

# FRANKSTON HIGH SCHOOL

## PARENT PAYMENT POLICY

Updated August 2021

### POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Frankston High School encourages all students to participate in all school educational activities.

#### Participation

Students are encouraged to participate in all aspects of classroom activities in their core and elective.

#### Parent/Guardian Charges

- || All charges to parents will be kept to a minimum
- || A substantial number of electives will be provided at no cost to parents
- || Heads of Department must submit their proposed student charges and rationale for these charges to the Finance Committee in line with the budget process each year. In turn these are then submitted to School Council for approval. In order to assist parents in the selection of electives, indicative charges may be listed in Middle School and Senior School handbooks, prior to School Council approval
- || Individual student charges will be itemised on an account which is sent out as part of the new school year student information pack, prior to year end.

This account will show which items are:

- || Essential Student Learning Items
- || Optional Items
- || Voluntary Financial Contributions e.g. Tax deductible donations to the School Building and Library Funds

All charges to parents must be consistent with the Education and Training Reform Act (2006)

“The Education and Training Reform Act (2006) provides for free education in the standard curriculum program to all students in government schools. The Act also empowers school councils to charge fees to parents for goods and services provided by the school to a child”

Free education refers to the teaching staff, administration and the provision of facilities in connection with the instruction of the standard curriculum program, including reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities.

Copies of the DET Parent Payment Policy will be available to the school community on the schools website.

#### Essential Student Learning Items

Essential education items are those items, activities or services that the school deems essential and are used in the course of instruction in the standard curriculum program that parents and guardians are responsible for and may choose to either provide or pay the school to provide.

These items include:

- || materials that the individual student takes possession of, including text books and student stationery

- ▮ materials for learning and teaching where the student consumes or takes possession of the finalised articles (e.g. home economics, ceramics, photography, catering
- ▮ school uniform (where applicable)
- ▮ essential services associated with, but not considered to be a part of, instruction in the standard curriculum program, such as costs associated with camps and excursions which all students are expected to attend (e.g. transport and entrance costs).

### Optional Items

Optional extras (or non-essential materials and services) are those that are provided in addition to the standard curriculum program, and which are offered to all students. These optional extras are provided on a user-pays basis and if parents and guardians choose to access them for students, they will be required to pay for them.

These items include:

- ▮ instructional support material, resources and administration beyond the provision of the standard curriculum program (e.g. student computer printing for personal use, internet access for recreational or non-school use, and religious education materials)
- ▮ extra-curricular programs or activities offered in addition to the standard curriculum program (e.g. instrumental music tuition)
- ▮ school-based performances, productions and events
- ▮ materials for subjects where the payment sought is the difference between the basic materials/services required for access to the standard curriculum program and higher cost alternatives which may be more desirable (e.g. the use of more expensive materials)
- ▮ materials and services offered in addition to the standard curriculum program (e.g. school magazines)
- ▮ school facilities and equipment not associated with provision of the standard curriculum program, and not otherwise provided for through the SRP (e.g. student accident insurance, and hire or lease of equipment such as musical instruments)"

## **School Council Voluntary Financial Contributions**

### Tax Deductible Building Fund Donation

School Council has borrowed funds to build an indoor sports stadium, instrumental music centre and an indoor swim centre. We appreciate your support in this area.

### Tax Deductible Library Fund Donation

School Council has funded a range of improvement initiatives in both our student libraries. We appreciate your support to continue these improvements.

The tax deductible donations have previously been suggested at \$50 per fund. To further ensure the donation meets the ATO definition of a tax deductible donation, Frankston High School is inviting parents to nominate the amount they wish to donate.

## **Methods of Payment**

- ▮ Payments may be made by cash, BPAY, cheques, credit card or EFTPOS
- ▮ Please make cheques payable to Frankston High School
- ▮ The Finance Officer, Mr Glenn Davey can also accommodate parents who would prefer payment by instalments
- ▮ State Schools Relief and local community support agencies also can assist families in times of hardship.

## **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)**

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. In total \$225 per year will be paid for eligible Year 7 – 12 student secondary school students. Payments will go directly to the school and be tied to the student account.

**Communication with Families**

- || This policy will be made available to families on the school website and advertised in the school newsletter. This information will also be available in a letter attached to the School Council charges that are distributed to families.
- || Parents can make enquires by contacting the Finance Office, Business Manager or Principal.

**Review and Approval**

Approved by School Council on .....

This policy will be reviewed by the Principal and Business Manager in consultation with the Finance Committee and presented to School Council for approval each year.