

7 November 2025

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 2026.

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, whether that is 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
- Refurbish the canteen and build the Café space providing our students with healthy eating options. In 2025 the College was awarded a Healthy School Achievement Program accreditation.
- 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.

Yours sincerely,



Julia Niamh
Acting College Principal



David Osborne
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Year 7 & 8 subject consumables, classroom materials and activities	\$200.00

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
Equipment Fund 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.	\$30.00
Student Wellbeing Programs Lowanna College 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.	\$30.00
School grounds maintenance and improvements Lowanna College continues to maintain excellent buildings and grounds, however, the funding for this maintenance is not fully provided by DET.	\$30.00

Educational items for students to own

Lowanna College recommends you purchase a student laptop from Learning with Technologies (LWT) for your child to individually own and use.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Lowanna College offers a range of optional items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience for students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum. The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Lowanna College Sports Academy Year 7 – for students participating in the Program	\$400.00
Lowanna College Sports Academy Year 8 – for students participating in the Program	\$450.00
Year 7 Camp approximate cost	\$ 450.00
Snow Camp approximate cost	\$1600.00
Excursions and Sporting Activities – costed individually	\$ TBA

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund.
- State Schools Relief (SSR).
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities.
- Referrals to external agencies.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact:

Angela Skinner

Ph: 03 5127 9200 | Email: Lowanna.co@education.vic.gov.au

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.

Total

Category	Total
Curriculum Contributions	\$
Curriculum Contributions – Sports Academy Students	\$
Other Contributions <i>Non-Tax Deductible</i>	\$
Total	\$

Payment methods

Payment Methods	
In person / phone	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 can 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:

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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 requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) 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.