

PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Monday, 19 October 2020

Dear **Address Block**,

Kerang Technical High School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the parent payment arrangements for 2021.

In these exceptional times, where so much of what we are used to has changed dramatically, parent payments have also assumed a different structure. In the context of the worst recession since the 1930s, in 2021 the State Government is trying to reduce the cost of sending children to school. The Department of Education has advised schools that in 2021 some of these costs will be absorbed by the State Government.

In 2021, Kerang Technical High School will charge parents for:

- Computer applications where our students have their own individual password - In our case Maths Pathways and eLearning
- Everyday items that your child will use in the classroom to learn the essential curriculum such as art supplies, cooking Ingredients, technology materials

Kerang Technical High School Council and Finance Committee work closely with the Leadership Team and Business Manager to set recommended student fees that meets the budgetary requirements of the school. This ensures that the provision of student wellbeing and support programs, major and minor upgrades to buildings, grounds, and classroom technology is made available for the benefit and enjoyment of your, and all other children.

Kerang Technical High School Council makes every effort to keep the cost of items and activities to a minimum and affordable for all parents. Kerang Technical High School Council has approved the school's parent payment charges for 2021, as per the attached Fee Schedule.

Financial Support for Families

Kerang Technical High School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- **State Schools' Relief** provides financial support for clothing/uniforms
- **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund** provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions

Parents experiencing hardship are encouraged to contact Sharon Champion (Wellbeing Coordinator) at Kerang Technical High School on 03 5452 1062 to discuss their situation and how Kerang Technical High School can offer support.

Payment Methods

Parent contributions towards the requested payments is essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at Kerang Technical High School. Payment can be made electronically via BPAY (please see family statement for unique BPAY Reference). Alternatively, cash, EFTPOS and cheque payments can be made directly at KTHS Office.

Voluntary Contributions

Underlying the success and quality of the wide-ranging academic and co-curricular programs available to meet the diverse needs of our students, is the voluntary financial support we receive from our school community. This support ensures we have the material and facilities to run our programs successfully. Please find attached additional information regarding Kerang Technical High Schools voluntary funds and how to contribute to them.

Yours sincerely,

Dean Rogers
Principal

Travis Collier
School Council President

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Voluntary contributions are essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at Kerang Technical High School. Families can make a general voluntary contribution that goes towards all of our school's important priorities for 2021 as well as providing additional activities and services for all students. Alternatively, you can make a voluntary contribution to any of the specific priorities outlined in the table below:

1. General Voluntary Contribution - at only \$120 per family, these contributions directly fund a number of important programs, including classroom technology and consumables for each faculty;
2. Canteen Committee - Kerang Technical High School Canteen is run by volunteers, along with our Canteen Manager. It is thanks to these volunteers and generous donations that we are able to pass on discounted pricing to our students to ensure all students are able to purchase a range of fresh food at an affordable price.
3. Chaplaincy Committee – contributions assist our Chaplain to support students, their families and staff, either individually or in groups, by developing and facilitating programmes that address social, behavioural, welfare, developmental and protection needs.
4. Tax deductible funds (the Library, Building and Building Maintenance funds) - used to directly support building projects, upgrades to our grounds and facilities that enhance and support the learning environment for students

Voluntary Contribution	Tax deductible?	Suggested Voluntary Contribution
General Voluntary Contribution	No	\$120
Canteen donation	No	\$80
Chaplaincy Committee contribution	No	\$40
Library Fund	Yes	\$50
Building & Maintenance Fund	Yes	\$50

Your child will not be disadvantaged if you do not make a voluntary contribution. All records of voluntary contributions are kept confidential as well as your decision about whether to make a contribution or not.

Voluntary contributions can be made electronically via BPAY (please see family statement for unique BPAY Reference). Alternatively, cash, EFTPOS and cheque payments can be made directly at KTHS Office. To ensure your voluntary contribution is directed to the intended cause, please complete the **Family Voluntary Contribution Payment Form** and return to KTHS Office.

FAMILY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION PAYMENT FORM

Family Name _____

Voluntary Contribution	Tax deductible?	Suggested Voluntary Contribution	Amount of Voluntary Contribution
General Voluntary Contribution	No	\$120	\$
Canteen donation	No	\$80	\$
Chaplaincy Committee contribution	No	\$40	\$
Library Fund	Yes	\$50	\$
Building & Maintenance Fund	Yes	\$50	\$
TOTALVOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION			\$

Method of Payment (please tick)

- BPAY
- EFTPOS
- CASH
- CHEQUE (Please make cheques payable to Kerang Technical High School)

Signature _____

Date ___ / ___ / _____

OFFICE USE

Receipt # _____

Cash / EFTPOS / CHEQUE

Processed by _____

Date ___ / ___ / _____

PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY OVERVIEW

The following is a summary of the main principles of the Parent Payments Policy:



FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.



PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

- Schools do not ask parents to pay for school operating costs (e.g. utility costs) or general and unspecified charges.
- Schools request payments from parents under three categories:

Essential Student Learning Items

- Items and activities which the school deems essential for student learning.
- Parents may choose to purchase essential items through the school or provide their own.

Optional Items

- Items and activities enhance or broaden schooling experiences for students and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum.
- These are provided to students on a user-pays basis.

Voluntary Contributions

- Voluntary contributions support the school to continue to be the best local school for all students and can be for general or specific purpose.
- Students will not be disadvantaged in any way if parents do not make a contribution.



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 obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and upload their arrangements on their school's public website for transparency.