contribution to support the upgrade of infrastructure for sport and classrooms	\$150
Library Fund A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the libraries as a valuable resource	\$50
Total Amount	\$

Educational items for students to own

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

Extra-curricular items, activities and Academies

Sandringham College offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling

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experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the basic Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis. Academy programs are select entry only.

If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child, please follow the program enrolment process and make payment via Compass Event by the due date as indicated.

Extra-curricular items and activities	Amount	Purchase
Optional Instrumental Music Lessons		
1 st Instrument (group lesson)	\$850	
2 nd Instrument (group lesson)	\$850	
Ensemble only	\$250	
Instrument hire	\$350	
Optional SEAL Academy (select entry)	\$300	
Optional Dance Academy (select entry)	\$2,560	
Optional Arts Academy (select entry)	\$280	
Optional Sports Academy (select entry)	\$260	
Optional Basketball Academy		
Annual admin fee \$150 + Training per term \$380	\$1,670	
One-off equipment fee \$95 (First time participant ONLY including shorts, singlet & bag)	\$95	
Optional Netball Academy		
Annual admin fee \$150 + Training per term \$380	\$1,670	
One-off equipment fee \$140 (All participant including shorts, top and hoodie; existing participants also need to purchase the full set due to supplier change) - to be purchased online via Inspire Netball		
Optional Soccer Academy		
Annual admin fee \$150 + Training per term \$380	\$1,670	
One-off equipment fee \$105 (First time participant ONLY) - to be purchased online via Futbol First School of Soccer and Futsal		
Optional Athlete Development Program (Sports Academy students ONLY)	\$320	
Total extra-curricular items and activities		\$

Total parent contribution

Category	
Curriculum contributions	\$ 317
Other contributions	\$ 225
Tax deductible contributions	\$
Extra-curricular items and activities	\$
Total Amount	\$

Financial support for Families

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

- Access to **State Schools' Relief Committee** support for clothing/uniforms (via the College wellbeing team)
- The **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund** which provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions

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- **Family Assistance Fund** - support families in our community in financial need with the purchase of resources
- **PTF Second-hand Uniform Shop** – contact General Office on 8599 0500

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, please contact the school, and speak to our Wellbeing Team or Business Manager; alternatively, you may like to speak to your child's Head of Year or Year Level Leader.

Ph: 8599 0500 / **Email:** sandringham.co@education.vic.gov.au

Payment methods

We would appreciate payment by 15th February 2026. Payment by this date allows the College to effectively plan for classes and to adjust curriculum as required to ensure that the program is financially viable.

- Full payment to be made via Compass (recommended)
- Full payment to be made via BPay or cheque/cash/EFTPOS/credit card at offices
- Payment Plan – following parents' feedback we have set up 2 payment plans for 2026:
 - 1) 5 equal monthly instalments: starts on 10th Dec 2025 then continues in 2026 on 10/3, 10/4, 10/5 and 10/6 (NOT January and February)
 - 2) 10 equal fortnightly instalments: starts on 10th Dec 2025 then continues in 2026 on 10/2, 25/2, 10/3, 25/3, 10/4, 25/4, 10/5, 25/5 and 10/6 (NOT January)

Note: these plans are set up using the Compass online system - parents to choose via Compass from November 2025

Refunds

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and made in accordance with the Sandringham College Refund Policy. 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 Payment 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.