

Dear parent/guardian,

2026 Parent Payment Arrangements – Year Prep - 6

As we look forward to another great year of teaching and learning I invite you to make your voluntary contributions for 2026.

Payments can be made via your compass account from Monday 17th November 2025.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary.

Thank you everyone for your support, whether that's through fundraising or volunteering your time at the school. It all makes a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support has allowed us to offer a wide range of subjects and special curriculum experiences. Historically parent voluntary contributions have supported upgrades including purchasing musical instruments, upgrading play spaces, maintaining and upgrading digital technologies. Future projects under consideration include beautification of the school grounds, provision of additional shade sails and outdoor seating, new playground and sporting equipment, performing arts resources and materials.

All voluntary payments can be made via your compass account from Monday 17th November 2025. Please find the contribution schedule below for Year Prep – 6.

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

Yours sincerely,
Nathan Guthridge



Principal

Liz Lazarus



School Council President

Year Prep - 6 Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
A holistic contribution towards the running expenses of all Year Prep- 6 subjects includes: - Classroom consumables, materials & equipment - Online subscriptions - Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials - Whole School Engagement Days	\$270 (equivalent to \$9 per week over 30 weeks)
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School Sports Victoria membership	\$3.50
First aid equipment Supports the cost of hygienic supplies to administer first aid	\$10
School Grounds Maintenance and Improvements Supports the cost of new and replacement equipment, materials and services that supports our growing school. Grounds Maintenance – This money makes an important contribution to the development of our playgrounds and identified projects to improve the facilities for your children. A considerable portion of this payment will ensure soft fall mulch under the playground equipment will be maintained at a safe level.	\$50 per family
Communication & Subject Donation: This is a voluntary contribution Altona College is requesting in 2026 to assist financially in supporting the College with communication and subject costs e.g., Compass This will assist in continuing to provide quality communication programs and extra materials for subjects that can no longer be charged as essential items on a family statement.	\$50 per family
Tax Deductible Contributions	
Building Fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure. Your support of this program would be appreciated, and a tax-deductible receipt will be issued asap.	\$50 per family
Library Donation. A tax-deductible contribution to support the school's library collection of programs and resources. Your support of this program would be appreciated, and a tax-deductible receipt will be issued asap.	\$50 per family
Total Amount	\$

Educational items for students to own

You will receive a booklist of items that the school recommends you purchase from *Campion Education* for your child to individually own and use. Student booklist charges are completed separately at www.campion.com.au

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Altona 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.

Detailed information will be provided throughout 2026.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
School magazine/ yearbook	TBA
School Photos - Package to be made available by photographer in 2026	TBA
Other optional camps and excursions: <i>Excursions, incursions & extra activities will be scheduled throughout 2026.</i> Year 3 Camp will be held at Urban Camp in Melbourne. Year 5-6 Camp will be held at Portsea Camp, Portsea.	TBA

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

If you hold a means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent that is valid on the first day of Term 1 2026 you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards **expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child**. The annual CSEF amount per primary school student is \$400. An application form can be downloaded from www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursion-fund you will need to bring your concession card to the office for verification.

- Flexible payment arrangements

For a confidential discussion about accessing this service please contact:

Debbie Dorgan – Business Manager

Ph.: 03 9250 8050 | Email: debra.dorgan@education.vic.gov.au

Total

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

Payment methods

Payment for Curriculum Contributions, Other Contributions and Extra-Curricular Items & activities can be made VIA COMPASS. **If you are unsure of your login details, please contact the school. New families to the school will be provided with a COMPASS login and password. You will have the option in COMPASS to pay in full or via a payment plan schedule. Payment in full or a payment plan schedule are requested to be completed via COMPASS before Friday 30th January 2026.**

Refunds

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and made on a case-by-case basis. A refund will only be issued on a pro-rata basis if your family relocates and your child transfers to another school. Please be mindful that annual subscriptions and affiliations are paid to an online provider and cannot be refunded once purchased. 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.

