

Dear parent/guardian,

Lowanna College is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our school'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 your 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

- Maintain excellent buildings and grounds – including new outdoor seating, shade sails and recreational spaces
- Provide quality materials to support all students
- Purchase equipment for both classroom and outdoor education programs
- Auditorium lighting and sound
- Student Wellbeing Support

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

Financial Support for Families

Lowanna College makes every effort to keep the cost of materials and services low whilst maintaining a high level of education for our students. We do appreciate that some families experience difficulties in meeting payment requests and a range of support options are available including

- Camps Sports and Excursion Fund
- State Schools Relief
- Referrals to external agencies

To access these services please contact the College Reception or for a confidential discussion regarding payment arrangements please contact:

Angela Skinner – Business Manager Ph: 5127 9200



72-96 Newark Avenue
Newborough, Victoria 3825
PO Box 42, Moe, Victoria 3825
ABN: 53 551 959 173
tel: (03) 5127 9200 **fax:** (03) 5127 7953
email: lowanna.co@education.vic.gov.au
College Principal: Mr Adam Hogan

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.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Hogan
Principal

Julie Demczuk
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<p>These contributions cover Year 7 & 8 and include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associated learning materials • Art • Technology – woodwork, metals, food • Locker • Computer support/network and software • Handbooks • Swimming Carnival / Swimming Program • Athletics Carnival 	\$200.00
Lowanna College Sports Academy – for students participating in the program	\$200.00
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
<p>School grounds and building maintenance</p> <p>Lowanna continues to maintain excellent buildings and grounds, however, the funding for this maintenance is not fully provided by DET</p>	\$30.00
<p>Student Wellbeing</p> <p>Lowanna places a high priority on the welfare of students and employs additional staffing that isn't funded by DET. This enables the College to provide more support to our students and families, the College is well regarded for this program.</p>	\$30.00
<p>Equipment Fund</p> <p>DET does fund a limited amount of equipment, but as we provide more enhanced programs this funding is insufficient, particularly when we wish to stay at the cutting edge of technology to provide optimum advantages to our students</p> <p>Eg: music computer programs and instruments, advanced art printers, workshop machinery, AV aids for each classroom, outdoor education camping and recreational gear, sporting equipment, Auditorium lighting and sound.</p>	\$30.00

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Lowanna 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 and include sporting activities, excursions, Year level camp and a snow camp which will each incur a charge.

Some excursions are important for curriculum purposes and students are encouraged to attend.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities - Approximate anticipated costing if your child participates in the following activities	Amount	Purchase (Please Tick)
<i>Optional Year 7 & 8 Camp</i> approximate cost	\$350.00	
<i>Optional Snow Camp</i> approximate cost	\$1200.00	
<i>Optional Excursions and sporting activities</i>	Costed individually	



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Category	Amount
Curriculum Contributions	\$
Curriculum Contributions – Sports Academy Students	\$
Other Contributions	\$

Payment Methods	
In person	at the College General Office using Cash, EFTPOS
Mail / via student	by credit card using the form below
BPay	using your individual family reference number
Online	Lowanna College has an online Secure Gateway. Parents are able to make Parent Payments and pay for school excursions using a credit card via the Compass Parent Portal http://lowanna.vic.jdlf.com.au/
Centrepay	available for families who receive Centrelink benefits. Please ask at the General Office for details and an application form

Credit Card Payment Option

Student's Name: Form:

Credit Card Number:

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Expiry Date:/..... CVC:

Name (as it appears on the card) :

Total Amount: \$..... Signature:

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

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.