### Nathalia Secondary College

# Inspiring Successful and Passionate Learners



#### PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS – 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Nathalia Secondary College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements 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 your support.

Within our school this support has allowed us to provide an enriched learning and teaching program for every student and is highly valued by our school community. The commitment from parents to contribute benefits students and results in improved achievement outcomes, wellbeing and engagement in learning. At Nathalia Secondary College our aim is for students who attend our school to develop a love for learning that will set them up for successful participation in tertiary education and structured training (apprenticeships and traineeships). We offer a broad range of learning outcomes that rival other schools and work in close partnership with St Mary of the Angels College to boost the capacity of our Senior School Program.

Please find attached Nathalia Secondary College's voluntary financial contributions schedule for 2025. The total amount per student is \$250.00.

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

Yours sincerely,

**Daniel Robinson** 

Principal

Leonie Holmes

School Council President

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### 2025 VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEDULE

<b>Curriculum Contributions</b> - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount per student
<ul> <li>Classroom consumables, materials and equipment, eg:         <ul> <li>Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper</li> <li>Food Tech –flour, butter, fruit, vegetables, meat, rice, pasta</li> <li>Science – chemicals</li> <li>Health and Physical Education - equipment</li> </ul> </li> <li>Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials</li> <li>Whole school events (athletics and swimming carnivals)</li> <li>ICT Devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets</li> <li>Online subscriptions, eg: Edrolo, Squizya</li> </ul>	\$210.00

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount per student
<ul><li>Student wellbeing programs</li><li>First aid equipment</li></ul>	\$40.00

#### **Curriculum Contributions**

Items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum, including:

- Computer applications where our students have their own individual password at Nathalia Secondary College we use Edrolo, Squizya, Essential Assessment and ACER testing.
- Everyday items that your child will use in the classroom to enrich the learning of the
  essential curriculum such as art supplies, science experiment equipment, cooking
  ingredients, technology materials.

#### **Other Contributions**

Non-Curriculum items and activities to support the daily operation and objectives of Nathalia Secondary College, eg: sport teams, transport to events, end of year activities, and sport and activities equipment.

### **Extra-Curricular (OPTIONAL) Items and Activities**

Nathalia 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. Details of these items and activities will be provided to students and families throughout the year, eg: camps. If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child, please ensure payment is made to the school accordingly.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Camps and excursions to be scheduled	TBA
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	\$ TBA

#### **Financial Support for Families**

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

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions. If you hold a current Health Care card you may be eligible. An application form is available from the office.
- **State Schools' Relief** provides financial support for eligible families to purchase clothing/uniforms at a reduced rate.
- 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, please contact Daniel Robinson, Principal, or Craig Carley, Wellbeing Coordinator on 03 5866 2331.

#### **Total**

Category	Total per student
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 210.00
Other Contributions	\$ 40.00
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$ TBA
Total	\$ 250.00

#### **Payment methods**

Parent contributions towards the requested payments is essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at Nathalia Secondary College. If you would like to make regular weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments, individual payment plans can be arranged. Please contact the Office.

Payments can be made in the following ways:

- **BPay**. Please contact the office for your unique BPay code.
- In Person. Payments can be made at the Office between 8.30am and 4.00pm, Monday to Friday. EFTPOS (credit and debit cards) or cash are accepted (please note, we cannot accept American Express).

#### 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.