

Compass newsfeed November, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

The Brentwood Secondary College School Council has approved the College Parent Payments for 2021.

Brentwood Secondary College is an outstanding school that we are all proud of. It is one of the leading public schools in the North Eastern Region with a high enrolment demand from within and outside our local area. This is as a result of providing not only high-quality learning opportunities in the classroom but outstanding experiences in the arts, sport, leadership, music and a large number of other extra-curricular programs. A brief example of our opportunities for student learning includes:

- State of the art ICT infrastructure including our own dedicated internet and filtering software (in addition to what the Department provides), projectors and/or screens in all classrooms, teaching and learning software and dedicated IT support staff for students, staff and parents.
- Dedicated sports, performing arts and music equipment along with a range of other specialised resources to support both the curriculum and co-curricular programs.
- School musical and performing arts productions. These programs are award-winning and highly respected in the local and wider community.
- The delivery of our large sports program that continues to achieve outstanding results and provides our students with a wide range of further opportunities.

As a community, our aim is to continually improve our school to ensure Brentwood is the best learning environment for all of our students. To achieve this, it takes support from everyone with families providing students with the essential student learning items stated below. We also rely on parent contributions to the voluntary payments for buildings/grounds, library and wellbeing/first aid so that we can sustain and improve these resources and programs at the school.

Essential Student Learning Items:

These items are essential for students to engage in the learning program at Brentwood Secondary College in respective year levels. A more detailed breakdown can be found in the School Documentation section on Compass (click on the two head icon on your compass dashboard).

Voluntary Contributions:

Whilst the Department of Education and Training (DET) provide Brentwood with funding for tuition and the everyday running of the school and parents provide the essential learning items for their children, it is the voluntary contributions from our community that enable Brentwood to provide a high quality holistic learning environment that gives our students the best opportunity to fulfill their potential as learners and people.

Voluntary contributions support the following programs/resources at the College:

- Comprehensive Wellbeing Team that supports students, staff and parents. It includes three non-teaching staff and a College Chaplain; all of which are funded by the school.
- Additional support in First Aid/sickbay.
- A welcoming and friendly library with three non-teaching staff who support teachers and students by providing a quiet study space and support.
- Improvements to Buildings and Grounds enhancing our positive climate for learning.

In the past, these contributions have also enabled the school to invest in the Thinking, Learning and Creativity (TLC) Centre at Year 7, construct a new College Gymnasium, upgrade the science learning area and northern courtyard, canteen area and other capital works projects at the school. In the near future, the school will be creating a new outdoor area for students and landscaping for the new VCE Centre due for completion in 2021. We also have plans to further upgrade our library once the VCE Centre is complete.

As you can see, your generous support is critical to the success of our school. The School Council oversees the diligent allocation of all school funds and I can assure you that all resources are utilised to enhance the learning opportunities for our students. As per DET policy, in 2021, there are three types of parent contributions which are detailed in an attachment on your Compass dashboard and via Compass course confirmation. Please read this information carefully and we thank you for your support.

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CESF) Information on Compass
- Brentwood Wellbeing program financial support
- States Schools Relief – Uniform, Books, Myki Card
- Commonwealth family Assistance
- Salvation Army breakfast (Tuesdays)
- Community service groups – St Vincent De Paul and Salvation Army

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

Robyn Geshev – Business Manager

Ph: 03 8545-0300| Email: brentwood.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Yours sincerely

John Ballagh

Principal

and

Mrs. Kerry Whitehand

School Council President