

A PARENT GUIDE TO CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES

Financial support provided by parents/carers will always play an enabling role in the provision of resources that extend the college's capacity to add value to your child's learning experience. You will be advised no later than two (2) months before school commences in an itemised statement (Charges and Contribution Sheet) notifying you of the requested contributions for your child for the 2021 school year.

Your child is entitled to participate in an educational program that satisfies the requirements of the *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline*. The Principal, in consultation with the relevant college committees, and in accordance with the *School Education Act 1999*, the *School Education Regulations 2000* and Department of Education policies, determine all payments requested for the education of your child.

This guide will outline what your payment will be used for in your child's educational program. Payment received from you can only be used for these purposes. If they are not used for these purposes, the school must seek approval from you for the payment to be used for another purpose, otherwise a refund will be given.

Contribution

The school will request a contribution of **\$235** from you for your child, which will allow the school to provide the following items across all learning areas. These include:

- class resource text or eBooks
- photocopy materials including printing
- curriculum materials/resources
- Internet access
- materials for Visual Art, Design and Technology (Woodwork), Science activities (including experiments) and other college activities
- cooking ingredients for Home Economics

The Department of Education's Contribution, Charges and Fees Policy clearly states that it is expected that those parents who can afford to make the contribution, pay. \$235 is the cost of materials, services and facilities used or consumed by your child at the college. Parents/carers who hold a concession card may be eligible for financial subsidy for the contributions through the Secondary Assistance Scheme. (Please refer to the section on Secondary Assistance for more information)

Charge

Costs (compulsory charge) that must be met by parents include:

- college diary – all students are required to purchase. The college diary contains important information specific to your child's learning and pastoral care
- excursions/camps – this charge is payable and compulsory if your child opts to participate. The charge associated with the provision of these activities, services or facilities covers the cost of providing the service or running the activity
- photocopy and internet services (over and above what is provided as part of course allocations)

Approved Voluntary Request

Technology – The contribution you make will directly assist with your child's technology skill development that will be life-long learning. It will fund a wide range of infrastructure and resources that could not be provided without your help, they include but not limited to:

- The use of various technology devices in the college including Surface Go, iPads, iMac workstations and general workstations
- High speed internet
- Printing allowance for each student.
- Audio visual displays in every classroom to allow wireless teaching and learning using current technology

Personal Items List

Personal Items List (Booklist). These are items that your child will be required to bring to school and may include:

- stationery items
- display books
- calculators
- protective eye wear

You may purchase your child's Personal Items List online through a nominated school supplier (to be advised) or you may choose any supplier (i.e. Officeworks, Woolworths, Coles etc.). Any purchases made through the nominated school supplier will result in a commission payment to the school. (*Please note: The Personal Items List for your child will be provided to you at the end of November 2020 together with your Charges and Contribution Sheet*).

It is important that your child brings the required items each day. If your child has exhausted or loses any items, they must be replaced immediately (i.e. pens, pencils, ruler). These items will not be supplied by the teacher.

2021 Anticipated Costs

In accordance with the school Education Act 1999, the school must provide information to you that include a maximum estimate of anticipated additional costs for your child before the beginning of the school year. Please be aware that these services, facilities and activities are not confirmed and may not occur during the school year. Payment for these will be requested at the time they occur. This information will be sent to parents at the end of November 2020.

Other Funding

Alkimos College receives government funding which meets the cost of:

- staff - includes teaching staff, administration, support staff and relief teachers
- teaching materials and equipment - includes computers, physical education equipment, laboratory equipment, library materials and some curriculum materials
- specific programs – funding for programs
- information technology - includes provision of information and communication technology and software licensing
- facilities - includes school sites and maintenance of buildings and grounds
- furniture and equipment - includes desks, chairs and tables for students and staff, photocopying equipment, school buses, computers and printers
- school security - Education Security service
- school operational costs - includes telephone, utilities (e.g. gas, electricity, water, sanitation, waste removal), cleaning and professional development for staff

Payments from parents/carers for contributions and charges for your child will be used towards the cost of providing an educational program that meets the requirements of the *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline*. Non-payment of contributions and charges can result in the school being unable to deliver the educational programs efficiently and effectively.

Secondary Assistance Scheme

The Secondary Assistance Scheme (SAS) is available to parents/carers of secondary students, up to and including the year in which they turn 18, and only if the parent/carer is a holder of one of the following prescribed cards (not the student). If a parent does not have a card the application will not be successful.

- Centrelink Family Health Care Card;
- Pensioner Concession Card; or
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card.

The SAS includes a Clothing Allowance of **\$115** and Educational Program Allowance of **\$235**. Students in receipt of ABSTUDY are eligible for the ABSTUDY Supplement Allowance.

The Clothing Allowance is payable to the parent and payment is made directly into a nominated bank account, or the parent can nominate it to be sent directly to the school.

The Educational Program Allowance is payable directly to the school (parents do not receive this payment). In Year 7, the payment of **\$235** will be firstly deducted from the outstanding contribution. Any remaining funds will then be deducted from outstanding charges.

Application forms for SAS will be available from the school in December 2020. You will be required to lodge these forms in person, as your valid concession card must be sighted and signature verified. Applications close at the end of Term 1 2021. No late applications will be accepted by the Department of Education.

Payment Options

The school will accept various payment methods including:

- Cash
- BPoint through the school's website <https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/alkimoscollege>
- Payment Instalment Plan – you can nominate an amount and frequency that suits you