MOUNT ELIZA
SECONDARY COLLEGE

MESC PARENT PAYMENT POLICY 2027 Year 8

Dear Mount Eliza Secondary College Community,

We're excited to be preparing for another fantastic year of learning and growth at Mount Eliza Secondary College in 2027.

As we begin planning, we'd like to share information about our *voluntary financial contributions*. While all students receive free instruction aligned with the Victorian Curriculum, these contributions play an important role in enhancing your child's overall educational experience.

For many years, our college community has shown incredible generosity in supporting these contributions. Thanks to this support, we've been able to maintain our *Requested College Council Items contribution at the same level since 2018*, ensuring it remains accessible while continuing to benefit our students.

Your support—through contributions, volunteering, and fundraising—makes a genuine difference. It allows us to offer opportunities that go beyond the standard curriculum, including:

- High-quality literacy and numeracy programs supported by digital learning platforms
- Engaging practical activities in ART, Design and Science
- Sporting carnivals and wellbeing initiatives
- Career and health incursions
- Targeted, small-group learning opportunities tailored to student needs

These experiences are part of what makes Mount Eliza Secondary College such a vibrant and inclusive learning environment, and a place families choose with confidence.

While contributions are entirely voluntary, they directly support our ability to provide these enriching programs and maintain the personalised approach to education we value so highly. Without this support, some of these opportunities would be more limited.

We are incredibly grateful for the continued partnership we have with our families. Together, we can ensure every student has access to the resources and experiences that help them thrive.

For more information about the Department of Education's Parent Payments Policy, please refer to the attached overview. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our college community.

Regards,

Danielle Vaughan
Principal

Tony Walker
School Council President

MOUNT ELIZA
SECONDARY COLLEGE

YEAR 8 PARENT PAYMENT POLICY

2027 Year 8

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	**Amount**
Year 8 classroom consumables, materials & equipment • *Connect – Papers & booklets -$20* • *Design Technology – Wood & metal, drawing equipment & booklets -$25* *Please note: Approximate cost of $105 as extra-curricular items to enhance learning. This will be charged throughout the year via Compass events.* • *English – Text levy, papers & booklets -$95* • *Health & Physical Education – Fitness testing, resource materials & booklets -$58* • *Humanities – Software program & booklets -$40* • *Languages - Indonesian – Booklets, consumables & food -$60* • *Mathematics – Software & booklets -$70* • *Science – Software subscription, specimens, cardboards, construction material, playdough & booklets etc. -$60* • *Visual Arts -Materials & booklets - $132*	$560
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	**Amount**
Requested College Council Items *The following are only <u>some</u> of the items which cover School Council Items: Compass access, First Aid materials, Swimming Carnival, Athletics Day, Newsletter and selected handbooks, Student Leadership Program, Peer Support Program, Sport Subsidy, Employ a Student Wellbeing Coordinator, Inter school sport affiliations, provision of college representative uniform, Employ a Maintenance Person, maintain & improve grounds, paint the college, update teaching spaces, IT program (maintenance, including internet, technical support and software), Presentation Nights and Careers Program.*	$425
Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. *A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure.*	$110
Total Amount	**$**

MOUNT ELIZA
SECONDARY COLLEGE

YEAR 8 PARENT PAYMENT POLICY 2027 Year 8

Educational items for students to own

Details on how to access the year level booklist from the college website via Campion Education's website will be provided. Items on the booklist can be purchased from Campion or other suppliers.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Mount Eliza Secondary 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 to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child, please make payment via Compass > Payment Centre

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – *(Invoiced individually via Compass Events)*	**Amount**	**Purchase (Please tick)**
College Year Book – Ripple	$30	
Combination Lock –required padlock for student locker	$25	
Private music lessons:		
• *Group Lesson (per semester)*	$300	
• *Shared Lesson – max 3 (per semester)*	$500	
• *Private Lesson (per semester)*	$800	
Please Note: Additional school charges may arise during the year. For example: Sport excursions which are approximately $15. We also anticipate that there may be 3-4 excursions planned during the year with an estimated cost between $5 and $40 each.	*Various*	
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities		**$**

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund, payment $400.00 is available to all families with a Health care card or Pension card
- Sustainable School Shop – online platform: Second hand textbooks and uniforms

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

Karen Carter Ph: 03 9787 6288 Email: kcarter@mesc.vic.edu.au

MOUNT ELIZA
SECONDARY COLLEGE

YEAR 8 PARENT PAYMENT POLICY 2027 Year 8

Total

Category	
Curriculum Contributions	$
Other Contributions	$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	$

Payment methods

Our preferred method of payment is directly through the Compass Portal; however other methods of payment are available if required.

Dates: Payment is requested in full on 11/12/2026 or via 4 equal instalments 11/12/2026, 28/01/2027, 28/02/2027 & 28/03/2027 (these dates are set in Compass).

Alternatively come into the office to organise a Payment Plan (Plans completed by 27/03/2027).

Existing Compass families: After 1st November you will be able to view your future student's details.

New families to Compass: You will receive your Compass login details closer to Orientation Day in December.

BPAY: Please call the office for the BPAY Biller Code and BPAY Reference Code.

Direct Debit:

1. Deductions can be made via a debit/credit card.

Please complete a MESC Payment Deduction Form and return to the general office. Alternately this can be arranged over the phone or in person at the general office.

3. You may start the deduction at any date and frequency suitable to you.

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 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	**Other Contributions**	**Extra-Curricular Items and Activities**
Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.	Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.	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.