



GREATER  
**SHEPPARTON**  
SECONDARY  
COLLEGE

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

Greater Shepparton Secondary College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Greater Shepparton Secondary College voluntary financial contributions for 2023.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum 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. Greater Shepparton Secondary College provided free laptops to all Year 7 students in 2021 and 2022 and will do so again in 2023.

Our School Council is proud of the excellent 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. However, these do not come without extra costs. Parents support through parent payments has assisted in considerable improvements being carried out on our new site.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please refer to the overview attached. Information is also available on our school website [www.gssc.vic.edu.au](http://www.gssc.vic.edu.au)

Yours sincerely,

Barbara O'Brien  
Executive Principal

**Post:** PO BOX 4010, Shepparton VIC 3632

**Phone:** 03 5891 2000

**Email:** [Greater.Shepparton.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Greater.Shepparton.sc@education.vic.gov.au)

**ABN:** 61 408 009 945 | **School No:** 7876

2023 Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Year 7 Subject Consumables, Classroom Materials, Activities	\$ 160.00
Year 7 Physical Education *CSEF Claimable	\$ 35.00
Year 8 Subject Consumables, Classroom Materials, Activities	\$ 160.00
Year 8 Physical Education *CSEF Claimable	\$ 35.00
Year 9 Subject Consumables, Classroom Materials, Activities	\$ 150.00
Year 9 Physical Education *CSEF Claimable	\$ 45.00
Year 10 Subject Consumables, Classroom Materials, Activities	\$ 140.00
Year 10 Physical Education *CSEF Claimable	\$ 45.00
Year 11 Subject Consumables, Classroom Materials, Activities	\$ 110.00
Year 11 Physical Education *CSEF Claimable	\$ 40.00
Year 12 Subject Consumables, Classroom Materials, Activities	\$ 110.00
Year 12 Physical Education *CSEF Claimable	\$ 40.00
2023 Other Contributions	Amount
All Year Levels Student Planner & ID Card	\$ 20.00
Tax deductible contributions	
<b>Building fund.</b> A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure.	Denomination as desired

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

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
School photos (Price varies based upon photo package selected, payment direct to external party)
Music Instrument Hire and Tuition (Estimated Annual Program varies \$200 - \$300)
Camps and Excursions (These will be priced individually based on the camp/excursion. Details of costing will be communicated individually for each camp/excursion throughout the year)
School functions such as graduations, deb balls, formals, socials, productions, musical performances

### **Educational Items for students to own**

Please refer to the Booklist of General Stationery Items and subject specific texts and stationery that the school recommends you purchase from Champion for your child to individually own and use. These items are also available to purchase from Officeworks, other large retail outlets and online stores at the discretion of the individual parent.

### **Financial Support for Families**

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

#### Camps, Sports & Excursions Funding (CSEF)

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply for \$225 per student. A Special Consideration category also exists. Schools can receive applications from families over term one and two. Forms available from Administration Office or downloaded via Website [www.gssc.vic.edu.au](http://www.gssc.vic.edu.au) or Compass.

#### Payment Plans

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

Christine Wardle | Ph: 03 5891 2000 | Email: [chris.wardle@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:chris.wardle@education.vic.gov.au)

### **Payment Methods**

#### **PLEASE NOTE NO PAYMENTS ARE ACCEPTED VIA THE COMPASS PARENT PORTAL**

GSSC offers various methods of payment listed below;

BPAY Online	Please contact GSSC for your individual family BPAY reference number
EFTPOS	Onsite payment or phone transactions available
Credit Card	Onsite payment or phone transactions available
Cash/Cheque	Onsite payment only

### **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 standard curriculum requirements in Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.
- 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.