

GUIDE TO CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES FOR YEARS 7-10

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 and charges for your child for the 2025 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 the college board, 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 texts or eBooks
- curriculum materials/resources
- Internet access
- materials for arts and technology subjects (including Visual Arts, Woodwork, Metalwork, Home Economics, Photography, Drama, Media, Digital Technology)
- Physical Education extra-curricular activities
- Science activities (including experiments) and other college activities.

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:

- Subject Charges
Year 9 and Year 10 subject charges are compulsory. There is no maximum charge. All charges have been determined on actual cost to deliver the curriculum course and has been approved by the Alkimos College Board. The college aims to keep these charges as low as possible and they are not more than the actual cost to deliver the curriculum subject.
- Excursions/Incursions: 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. You will be provided with a document titled *2025 Anticipated Additional Costs* which will indicate the maximum estimate of the itemised anticipated costs school year. Please be aware that these activities are not confirmed and may not occur during the school year. Payment for these will be requested at the time they occur.
- Student Resource Printing: this charge is for student printing for all learning areas

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 laptops, iPads, iMac workstations and general workstations
- High speed internet
- Educational software subscriptions
- 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 (pens, pencils rulers, glue, scissors, sharpener, pencil case)
- exercise books
- display books
- document wallets
- calculator

You may purchase your child's Personal Items List online through our nominated school supplier (Campion Education) or you may choose any supplier (i.e., Officeworks, Woolworths, Coles etc.). **Any purchases made through our nominated school supplier (Campion) 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 2024 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.

2025 Anticipated Additional 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 2024.

Other Funding

Alkimos College receives government funding which meets the cost of:

- staffing - 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 specialist programs
- information technology - includes provision of information and communication technology and software licensing
- facilities - includes maintenance of buildings and grounds
- furniture and equipment - includes desks, chairs and tables for students and staff, photocopying equipment, 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 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 **\$300** 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 charges. Any remaining funds will then be deducted from any outstanding contributions.

Application forms for SAS will be available from the school in December 2024. 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 2025. 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>
- BPoint payment at the college
- Payment Instalment Plan – you can nominate an amount and frequency that suits you
- Compass Pay – for Excursions/Incursions/After School Academies

If you have any queries or need assistance regarding making payments, please contact the college on 9561 7300 or email Alkimos.Col.Payments@education.wa.edu.au

Office Hours

The college office hours are 8:15 am to 3:45 pm Monday to Friday during the school term.