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**Mount Alexander
College**
ABN 46 850 200 370
Provider Code 00861K



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for choosing Mount Alexander College for your child's education in 2023. We are all looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning.

We would like to advise you of MAC's voluntary parent financial contributions for 2023, which are outlined in the attached document.

Victorian government schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary.

At Mount Alexander College, we design, develop and deliver programs that provide broad and enriched opportunities to our students, which are above and beyond what is required in the standard curriculum and what is provided for by Government funding.

MAC strives to deliver this unique education experience, which offers a wide range of specialist subjects, a student-led learning model and a vertical curriculum. However, this experience does not come without some extra costs and this is why parent contributions are vital to the ongoing delivery of our programs.

MAC's teaching and learning programs are highly valued by our school community and each year, MAC families demonstrate their support for our school through parent payments, volunteering their time and joining in with fundraising activities.

Parent/Carer voluntary contributions make a significant difference to the quality of our programs. This financial support ensures that we can continue to provide an excellent learning environment for our students. We thank all the MAC families who made voluntary contributions in 2022. Your support has directly enabled us to:

Curriculum Delivery and Programs

- Provide high quality programs for more than one hundred (100) subjects;
- Purchase specific materials and equipment to support the creative, analytical and explorative investigations of students undertaking Arts, Technology and Science subjects;
- Ensure the upkeep of our computer facilities to enhance learning opportunities, including purchasing licensing agreements, leases for a class set of MacBooks and IT devices for students during remote learning;
- Purchase sufficient class sets of books for students to develop their reading skills;

Extracurricular & Health and Wellbeing

- Provide School TV Online Resources for Parents/Carers and Students
- Facilitate programs, including workshops, incursions and guest speakers which promote and empower students with the personal skills to support their physical & mental health & wellbeing;

Library Fund

- Update library resources (books, magazines, etc.) to reflect the current interests and passions of our students;
- Expansion of Literacy & Numeracy Level Up Program

Building Fund

- Maintain the school buildings and grounds, including internal painting, general repairs and garden maintenance;
- Purchase and installation of 6 air conditioners in A Block and an additional AC in the Resource Centre
- Line marking for down ball courts
- Purchase and installation of outdoor furniture
- Purchase sporting equipment including new basketball rings and moving mechanism in the gym
- Purchase of a professional Cinema Camera Kit to record the MAC feature film

In 2023 contributions will assist the College in:

- Completing landscaping works associated with the new building as well as developing more recreational spaces
- Re-carpeting classrooms in A Block
- Redevelopment of the General Office space into a Well-being and Wellness Centre

We are proud of the deep and rich teaching and learning programs delivered by MAC and the supportive and nurturing environment which empowers our students to learn. We are passionate about developing our students into global citizens and we want to continue to do this.

We will shortly be launching Course Confirmation via Compass, with instructions for Parent/Carer financial contributions. We would very much appreciate prompt payment of contributions to assist us in planning effectively for 2023. In addition to the curriculum and other contributions, we hope you will consider making tax deductible donations to the school's Library and Building Funds this year. Tax deductible donations to these funds help free up resources for our other programs.

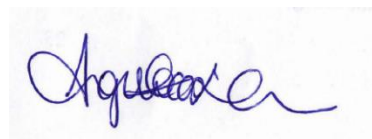
Finally, if you are unable or choose not to make financial contributions, your child will not be disadvantaged or denied access to the resources required to deliver the curriculum. We will always provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum.

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

Yours sincerely,



Dani Angelico
Principal



Angelica Inserra
School Council President

2023 PARENT/CARER FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEDULE

Curriculum Contributions: Items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum			Amount
The Arts: Materials, for example: paints (oil, acrylic, gouache), canvases, clay, pastels, paper (photographic, grid, sketch, oil sketch, pattern making), fabrics, notions, pencils, markers (fine line, copic), large scale printing, etc.			
3D Art & Sculpture	\$35	Pre VCE Media	\$70
Art Attack	\$35	Theatre Studies	\$20
Digital Art	\$20	Turn it to 11/Song Writing	\$20
Drama	\$20	Unit 1 - 4 Music	\$30
Fashion and Costume	\$50	Unit 1 & 2 Art Making & Exhibiting (includes Edrolo)	\$75
Film & Television	\$50	Unit 1 & 2 Media	\$70
Graphic Design	\$20	Unit 1 & 2 Vis Comm (includes Edrolo)	\$75
Photography	\$60	Unit 3 & 4 Media (includes Edrolo)	\$95
Pre VCE Art Making & Exhibiting	\$50	Unit 3 & 4 Studio Arts	\$50
Technology: Materials, for example: ingredients, VCE resource kits, 3D filament, electronic components, etc.			
3D Design Technology	\$50	Tinkering with Technology	\$50
Computer Programming	\$20	Units 1 - 4 Computing	\$15
Masterchef	\$90	Unit 1 & 2 Food Studies (includes Edrolo)	\$245
Pre VCE Masterchef	\$150	Unit 1 & 2 Systems	\$100
Robotics	\$50	Unit 3 & 4 Food Studies	\$200
Health & PE: Purchase new and upgrade of PE/sport equipment, provide specialist incursions			
Above Entry 7 Physical Education	\$20	Team Sports	\$20
Advanced Health & Physical Education	\$20	Unit 1 & 2 Health & Human Development (includes Edrolo)	\$45
Basketball Development	\$20	Unit 1 & 2 Physical Education (includes Edrolo)	\$45
Entry Physical Education	\$20	Unit 3 & 4 Health & Human Development (includes Edrolo)	\$45
Personal Training & Fitness	\$20	Unit 3 & 4 Physical Education (includes Edrolo)	\$45
Pre VCE Health & Human Development	\$20	Women in Sports	\$20
Pre VCE Physical Education	\$20		
Science: Materials and equipment for practical classes (experiments)			
GTAP	\$30	Pre VCE Biology	\$25
Biochemistry	\$30	Pre VCE Chemistry	\$25
Food Science	\$30	Pre VCE Physics	\$25
Forensics	\$30	Pre VCE Psychology	\$25
It's not Rocket Science	\$30	Unit 1 & 2 Biology	\$20
Lab Rats	\$25	Unit 1 - 4 Physics	\$20
Marine Science	\$30	Unit 3 & 4 Biology	\$20
Medicine & Disease	\$30	Unit 3 & 4 Chemistry	\$20
Unit 1 & 2 Chemistry	\$20	Unit 3 & 4 Psychology	\$20
Unit 1 & 2 Psychology	\$20		
English:			

Above Entry 8 & 9 EAL	\$20	Taking a Stand	\$20
English-ology	\$20	Texts Through Time	\$20
Growing Up	\$20	Throw, Catch, Write	\$20
The Pen & the Sword	\$20	Unit 1 & 2 English	\$20
Pre VCE EAL/Unit 1 EAL	\$20	Unit 3 & 4 EAL (includes Edrolo)	\$45
Pre VCE English	\$20	Unit 3 & 4 English (includes Edrolo)	\$45
Quest English	\$20	VCE Vocational Major Communications	\$20
Reading the Future	\$20	Writer's Hub	\$20
Humanities:			
Chinese	\$20	Terrorism and Armed Conflict	\$30
Climate Change	\$20	Unit 1 - 4 Philosophy	\$20
Feminist	\$30	Unit 1 - 4 Accounting (includes Edrolo)	\$70
Guilty or Not Guilty	\$20	Unit 1 & 2 Business Management	\$20
History & Politics	\$20	Unit 1 & 2 Legal Studies (includes Edrolo)	\$45
Japanese	\$20	Unit 3 & 4 Business Management	\$20
Legal, Accounting and Business	\$20	Unit 3 & 4 Global	\$20
Mind Your Own Business	\$20	Unit 3 & 4 Legal Studies (includes Edrolo)	\$45
Philosophy	\$20	VCE Vocational Major Personal Development	\$20
Quest Humanities	\$20	VCE Vocational Major Work Related Skills	\$20
Shark Tank	\$20	Who Wants to be a Millionaire	\$20
Star Wars	\$20		
Maths:			
Above Entry 8 Academic Maths (includes Mathspace)	\$45	Units 1 & 2 Maths General (includes Edrolo)	\$45
Above Entry 9 Academic Maths (includes Mathspace)	\$45	Unit 1 & 2 Foundation Maths	\$20
Entry Maths (includes Mathspace)	\$45	Unit 1 & 2 Maths Methods (includes Edrolo)	\$45
Practical Maths (includes Mathspace)	\$45	Unit 1 - 4 Specialist Maths (includes Edrolo)	\$45
Pre VCE Foundation Maths	\$20	Unit 3 & 4 Foundation Maths	\$20
Pre VCE General Maths	\$20	Unit 3 & 4 General Maths (includes Edrolo)	\$45
Pre VCE Maths Methods	\$20	Unit 3 & 4 Maths Methods (includes Edrolo)	\$45
House Mentoring, Student Support & Wellbeing:			
Programs and incursions essential in promoting and empowering students with the personal skills to support their physical, mental health & wellbeing, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal & Social Capability • Critical & Creative Thinking • Ethical & Cultural Understanding 			\$30
VET & VCE Vocational Major (formerly VCAL):			
To support costs associated with the facilitation of VET classes, <u>excluding</u> materials fees. (Please refer to notes below for further information)			\$400
Subscription Contributions (Digital/Online Subscriptions):			
Education Perfect	For students enrolled in Entry to Above Entry 10 English, Humanities & LOTE electives		\$63
Stile	For students enrolled in Entry to Above Entry 10 Science electives		\$24

Other Contributions: for non-curriculum items and activities		Amount
<p>Enhanced and co-curricular programs and activities</p> <p>A changing program of activities, adapted to reflect yearly student cohorts, their passions and selected electives</p>	<p>To support enhanced programs and co-curricular activities, covering a number of different disciplines. Previous years' examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Leadership programs • House activities • Whole School events (Swimming, Athletics & Cross Country) • Interschool Sport • Debating program • Arts & Technology Festival • Science Workshops & Show • School Production and drama workshops • Literacy & Numeracy Extension program • Maths & Science competitions 	<p>\$130 per family</p> <p>OR</p> <p>\$200 per family (2 or more students)</p>
<p>General contribution</p>	<p>Compass subscription:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student & Parent Communication Tool • Learning and Assessment Subscription <p>Student ID Card First aid equipment Lockers/Locker Maintenance</p>	<p>\$60</p>
<p>Working Bee</p>	<p>This contribution is available for parents/carers who would like to assist but are not available to attend our scheduled working bees during the year. If parents/carers cannot attend and are not involved in other voluntary work at the school, they may choose to make a working bee contribution.</p>	<p>\$50</p>
<p>Student Sponsorship</p>	<p>Support which enables MAC to subsidise camps, excursions and sporting events for eligible families. These valuable donations ensure children do not miss participating in important school and learning experiences and the provision of digital devices.</p>	<p>\$50</p>
Tax deductible donations: These are tax deductible donations to support the growth of MAC & its programs		
Item*Tax Deductible	#Suggested amounts only	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund*	<p>A tax-deductible contribution to pay for enhancements to the built environment & maintenance of school buildings & grounds \$150.00 or \$250.00 or \$500.00</p>	<p>\$</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> Library Fund*	<p>A tax-deductible contribution to support book purchases and other equipment that sustain the library as a valuable resource. \$150.00 or \$250.00 or \$500.00</p>	<p>\$</p>
	Total Curriculum Contributions	\$
	Total Other Contributions	\$
	Total Tax Deductible Contributions	\$
TOTAL AMOUNT	Curriculum Contributions + Other Contributions + Tax Deductible Contributions	\$

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Mount Alexander 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.

Details of camps and excursions will be provided to students and families throughout the year.

Please note that the school will require payment for extra-curricular activities prior to participation.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount	Purchase
School magazine / yearbook	\$20	
Instrumental Music Program – tuition fees, per semester	\$200	
Instrumental Music Program (Additional Instrument) – tuition fees, per semester	\$75	
Instrumental Music Program – equipment hire, per semester	\$100	
School camps - TBC	TBC	
School excursions - TBC	TBC	
Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities		\$

NOTES:

VET & VCE Vocational Major (formerly VCAL)

The Department of Education will reimburse VET materials fees to government schools to address the cost barrier for families. This funding covers the costs of:

- Materials required for training and assessment that are consumed and cannot be recycled.
Please note students may wish to upgrade materials for certain projects (i.e. upgrade from pine to mahogany). Any upgrade from the materials provided by MAC is categorised as an extra-curricular item and will be therefore be provided on a user-pays basis.
- Safety items worn or used by the student including safety glasses, hearing protection, gloves, hair nets.
Please note that parents/carers may purchase fitted safety equipment or materials (e.g. tools) for the student to own, rather than to use what is freely provided as part of the course. Parents may choose to purchase additional items or items beyond those required by the school. For example, parents may choose to purchase a more expensive brand or additional item intended to be kept by the student.
- Workbooks, handouts, photocopying, online learning resources
- Class sets, intended to be returned and retained by the school, such as textbooks, tools, tool belts, specialist knives, aprons

However, the government funding does not cover all costs associated with the facilitation of VET/VCAL classes, such as:

- Transport costs and hire of specialized facilities required for training or assessment
- Personal protective equipment worn and retained by the student
- Online registration/subscription fees, platform charges, software
- Tuition fees, registration, and administration fees

Therefore, to support the VET/VCAL program, MAC requests a \$400 voluntary curriculum contribution (as per schedule above) from parents/carers for those students undertaking the VET/VCAL program.

Educational items for students to own

Booklists are both published on the MAC website and via Compass, with items the school recommends you purchase from Campion for your child to individually own and use.

Alternatively, items may be purchased from a retailer/supplier of your choice.

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) which provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions
- State School's Relief which provides support for eligible families to purchase clothing/uniforms at a reduced rate
- individual payment plans via Compass and Centrepay
- the MAC second hand uniform shop
- connecting eligible families with suitable community agencies and charities where required.

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

Laura Sandham, Business Manager

Tel: 9376-1622 Email: mount.alexander.712@education.vic.gov.au

Payment methods

We offer the following payment methods:

Compass Portal:	See <i>"Payment Centre"</i> on your Compass dashboard
Direct Deposit / BPAY:	Please contact the school for your unique BPAY reference number
Cash / EFTPOS / Cheque:	Can be made at the General Office

Prompt payment is appreciated and assists the school with course planning.

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.

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.