



Ballarat High School

Parent Payments 2026

Dear parent/guardian,

Ballarat High School Council is committed to providing the best possible learning opportunities for all our students. All schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum requirements.

Parent Contributions assist the Ballarat High School to provide an enriched learning and teaching program for every student and maintain its high standards in quality facilities. Parent contributions supplement Government funding, and without your support we cannot provide the resources and programs you expect.

The Department of Education has a Parent Payments Policy and Ballarat High School Council ensures compliance with this DE policy and associated guidelines, when undertaking their implementation and administration.

Schools are able to request payments from parents in the following categories:

- 1.0 Curriculum Contributions: Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the curriculum.
- 2.0 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.
- 3.0 Other Contributions: Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the schools functions and objectives.

Your support of your child's education at Ballarat High School is greatly appreciated.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see a one-page overview attached.

Yours sincerely,

Stephan Fields
Principal and Executive Officer School Council

Curriculum Contributions	Amount
Items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	
<p>Parents are invited to pay a Curriculum & Service Charge for all students enrolled at Ballarat High School.</p> <p>All funds collected from families for this Charge contribute directly to your child's educational experiences and for resources that have been deemed necessary for students to learn the curriculum.</p> <p>Given that students have individual learning plans, the exact class materials supplied will vary. Typically items such as: food for home economics, wood for woodwork, photocopying to create a workbook in lieu of a text/practice exams, transport and venue hire for PE, stationery to supplement booklist requirements, etc.</p>	
Student ID Card	\$10
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and supply of learning materials	\$400
Whole school events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics carnival - entry and transport • Swimming carnival – entry and transport 	\$55
Total Curriculum Contribution	\$465

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
<p>Ballarat High School offers a range of optional 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 items are provided on a user pays basis.</p>	
Bring Your Own Device Support	\$35
ARCH Magazine	\$36
Instrumental Music Program	\$150
Instrument Hire	\$220
Specialist Sport Program	Year 7 - \$220 Year 8 - \$200 Year 9 - \$240 Year 10 - \$75 Year 11 - \$75
Rowing Program	Year 9 - \$275+regattas Year 10 - \$315+regattas Senior (firsts) - \$375+regattas
After school sport, camps, excursions and tours	To be advised prior to event

Financial Support for Families

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

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- State Schools Relief (SSR) - Year 7 Uniform Pack etc
- Saver Plus
- Payment plans
- Scholarships

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, please contact us on (03) 5338 9000 or ballarat.hs@education.vic.gov.au

Payment methods

- In person – Cash, cheque, credit card, EFTPOS
- On the phone – Credit card
- On line – BPay, Compass Pay, Centrepay, Campion

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.

Further information and resources

- Department of Education - Parent Payment Policy Overview - attached
- Ballarat High School Parent Payments Brochure



If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Ballarat High School on (03) 5338 9000 or ballarat.hs@education.vic.gov.au

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.