

6 November 2025

YEAR 8 SCHOOL FEES 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians

Melba College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the college's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with an education (free instruction) to fulfil the standard Victorian Curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary.

Contributions from families ensure that the school can continue to offer the best possible educational programs for our students, and we thank you for all your support.

Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students. We want to thank you for all your support. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support (voluntary funds raised by families) has allowed us to:

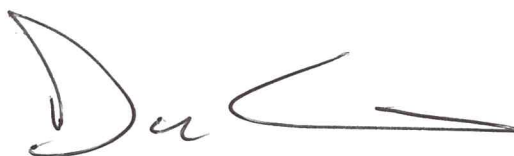
- assist with the update of chromebooks and servers around the College, purchase of outdoor picnic tables, assist with the cost of the new outdoor basketball court
- create a vegetable and herb garden and the produce is now used in food technology classes (2020)
- purchase mature trees to assist with shade (2021)
- assist with the shade sail installation between B and C buildings (2022)
- purchase of new books and games for the library (2023)
- assisted with school signage (2024)
- assisted with shade sail installation over picnic tables in front of 'B' Building (2025).

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

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Lee
Principal



David Loci
School Council President

STUDENT NAME:

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Year 8 Student ID Card	\$10
Year 8 Booklet	\$10
Year 8 Planner	\$20
Year 8 classroom consumables, materials & equipment • Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper (\$20) – NON PATHWAY STUDENTS • Food Tech –flour, butter, fruit, vegetables, meat, rice, pasta (\$80) – NON PATHWAY STUDENTS • Drama – costumes, masks, scripts (\$15) – ALL STUDENTS • Science – chemicals (\$40) – ALL STUDENTS • Health and Physical Education - equipment (\$30) – ALL STUDENTS • Product Design and Technology - Wood (materials required and equipment upkeep) (\$80) – ALL STUDENTS	<i>Parent/ guardian to insert amount</i>
Year 8 ICT Devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets (chromebooks)	\$30
Year 8 printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$20
Year 8 whole school events • Athletics carnival – entry and transport (\$20) • Swimming carnival – entry and transport (\$20)	\$20 \$20
Total of Curriculum Contributions	\$
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School Sports Victoria membership	\$20
Student wellbeing programs which include the Chaplaincy program	\$30
First aid equipment	\$20
Student and Parent communication tool (Compass)	\$30
Locker/Locker maintenance	\$15
2026 Voluntary contribution towards outdoor recreation equipment	\$40
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$50
Total of Other Contributions	\$
Total Amount	\$

STUDENT NAME:

Educational items for students to own

Melba College recommends you purchase from Lilydale Books the textbooks and other items for your child to individually own and use. The Year 8 booklist is available on their website -

<https://www.lilydalebooks.com.au/>

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Melba 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 in order 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 indicate on the table below and return this to the school by **Wednesday 28 January 2026**.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount	Purchase (Please tick)
Optional School magazine/ yearbook	\$20	
Year 8 school camp – 7/9 to 9/9/26	\$475	
Optional Year 8 Interschool Sports program	TBC	
Optional Year 7 Engage Program	\$120	
Optional Year 8 Pathway through Sports Program	\$120	
Optional Year 8 STEM Program	\$120	
Optional Year 8 Instrumental Music lessons	\$450	
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities		\$

Instrumental Music

Please refer to the Instrumental Music Handbook.

Instrumental Music Information and enrolment will take place in February 2026.

Contact Ms Jodie Piper on 98704551 for further information or via email jodie.piper@education.vic.gov.au

STUDENT NAME:

Financial Support for Families

Melba College 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 (assistance for parents with Health Care Cards) for some uniform items.

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply for CSEF. \$400 will be paid for eligible secondary school students for 2026. Payments will go directly to the school and be allocated to the student. Applications to the CSEF are now open. If you are eligible for CSEF and you have not submitted a copy of your health care card, please collect a form from Administration (forms for 2026 will be available from mid November).

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact the College Business Manager, Liz Ogston on 98704551 or melba.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Total

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

Payment methods

Please email this complete form to melba.sc@education.vic.gov.au or bring it in person to Administration (Building C). **YOU CAN PAY VIA:**

- Compass
- Direct Deposit to Melba College Official Account BSB: 313140 Account No.: 12031463 (please record student surname in reference field)
- Centrelink (Centrepay) – please lodge form online (through Centrelink) or post directly to Centrelink (Melba Reference No. is 555111078 K)
- Cash – bring directly to Administration (Building C)
- Credit Card/EFTPOS – payments can only be made at Administration (Building C)

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

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.