



Blackburn HIGH SCHOOL

18 November 2025

Parent Payments 2026 for Year 7 students

Dear parent/guardian,

Blackburn High School is looking forward to another year of great achievement, growth, and continuous improvement. We value our partnership with families and would like to provide you with information regarding Blackburn High School's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to meet the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to reassure you that all financial contributions are voluntary. We sincerely thank you for the support you have provided over the years whether through fundraising, volunteering, or contributions. Your generosity has made a significant difference to our school and the programs and opportunities we can offer.

Thanks to this support, we have been able to provide a wide range of core subjects, engaging electives, and rich curriculum experiences. It has also allowed us to maintain, upgrade, and expand our learning and teaching spaces. Over the past six years, this has included the construction or upgrade of:

- the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA)
- the STEM Centre
- the VCE Centre
- the Arts Centre
- the Resource Centre
- the Pathways Centre
- the Wellbeing Centre

Together, these spaces enrich student learning, growth, and wellbeing and reflect our commitment to ensuring every student has the opportunity to thrive academically, socially, and personally. Our next major focus is to seek funding for a **Blackburn High School Performing Arts Auditorium**.

Your contributions have also supported the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of our school grounds, sporting facilities and improvements to our IT systems, expanded access to sporting equipment, and the provision of effective first aid services for all students.

For more information, please refer to the attached one-page overview of the Department's Parent Payments Policy.

Thank you once again for your continued support of Blackburn High School.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Joanna Alexander
Principal

Mr Geoff Hugo
School Council President



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Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Subject consumables, classroom materials and activities Food Studies – ingredients, equipment upkeep	\$160
Student resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student planner and Combination Lock (for locker) 	\$27
Digital technologies - provision of devices, software, and system support	\$60
Edutest – individual assessment in grade 6 year	\$40
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$75
Whole school events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics carnival - entry and transport • Swimming carnival – entry and transport 	\$38
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$400

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School Sports Victoria affiliation	\$16
House T-shirt (provided at start of year)	\$15
Student and parent communication tools – Xuno	\$52
Faster wi-fi	\$20
Student wellbeing programs (wellbeing programs, school counsellors, mental health practitioners)	\$30
Lockers/Locker maintenance	\$20
First aid equipment and consumables	\$12
Library maintenance and enhancement (provision of books and eBooks)	\$20
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$100
Use and upkeep of specialised facilities (e.g. gym equipment, musical instruments)	\$30
Total Other Contributions	\$315

Tax deductible contributions	
School Building Fund - A tax deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades and maintenance of school infrastructure. (Suggested amounts: \$150-\$350)	\$ parent to complete



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Educational items for students to own.

We recommend that you purchase the following items for your child to individually own and use.

New

- Textbooks and digital resources – from Lilydale Books
www.lilydalebooks.com.au/schools/blackburn-high-school
- Uniforms – from Dobsons – www.dobsons.com.au
- Booklists and Uniform requirements and contact details are also available on our website.

Second-hand

- We also offer the option for buying and selling second-hand uniforms, textbooks and other items through Sustainable School Shop – visit www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au for further details
- Or visit our School-operated shop for donated second-hand uniforms.
We offer quality second-hand uniforms in our school-run shop at very reasonable prices. Donations of good quality, clean uniforms are always welcome and appreciated. Contact the school via email blackburn.hs@education.vic.gov.au or call us on 8804 6464 for opening times or check our website for further details.

Alternatively, contact Andrea directly on andrea.julien@education.vic.gov.au or 8804 6406.

Laptop Program

Blackburn High School has transitioned from managed devices to “Bring Your Own Device” (BYOD) policy.

Further details and recommendations are available on our school website - <https://www.blackburnhs.vic.edu.au> under Learning and Teaching/Laptop Program.



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

Blackburn 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.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
School magazine/yearbook	\$17
Year 7 camp at Lake Dewar in Myrning Victoria in May (approx \$450-\$480)	TBC
Interschool sport events – to be scheduled and confirmed (includes transport)	\$30 per event
Excursions - to be scheduled and confirmed	TBC
Academic Competitions – ranging from \$4 to \$9 per entry	TBC
Robotics Team	\$100
Instrumental Music	
Group lessons – includes Ensemble.	\$1000
Individual Lessons (includes Ensemble)	\$1800
Ensemble only (for students having lessons outside of school)	\$600
Second Ensemble	\$500
Instrument Hire	\$400
Music Camp – Generations in Jazz – \$TBC	
Various music events/excursions will be held throughout the year - \$TBC	
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

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

Andrea Julien - Ph: 03 8804 6464 or 8804 6406 | Email: andrea.julien@education.vic.gov.au



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Total

Category	Total
Curriculum Contributions	\$400
Other Contributions <i>(Non-tax deductible)</i>	\$315
<i>Building fund (Tax-deductible – parent to enter amount)</i>	\$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – to be invoiced separately via Xuno throughout the year	\$
Total	\$

Payment methods

Our preferred method of payment is via the Xuno Parent Portal. If you are not paying via Xuno, please return a copy of this completed form with your payment to the General Office.

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 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.