

Contributions and Associated Costs

Year 7 2019



GERALDTON
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



2019 Voluntary Contributions

Dear Parents and Caregivers

We hope to improve awareness of the school voluntary contributions structure by including the relevant information on the following pages.

Geraldton Senior High School is committed to keeping costs to a minimum whilst maintaining an interesting and engaging curriculum that provides equitable access to all students. All costs outlined in this booklet are approved by the school Finance Committee and School Board in accordance with the School Education Act 1999. The booklet also outlines the assistance that is available to parents and the eligibility requirements that enable you to access this assistance.

All parents will receive a statement of contributions for each child enrolled at Geraldton SHS. If you believe this statement to be incorrect, please contact the Finance Officer on 9965 8400.

Schools rely heavily on parents meeting their commitments in respect to these contributions. Our capacity to continue to provide students with the consumables that enable us to present a quality curriculum is directly affected by your commitment to meeting these payments. Some optional activities have a charge based on the cost of participation. If your child chooses to create an extra special project within a class, using materials over and beyond what is budgeted to be supplies, an additional fee may be requested.

Parents who are unable to meet the commitment of paying the voluntary contributions by the end of Term 1, 2019 are encouraged to contact the Finance Officer to enter into an agreed payment plan.

Thank you for your support of your child's education at Geraldton Senior High School.

Greg Kelly
Principal

How paying Voluntary Contributions affects the School

Financial support provided by parents has always played a significant role in enhancing a schools' capacity to add value to students' learning experience. The continuing partnership between schools and parents is vital in ensuring that all students receive a level of education that meets the requirements of the Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline.

Voluntary contributions are at a set rate in Year 7 of \$235 per student. These funds go towards funding educational activities in the classroom. This may include sporting equipment for Physical Education, resources to conduct experiments in Science, class sets of text books in English and Maths, local excursions by a bus owned by the school in Humanities and Social Sciences and resources to create engaged learning in a variety of option courses offered.

Voluntary requests are optional payments to contribute to specific funds and projects at the school including bus supplement, technology, chaplaincy program, library and Parents & Citizens Association.

For families with children in Year 7, we ask that contributions are paid in full by 12 April 2019 or to have entered into an agreed payment plan with the school. This enables staff to use the funds for your child throughout the year. Students that participate in various courses

may be charged for additional materials used for special projects that are above and beyond the allocated resources.

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

Parents and caregivers who are experiencing financial difficulty may elect to pay the balance in instalments. Please contact our Finance Officer on 9965 8400 to discuss payment options. To check if you are eligible for the Secondary Assistance Scheme, please refer to page 4 of this booklet. You may be eligible for other payments such as ABSTUDY Supplement Allowance which is available through Centrelink.

Paying parents expect NOT to subsidise non-paying parents. The school will actively pursue the collection of voluntary contributions; this is strongly supported by the School Board.

TAX INVOICE AND STATEMENT SUMMARY

This is your invoice and details the voluntary contributions associated with your child's proposed learning program and timetable. However, due to changes in student timetable selections, there may be adjustments to individual student accounts throughout the course of the year. In light of this, please be aware that account balances may fluctuate.

VOLUNTARY REQUESTS

Set out below is an explanation of the voluntary requests which appear on your child's statement of charges.

Technology - \$25.00	All students use computers, printers, scanners, digital cameras and the internet as tools to assist their learning across the curriculum. The school also purchase a wide range of software packages to meet the individual learning needs and interest of our students. The contribution assists with ongoing costs associated with this technology.
Bus Supplement - \$15.00	The school has three buses, which are used to transport students to school excursions, camps and sporting events. Contributions received go towards the annual maintenance and running costs. This significantly reduces costs to parents as hire buses are not usually required.
P&C Contributions - \$10.00	The P&C Parent Contributions was set up to avoid the need for all families to participate in fundraising activities. Funds raised for the P&C are spent directly on projects that parents, students and school staff feel are important and for the benefit of your children.
Chaplaincy Program - \$10.00	Students and families may be met with unexpected life challenges and situations. Our Chaplaincy Program enables the school to employ qualified staff to be available to both families and students to listen and guide, for mediation and referral to external agencies (where required).
Library - \$10.00	The school continues to replace resources in the library which support the learning of all students.

Accepted Methods of Payment

Payments can be made at schools' administration between 8.00am and 4.00pm during school terms excluding public holidays by:

- ✓ Cash
- ✓ Cheque
- ✓ EFTPOS
- ✓ Credit Card – in person, by phone or by payment plan authority
- ✓ Direct Deposit

Account Name: Geraldton Senior High School

BSB No: 016-650 Account No: 1100 68583

Reference: Student's full name or Student ID number

We understand the cost of schooling can be a burden for many families particularly at the beginning of the year. If you wish to discuss payment options or a payment plan please contact the Finance Officer on 9965 8400.

2019 Secondary Assistance Scheme

Applications close **Friday 12 April 2019**

Do you hold a Centrelink concession/health care card?

Financial assistance is available for holders of the following cards:

- Centrelink Health Care Card (**MUST** state student's name)
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Card

The allowance consists of two components:

- \$235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school
- \$115 Clothing Allowance paid directly to parent/caregivers or paid to the school

Please apply in person at the school's administration where you must present your card to be able to complete your application – this is a mandatory requirement.

Please Note: Health Care & Pension cards must be current at the time of application.

- Applications commencing Monday **4 February 2019**
- Applications closing Friday **12 April 2019**

Parents who have already claimed Aboriginal Grants (Abstudy) are not entitled to claim the Secondary Assistance Scheme as above. However, if parents have claimed Abstudy from Centrelink, an additional \$79 Education Allowance can be claimed under the Secondary Assistance Scheme.

Schedule of Contributions

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Voluntary contributions apply to extra cost optional courses, where additional consumables are provided to students. This will be charged as a project fee e.g. Woodwork project. Please note that the school does not make a profit from these charges as they are either passed onto external providers or used to purchase materials consumed by students.

Additional charges for optional extra activities which address broad learning outcomes may be offered to students (e.g. social events, excursions, camps and competition entry fees). It is not possible to determine the actual cost of such future activities at this stage, therefore, the school provides parents with an estimated maximum cost to enable them to budget for the year ahead. This information is provided with this booklet for your convenience.

When an activity is planned, and the student chooses to participate, parents will be notified of the final cost (which will not exceed the estimated maximum previously stated in this document.) These activities are not compulsory and students are not disadvantaged by choosing not to participate.

KEY POINTS

Fee Type	Year Level	What you are paying for
Voluntary Contributions	Year 7	\$235 contribution to be distributed across all departments to help purchase in-class resources for students to use. This could include photocopying, class copies of textbooks and sporting equipment for Physical Education.
Voluntary Requests	All year levels	This payment helps the school make Chaplains available to students and families; replace the bus for all students to use in excursions, make more technology available in classrooms and better equip the P&C to avoid extra fundraising.
Optional Extra Activities and Project Fees	All year levels	During the year, students may be invited to participate in additional excursions or may be inspired to build something large or use more elaborate materials. These are optional but must be paid for in order to participate.
Course Charges (Compulsory)	Years 11 and 12	When your child enters Year 11 and 12 charges are compulsory.

Course of Study		Cost Description	Cost
*Associated estimated costs			
COMPULSORY SUBJECTS	ASDANY7	General Subject Cost	\$30.00
	English	General Subject Cost	\$30.00
	Mathematics	General Subject Cost	\$30.00
	Humanities & Social Sciences	General Subject Cost	\$30.00
	Science	General Subject Cost	\$30.00
	Physical Education	General Subject Cost	\$20.00
	Health	General Subject Cost	\$5.00
	Performing Arts: Dance	General Subject Cost	\$15.00
	Performing Arts: Drama	General Subject Cost	\$15.00
	Performing Arts: Music	General Subject Cost	\$15.00
	Digital Technologies	General Elective Cost	\$15.00
	Design and Technology	General Elective Cost	\$15.00
	Food Technologies	General Elective Cost	\$15.00
	Media Arts	General Elective Cost	\$15.00
Visual Arts	General Elective Cost	\$15.00	
FOCUS PROGRAMS	Class Instrumental Music	Participating Student Cost	\$30.00
	Geraldton Clontarf Academy	Participating Student Cost	\$30.00
	META Science	Participating Student Cost	\$15.00
OPTIONAL ITEMS	Diary	Student Requirement	\$8.00
	Yearbook	Participating Student Cost	*\$25.00
OPTIONAL ITEMS	Your child may be invited to participate in a camp, excursion, competition, extracurricular activity and/or require additional items for a special project.		*\$5.00 to *\$900.00
	In 2019, students will be offered the opportunity to travel interstate or internationally for school camps. Participation by students is optional.		*\$2000 to *\$3500