

Ararat College

Explanation of Charges 2021

Year 8



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Ararat College Council would like to thank you for your support as we endeavour to provide the best possible education for your child. We look forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our parent payment arrangements for 2021.

Ararat College makes every effort to keep the costs of items to a minimum and affordable to all parents.

We understand that some families may experience financial difficulty and we encourage you to contact our Business Manager, Coralie Whitworth to discuss payment arrangements on 53524177 or email Coralie.whitworth@education.vic.gov.au

In order to provide programs and a comfortable and effective learning environment for our students, the College relies on strong support from the College community. The College charges are designed to supplement the Government's allocation to schools to provide materials and services. These charges enable us to enrich and extend the learning experiences of our students in each subject.

This guide is designed to help parents understand the costs associated with Secondary School Education. It covers your financial obligations and the options available to you to assist in paying for your child's education.

Please do not hesitate to contact the College if you need more information.

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Whilst every effort has been made to include all items relevant to each year of study, circumstances beyond our control may arise that will require a change to charges.

COVID-19 Pandemic.

Ararat College is planning to conduct our usual camps, excursions and activities in 2021. Whilst we anticipate they will go ahead as normal, we cannot guarantee our program next year given the current COVID-19 situation.

Further information about our Parent Payment Policy can be viewed on the College website.

EXPLANATION OF CHARGES

Essential Student Learning Items

These are items and activities which are essential for your child to learn the standard curriculum. You may choose to purchase these items through the school or provide your own.

Stationery Pack

All students at the start of the school year are issued with a starter stationery pack as listed on the fee schedule for each year level. Students will need to provide their own coloured pencils, pencil case and additional pens/pencils. There may be other stationery items that students may wish to include. Please note that the college has purchased these as complete packs, and items in it cannot be purchased separately.

OnLine Learning Subscriptions

These on line learning platforms are in addition to the textbook delivery of the curriculum.

Consumables

This component relates to the supply of materials used in class that generally results in the student taking possession of the completed product or using the product within the class. This covers materials used in technology and art related subjects.

- The consumable cost in year 7 and 8 is set for the year and is included in the total for Essential Education Items
- The consumable cost in year 9 and 10 is determined by the subjects students select and is charged each semester. Parents will be charged these amounts once student timetables have been completely finalized, usually within 2 weeks of the commencement of the semester.
- The consumable cost in year 11 and 12 is subject based and is for the full year of study.

Textbooks

Ararat College has for many years tried to make the back to school process as simple as possible for parents and create an all inclusive approach to resources and equipment. For this reason as a general rule, students are not required to source or buy most of their text books. These can be very costly and generally needed for only 1 year. The College hires textbooks to the students and this cost is covered in your Essential Education Items.

Textbooks can be purchased individually if preferred and a recommended retail price is quoted on our fee schedules. Parents who choose to purchase will need to make their own arrangements.

Other Essential Items

These items are also essential for your child but may be obtained from other sources. Whilst we encourage parents to purchase these from the college for consistency, there is no obligation to do so. Parents may also be able to source these items second hand or from older siblings.

VET Subjects

Vet courses provide an additional certificate and it is necessary for all participants to pay a separate fee to ensure the VET program can function properly. Some Vet courses come at considerable extra cost due to the nature of the course and the materials and services utilised. It is anticipated that the maximum cost for any one VET subject will not exceed \$350-00.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Ararat College continues to welcome voluntary contributions to support our school.

You 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.

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.

OPTIONAL ITEMS

Ararat College offers a range of optional items and activities that are additional to the delivery of the standard curriculum. These items and activities are designed to broaden the school experience for your child. Optional items are detailed below. If you would like to purchase an item or activity for your child.

Instrumental Music \$100.00

Payable only for those students enrolled in the Instrumental Music program. Students in the program are provided with individual or small group tuition on the instrument of their choice, and may be involved in the College Bands program and the College Production.

Please be aware that should students withdraw from the program once accepted that this fee is deemed **non refundable**.

College Magazine \$15.00

The school produces an annual magazine which highlights student and college activities and achievements throughout the year. It is an important keepsake for students.

Student Insurance \$10.00

Student insurance covers the student 24 hours a day 7 days a week. General benefits included are injury resulting in death, paraplegia, quadriplegia, loss of limb, loss of eye, and some long term hospital stays. It also covers accidental damage or loss of natural teeth and broken or fractured bones due to an accident. The broken or fractured bones cover will reduce by 50% if the accident happened while the student was participating in a sporting activity. Ambulance cover is separate to this scheme. For further details please go to the VMIA website: www.vmia.vic.gov.au/insure/policies/personal-accident.

LAPTOP PROGRAM 2021

To ensure the best possible access to information and communication technology, and to meet the expectation that every student will have access to a computer, Ararat College is continuing the 24/7 laptop program to all Year 7 and 10 students and to new students entering the school in 2021.

Included in the cost will be:

- Installation of all appropriate school software
- Access to school IT support staff for routine maintenance and problem solving
- 3 Year onsite warranty on the device with service on faults organised by the school
- 3 Year insurance for accidental breakage organised by school (3 free claims over 3 years)

Students are eligible to commence one of the school programs listed below:

These are the prices quoted for the machines ordered prior to the **1st December 2020**

(Prices for machines ordered after 1st December cannot be guaranteed and the table below should be used as a guide only after this date)

**The names, model numbers and prices on these laptops may change but the specifications on them will remain the same. These prices are guaranteed until the 1st December 2020. Other options may be available to these models so please contact the IT Manager.*

Further information if required is available from our Business Manager or our IT Technician Kevin Bowles.

	Device	Cost (guide only)	Terms of purchase
Option 1	*Lenovo Thinkpad L13	\$1,180.00	Computer needs to be returned to the library each night until 66% (\$780.00) is paid off and then can be taken home.
Option 2	*Acer Travelmate P214	\$1,215.00	Computer needs to be returned to the library each night until 66% (\$800.00) is paid off and then can be taken home.
Option 3	Acer Spin 3 Touch	\$1315.00	Computer needs to be returned to the library each night until 66% (\$870.00) is paid off and then can be taken home.
Option 4	Library Laptop	N/A	Computer must be returned to the library each night and cannot be taken home.
Option 5	Bring your own device BYOD	N/A	Cost of installation of software (Can cost up to \$1000). Repairs, insurance and warranty are the responsibility of the family. Please refer to our IT support staff for further information regarding the laptop requirements for this program

CAMPS AND EXCURSIONS

Camps

The items listed represent the major camps available to each student in Years 7 – 12. These camps are not covered by any other payment and are recorded as a distinctly separate charge for each student. Camps are estimates only for budgeting purposes, with a firm price given to parents once numbers and full details of the camp have been confirmed. **Camp deposits must be paid upfront and alternatively CSEF can be used if available.**

Excursions

Excursions vary greatly in cost and frequency for each year level, making it difficult to give you an approximate cost for the year. However, we do endeavour to notify parents as soon as possible of upcoming excursions and the costs involved. The amount estimated for each year level should adequately cover these costs for each student.

Camp Deposits

Deposits are required for camps and some excursions and are deemed **not refundable**.

Students who withdraw from a camp after the Camp finalisation date may only receive a partial or no refund depending on the circumstances.

Camp deposits must be paid upfront and alternatively CSEF can be used if available.

Student Inclusion in a Camp or Excursion

Many parents enter into instalment plans at the start of the year to cover costs of Camps and Excursions as they arise. However, setting up a payment plan to cover costs does not automatically qualify your child to attend. When expressions of interest are requested for a camp or excursion, parents still need to confirm that they wish for their child to attend.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Eligible secondary school students can receive \$225 **up to the age of 18 years** to be used specifically for students to undertake Camps and Excursions. Payments will go directly to the school and be tied to the student.

Who is eligible?

- Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply.
- If a student is a holder of a valid concession card (e.g. a Youth Allowance Health Care Card) in their own name they will be given special consideration.
- Eligibility will be subject to the concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink in 2020.
- Parents of year 7 students who are eligible for the CSEF can apply to receive a free school uniform starter pack.

CALCULATORS

Scientific Calculator	\$20.00
Casio Class pads	\$226.00

Scientific calculators are an essential item for Maths classes in Years 7 to 12 and can be purchased from the College. Whilst it is not essential that calculators be purchased from the College, it is advisable as they are at cost price to parents and all students would be using the same type of calculator in each class.

Parents should note that the **Casio Class pad** calculator, whilst expensive, has a long life expectancy as it has the capacity to have software upgrades and should last for several years. This is important, especially if parents wish to pass this calculator on to siblings or on-sell at the end of their student's schooling. The school has new Class Pad calculators for sale. The college does not sell secondhand calculators but students may arrange to purchase these privately from past students.

Year	class	Calculator
7	all	Scientific Calculator
8	all	Scientific Calculator
9	all	Scientific Calculator
10	Maths Space	Scientific Calculator
11	General Maths	Casio Class pads
11	Maths methods	Casio Class pads
11	Numeracy VCAL	Scientific Calculator
12	Numeracy VCAL	Scientific Calculator
12	Further Maths	Casio Class pads
12	Maths Methods	Casio Class pads

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Payment of charges can be made via cash, cheque or EFTPOS at the College Office or alternatively via one of our payment plans.

Instalment options.

A very popular way of paying school fees and contributions is by instalment. Many families are using this method, as it allows for education costs to be spread throughout the year. It also eliminates the need to send money to school with your student every time there is an activity on at school.

These choices include:-

- **BPAY** - This is the preferred method of electronic payment. Details of your BPAY code are on your family statement. Families can schedule their own regular payments
- **CENTREPAY** - If you receive any Centrelink payment an instalment may be deducted and remitted to the School on your behalf.
- **PAYROLL DEDUCTION** - Organised through your employer. Please contact the school for further information for this option.
- **DIRECT CREDIT** to our bank account processed by you. Please contact the school for further information for this option.

All of these options can be arranged by the Office staff at the College.

Family support options

There are a number of support options available for parents including but not limited to;

- Second hand uniform (if available) via the College Office
- Camps, Sports & Excursion Funding (CSEF) available to eligible parents
- State Schools Relief (SSR) support available for uniforms/footwear/calculators/textbooks
- Local community supports

Consideration of hardship

The College understands that families may experience financial difficulties or hardship at times and may be unable to meet full or part payments as requested. Families are invited to contact the Business Manager to make payment arrangements or alternatively can contact the Principal for a confidential discussion and information regarding support options.

As with all parent payments to the school, Council will provide opportunities for all parents experiencing financial difficulties to enter into alternative and confidential payment arrangements with the Principal.

PAYMENT PLANS

(based on 26 x fortnightly payments)

Years 7 and 8

School Fees Only

An instalment plan of **\$20 per fortnight** for a full year should cover all costs for school fees, magazine, insurance, music.

School Fees and Excursions

An instalment plan of **\$35 per fortnight** for a full year should cover all above costs including excursions.

School Fees Excursions and Camps

An instalment plan of **\$45 per fortnight** for a full year should cover all above costs including camps (excluding Alpine and Queensland Camp).

Years 9, 10, 11 and 12

An instalment plan for these year levels will need to be calculated for each individual student as subjects they select can vary the cost considerably.

Laptop Payments

Laptop payments have not been included as this will vary according to how quickly parents would like their student to be able to take their laptop home.

Amount	Payments	Full Year
\$10-00	26	\$260-00
\$20-00	26	\$520-00
\$25-00	26	\$650-00
\$30-00	26	\$780-00
\$35-00	26	\$910-00
\$40-00	26	\$1040-00
\$45-00	26	\$1170-00
\$50-00	26	\$1300-00
\$55-00	26	\$1430-00
\$60-00	26	\$1560-00
\$65-00	26	\$1690-00
\$70-00	26	\$1820-00
\$75-00	26	\$1950-00
\$80-00	26	\$2080-00
\$90-00	26	\$2340-00
\$100-00	26	\$2600-00
\$110-00	26	\$2860-00
\$120-00	26	\$3120-00
\$130-00	26	\$3380-00
\$140-00	26	\$3640-00
\$150-00	26	\$3900-00

Fee schedule – Year 8

Essential Student Learning Items	Item cost	Charge	Total
Stationery Pack		\$41.00	
Ararat College student diary			
safety goggles			
2 x display books			
10 x exercise books (96 page)			
2 x HB pencils			
1 x ruler			
1 x 5 pack pens (2 x Black, 2 x Blue, 1 x red)			
1 x highlighter			
1 x eraser			
Online Learning Subscriptions		\$41.00	
Maths Space	\$25.00		
Wordflyers	\$16.00		
Consumables		\$185.00	
Photocopy paper and printing - all subjects	15.00		
Materials - Textiles (fabric, thread, wool and other haberdashery)	40.00		
Materials - Graphics (paper, cardboard, pens, sketch book)	10.00		
Materials - Food (general baking and meal preparation ingredients) \$ 3 per session x 20	60.00		
Materials - Art (Includes paper, card, paint, pens etc. sketch book, visual diary)	20.00		
Materials - Technology (wood, metal and other construction materials)	40.00		
Textbooks - Annual Hire Charge		\$120.00	
ESSENTIAL STUDENT LEARNING ITEMS TOTAL			\$387.00
Textbooks can be purchased individually if preferred and a recommended retail price is quoted.			
Holes - Louis Sachar (Bloomsbury)	\$16.00		
The Outsiders - S.E. Hinton (Penguin)	\$19.50		
Science Quest 8 Australian Curriculum Edition (Jacaranda)	\$79.95		
Retroactive 8 Australian Curriculum for History (Jacaranda)	\$54.95		
Retroactive 8 Australian Curriculum for History - Student Workbook	\$19.95		
Humanities Alive 2 (Jacaranda)	\$74.95		
Food For You 1 Junior Secondary 3rd edition (Cambridge)	\$58.95		
Macquarie Budget Dictionary	\$9.99		
Other Essential Items			
Sports top	\$30.00		
Science calculator	\$25.00		
Headphones	\$10.00		
<u>TOTAL ESSENTIAL ITEMS</u>			\$

Optional Items	Amount	Total
Student Insurance	\$10.00	
College Magazine	\$15.00	
Instrumental Music	\$100.00	
School hat	\$10.00	
Optional Items that are estimate only		
Year 8 Camp Queensland	\$1100.00	
Activities and Excursions - Estimate for year	\$250.00	
TOTAL		\$