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# Oberon High School

Shape Your Future - Go One Better

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13<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

Oberon High School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Oberon High School's voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

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 your support.

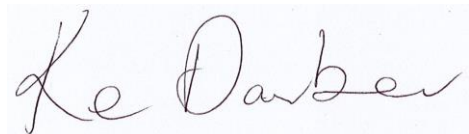
Within our school this support allows us to offer a wider, more enhanced experience above and beyond what the government funding covers, allowing students to shape their future and go one better.

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

Yours sincerely



Tim McMahon  
Principal



Kelli Dawber  
School Council President

## BREAKDOWN OF CONTRIBUTIONS – YEAR 8 *(all amounts correct at time of publication)*

<b>CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS</b> - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum <i>(estimated costs for students to learn the curriculum)</i>		
<b>Year 8 Classroom Materials &amp; Equipment, Entry &amp; Transport</b>		
<b>Details</b>		<b>Calculation per child for year</b>
<b>ARTS</b>	<b>Music</b> – music scores, etc	\$12.00
	<b>Visual Communication</b> – Includes but is not limited to – specialised paper, cartridge paper, art drawing implements, linoleum	\$20.00
<b>HAPE</b>	<b>Physical Education</b> – transport & entry - gymnastics, ten pin bowling, Bounce, indoor beach volleyball, table tennis, frisbee golf & Rollerskating <i>These will appear in XUNO for each individual activity and contribution can be made when approving your child's attendance for the activities. (CSEF can be used for these activities)</i>	Various
<b>LANGUAGES</b>	<b>Indonesian</b> – school created Textbooks	\$10.00
<b>SCIENCE</b>	Includes but is not limited to - Biological specimens, chemical reagents, materials used in model construction (tape, craft paper, card, paper, string, glue etc)	\$15.00
<b>TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>Digital Systems</b> – Includes but is not limited to - wood, plastic, glue, electrical components, etc which are used in the construction of model planes, hovercrafts, kites or boom gates or model bridges	\$60.00
	<b>Food Technology</b> – Includes but is not limited to – flour, milk, eggs, butter, baking powder, various meat cuts, packaging	\$80.00
<b>YEAR 8 PRINTING AND PHOTOCOPYING</b> of Worksheets and Learning Materials (all subject areas)		\$30.00
<b>YEAR 8 ICT DEVICES</b> – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets.		\$10.00
<b>YEAR 8 ACER PAT TESTING PROGRAM</b> - Twice annual diagnostic tests for Math and English, for all Years 7-10 students to map ability for individual learning plans and monitor learning growth across the academic year.		\$6.50

<b>OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS</b> - for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives		
<b>School Sports Victoria Membership</b> <i>(covers costs associated with students participating in Interschool sports at regional and state levels ie hire of referees, venue costs, etc)</i>		\$12.00
<b>Interschool Sports Uniform &amp; Equipment</b> <i>(supports in replenishing uniforms and sporting equipment for the school's interschool sporting teams)</i>		\$5.00
<b>Student Wellbeing Programs/Activities</b> <i>(supports the provision of materials, activities for targeted small group wellbeing programs ie workbooks, take home resources – journals, anxiety toys, mandala colouring books etc, craft supplies, wood, nails, glue &amp; food items. Whole school interactive activities like RUOK Day, Fresh Fruit (for students) Program. Supply of essential resources to students with wellbeing needs eg: stationary, shoes, socks, uniform, text books, drink bottles, lunches)</i>		\$20.00
<b>First Aid Equipment</b> <i>(assists in replenishing supplies used in giving aid to students who are unwell and/or injured)</i>		\$6.00
<b>School Grounds Maintenance and Improvements</b> <i>(supports the school's vision on creating and maintaining great outside areas for the students to enjoy ie Shade Sails, outdoor furniture, new trees &amp; plants, etc)</i>		\$30.00

## EDUCATIONAL ITEMS FOR STUDENTS TO OWN

Oberon High School invites parents to supply or purchase from the school's recommended suppliers (listed) the items for your child to individually own and use.

Item	Recommended supplier	Cost
<b>Education Perfect Online Learning Program</b> – - This program is in place of hardcopy textbooks -provides access to online software programs for Arts, English, HAPE, Humanities, Science & Technology which are used regularly in class and for homework.	<b>WINC Schools</b> (contributions made through XUNO Parent Portal when activated in 2024)	\$60.00
<b>School Magazine/Yearbook</b> (The Monarch)	<b>Oberon High School</b> (through XUNO Parent Portal)	\$22.00
<b>Textbooks, Novels, General &amp; Subject Specific Stationery</b>	<b>WINC Schools</b> (see booklist for logon & ordering instructions)	Various
<b>Oberon High School ICT Program - '1 to 1 Devices'</b> BYOD (bring your own device) or Purchase New	<b>JB HiFi</b> (link available on School Website <a href="http://www.oberonhs.vic.edu.au">www.oberonhs.vic.edu.au</a> "Portals/1 to 1 Devices")	Various
<b>Combination Locks for student lockers</b> (If new to school in Year 8 and if students lose their current lock. This item is to own and use)	<b>Oberon High School</b> (contact school to purchase)	\$10.00

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES	Amount
Oberon High School 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. <b>These are optional and provided on a user-pays basis.</b> <i>If you wish to enter into a payment plan for these items please contact Julie Barnes, Finance Officer to arrange</i>	
<b>ALL YEAR 8 STUDENTS</b>	
<b>Interschool Sport Participation – transport costs to sporting venues.</b> Parents will be notified before events with a permission form and details of the costs (payable before event). <i>(CSEF can be used for these activities)</i>	Various
<b>End of Year Program</b> (various costs to cover transport, entry costs, venue hire, equipment hire <i>(this program is run at end of year and families will receive more information in November)</i> <i>(CSEF can be used for these activities)</i>	Various
<b>Year 8 Camp</b> <i>(Trip and price still to be confirmed)</i> <i>(students not attending will continue normal studies at school)</i> <i>(CSEF can be used for this trip)</i>	\$500.00
<b>Vocal Instruction</b> - \$10 per term (costs to cover sheet music, performance backings, hire of sound engineers/accompanists for live performances)	\$40.00
<b>Rock Band Program</b> - \$10 per term (costs to cover sheet music, performance backings, hire of sound engineers/accompanists for live performances)	\$40.00
<b>YEAR 8 ENHANCEMENT CLASSES ONLY</b>	
<b>Compass Program Booklet</b> – Registration for Compass Program, including Booklet	\$45.00
<b>Compass Program Activities</b> – transport and accommodation costs for Cumberland River Camp, entry costs into Australian Geography Competition and Tournament of Minds <i>(CSEF can be used for these activities)</i>	\$80.00

## Financial Support for Families

The school appreciates that families may sometimes experience financial difficulties in meeting requests for contributions. A range of support options are available to assist parents, and parents can also organise a payment plan for extra-curricular items and activities with the School's Family Accounts Officer.

### Support Agencies and Funds

Oberon High School has established partnerships with some welfare and support agencies that can provide assistance to students and their families with the costs of text books, uniforms and school shoes. Access to these supports is available through referral from the Student Wellbeing Manager. Families generally require a current relevant Centrelink benefit card to access these supports. Please contact the Student Wellbeing Manager. The school is also registered with Centrelink to receive payments via their Centrepay system which is only available to holders of relevant current Centrelink benefit cards.

### Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

The CSEF provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. Parents/Carers **MUST** notify the school if they wish to use the CSEF on any Curricular and/or Extra-Curricular activities.

### Payment Plans

Parents who wish to enter into a Payment Plan for any Extra-Curricular items and activities please contact School's Family Accounts Officer.

## Payment Options

### The School's preferred options for payment of Parent Contributions.

1. **XUNO Online Payments** - through the Parent Portal (*School preferred method*)
2. **Credit Payments Over Phone** – *phone school to speak to the School's Family Accounts Officer and details will be taken over the phone and directly entered into the card machine.*

*The following 2 methods are also available but please contact the school to inform them of what items you wish to make the contribution towards. These methods can also be used for an arranged payment plan for extra-curricular items and activities*

3. **BPay** (*details can be found at the bottom of Family Invoices/Statements or by contacting the school*)
4. **Centrepay** (*Only available to holders of Centrelink Benefit Cards - can be done individually through Centrelink or school can submit your application to Centrelink on your behalf –form available in office*).

## Refunds

Parent requests for refunds/credits 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.

The school will provide a refund/credit onto family accounts for unavoidable event cancellations due either to family crises and/or sudden illness making it impossible for the student to attend or if the school has had to cancel due to changes to bookings.

Parents/Carers **MUST** notify the school if they wish to use any credited money on Curricular and/or Extra-Curricular activities.

## 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 7-10, VCE and VCE VM.
- 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.