# Glen Eira College

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Dear parents

This letter provides information about voluntary contributions you can make to support Glen Eira College for 2027 and other payments you can choose to make.

Victorian government schools provide free instruction. This means all students have free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability.

Some families choose to make a voluntary financial contribution to support the school, and we are very grateful for this support. Making a voluntary contribution is your choice. There is no expectation or pressure for families to contribute.

Glen Eira College offers a range of items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Financial help is available for extra-curricular items and activities if you are experiencing financial hardship (see further details under Financial Help for Families in the attached information).

For a confidential discussion about how to access the financial help available, please contact: Gabrielle Darvell Ph: 03 9571 7838 | Email: gabrielle.darvell@education.vic.gov.au

If you need an interpreter, please contact 03 9605 3053 and give our school's phone number 03, 9571 7838. An interpreter can help you speak with us. This service is free. For more information, please see How to use an interpreter to contact your school.

For more information on the Department of Education's Parent Contributions policy please see the information attached. You can read the full policy at Parent Contributions: Policy | education.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Jane Thornton,
Principal

Fiona Murrie

Fiona Murrie
School Council President

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**GLEN EIRA COLLEGE 2027 PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS ARRANGEMENTS**

**Voluntary contributions**

If you are the carer of a student in out-of-home care or hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card), please ignore the invitation to make voluntary contributions.

We encourage any family experiencing financial hardship to contact the school for information about the financial help available for extra-curricular activities like camps and excursions.

| **Voluntary contributions** | **Suggested amount – parents can contribute more or less** | **Amount** |
|---|---|---|
| **Voluntary contributions** to enhance our school's range of programs, resources and environment. | $600 | $[parent to complete] |

| **Tax-deductible voluntary contributions** | **Suggested amount – parents can contribute more or less** | **Amount** |
|---|---|---|
| **Voluntary - Building fund:** a tax-deductible contribution to support renovations and upgrades of school infrastructure | $100 | $[parent to complete] |

**Extra-curricular items and activities**

Glen Eira College offers a range of optional items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Accessing these items and activities does require payment, but financial support is available (see further details under Financial Help for Families below).

Example extra-curricular items and activities include:

- optional activities, camps, excursions and programs
- class photos
- social events like formals.

We have provided confirmed or indicative costs of known extra-curricular items and activities below.

Payment for extra-curricular items and activities with a confirmed cost can be made now or later. Payments can also be made via instalment.

Please contact the school for advice on financial help available for extra-curricular items and activities.

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| Extra-curricular items and activities | Indicative cost | Confirmed cost (where known) | Parent/carer to select |
|---|---|---|---|
| Year 7 Camp: 9th February 2027 | $500 | | |
| Instrumental music lessons<br>Instrument Hire | $800 per annum<br>$100 per annum | **$800 per annum** | |
| Interschool Sport | $45 per activity | **$45** | |
| Incursions/Excursions – will be advised on Compass | Cost kept to a minimum | | |
| Whole School Sport, Swimming, Athletics | $30 | **$30** | |
| French First Language Program<br>We aim for transparency in how costs are allocated in our program. Fees will cover:<br>• Staffing<br>• Enrolment to the CNED program<br>• Operational Costs for ESFM<br>This structure ensures the program continues to meet high educational standards while supporting students and staff effectively. | $4,000 per annum | | |
| **Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities** | | | |

**Learning materials for students to own**

**Booklist items:**

You can choose to buy learning materials for your child to individually use and own. These items can be bought from any supplier.

Glen Eira College has an arrangement with the following supplier for the materials that you can buy: Campion

If you do not buy these items, your child will still be provided with what they need, however they may not be provided with these items to own, or keep, on an individual basis. If you wish to buy items through the supplier, please go to: https://order.campion.com.au/dashboard or see recommended list attached/recommended list will be provided and published on our website when finalised

If you would like to buy items to own that are not from this supplier, you can contact our Librarian via glen.eira.co@education.vic.gov.au for information about editions of textbooks and/or calculator specifications that will be used.

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**Digital subscriptions:**

Glen Eira College uses the below digital subscriptions for learning. You can buy a subscription directly if you want:

- Education Perfect for English can be purchased from Campion for $31.50
- Education Perfect for Languages except French First Language can be purchased from Campion for $31.50
- Mathspace can be purchased from Campion for $24
- STILE can be purchased from Campion for $27.72

If you do not buy a subscription, your child will be provided with access to what they need for their learning.

**Digital devices:**

Glen Eira College uses digital devices to support learning. You are able to buy or lease a device for your child to own. If you do not buy or lease a device, your child will be provided with access as they need for their learning, but it may not be one-to-one, to take home, or to keep.

You can find information about the digital devices our school recommends, including minimum device specifications, at www.gec.vic.edu.au Parent Carers, Digital Learning Resources. You can buy or lease the digital device from Learning With Technologies, https://gleneiracollege.orderportal.com.au/ from $594 upwards. You can also buy a device meeting these specifications from any other retailer.

**Financial help for families**

Glen Eira College understands families can experience financial difficulty. Help is available, including:

- **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund** – this program provides funding for eligible students, including those in out of home care, and holders of eligible financially means-tested cards (such as health care cards), to attend activities like camps, sporting activities, excursions and incursions that are offered on a user-pays basis.
- **Affordable School Uniforms** - delivered by State Schools Relief, this program helps cover costs such as school uniforms, shoes, and other essential school items where families are experiencing financial hardship or short-term crisis.
- **Secondhand uniform store** / sales will be held at various times throughout the year and will be communicated via Compass.
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities.

Applications for support from the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and State Schools Relief are submitted by the school - please contact us to discuss these and other financial help.

For a confidential discussion about how to access financial help, please contact:

Gabrielle Darvell Ph: 03 9571 7838 | Email: gabrielle.darvell@education.vic.gov.au

**Payment methods**

- Compass Portal

- EFTPOS, Cash via the school office

If you want to make voluntary contributions throughout the year, you can:

- decide when to make each contribution
- choose the amount of each contribution.

If you would like to pay for extra-curricular items and activities through instalments, please use the following payment plan/s:

- Compass Portal or by contacting the school office.

**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 of Education's Parent Contributions policy and guidance, Financial Help for Families policy, and any other relevant information.

# Parent Contributions policy

## Information for families

### FREE INSTRUCTION

Schools give students free instruction in the curriculum. This includes:

- Free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability.
- The Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major, and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Free access to all subjects, including elective subjects.
- Free access to select-entry and accelerated programs.

### FAMILIES CAN CHOOSE TO CONTRIBUTE

Schools can invite 2 types of voluntary contributions:

| Voluntary contributions | Tax deductible contributions |
|---|---|
| Used towards enhanced educational programs and school environment, and additional resources and opportunities offered by schools | Used towards building and/or library fund (for those schools who have such funds) |

Schools must advise the carers of students in out-of-home care and parents and carers who hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card) that the invitation to make voluntary contributions does not apply to them.

In addition, schools can invite parents and carers to pay for optional:

- Extra-curricular items and activities that go beyond the curriculum - for example, school photos, some excursions and some camps.
- Learning materials for students to individually use and own - for example, textbooks, stationery, and in secondary schools only, digital devices. If these items are not bought or provided from home, schools will provide students with free access to what they need for curriculum delivery.

### FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

Each school has a contact person who can discuss with parents and carers the financial supports that are available.

Schools must publish their Parent Contributions arrangements on their school website, along with a link to the department's Parent Contributions policy.