May 19th, 2022

LARA Secondary College

Realise your potential

Dear parent/guardian,

Lara Secondary College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Lara Secondary College 's voluntary financial contributions for 2022.

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. We want to thank you for all you support, whether that's through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support has allowed us to create and build a better learning environment for the students over the past few years by providing outstanding facilities, services and programs such as:

- Modern outside Basketball Courts
- Upgraded landscaping within the College grounds
- Painting & maintenance of all College buildings
- Modern classroom learning technology facilities
- Computer Labs with Mac Desktops
- Access to student welfare programs
- Specialist software programs
- Student ID cards
- Athletics & Swimming carnivals
- Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials
- Motivational learning programs & Keynote speakers
- Structured student leadership programs (Years 7-12)

Such development and support from parents connected with the college over the past few years, has enabled us to provide an outstanding secondary curriculum program for our students from Years 7 - 12 and ultimately, continue to raise our profile within the local community as one of the most preferred Government Secondary Colleges in Geelong. I therefore wish to thank all parents in anticipation of their ongoing financial support of the College.

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

Yours sincerely,

Wayne Terrill
Principal (Signature)

Leanne Nelson
School Council President (Signature

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	**Amount**
Year 10 Curriculum Consumables	$450
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	**Amount**
Combination Lock (School Supplied)	$15
College Grounds and Maintenance improvements (This is not Tax Deductible)	$100
Total Amount	**$**

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Lara 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 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 *the 3rd of December 2021.*

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	**Amount**	**Purchase (Please tick)**
School magazine/ yearbook	$16	
Optional Year 10 private music lessons ($75 per Semester)	$300	
Optional Year 10 Group music lessons ($50 per Semester)	$200	
Year 10 Outdoor Education (Additional)	$350	
Year 10 Food Studies (Additional)	$50	
Year 10 Product Design Technology: Woodwork (Additional)	$50	
Optional Year 10 Interschool Sports Program	*TBA*	
Other optional Year 10 camps and excursions to be scheduled	*TBA*	
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities		**$**

Financial Support for Families

Lara 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 Plans are available for Extra Curricular Items and Activities. Flexible arrangements for voluntary contributions can also be negotiated (if requested)*

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

The Main Office Ph: 03 5282 8988| Email: lara.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Total

Category	Suggested Amount
Curriculum Contributions	$ 450
Other Contributions	$
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	$

Payment methods

Parents can make contributions via Direct Debit/Credit Card by completing the Direct Debit/Credit Card Form and returning this form to the College.

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 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	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.