

FEE POLICY AND SCHEDULE 2023

INTRODUCTION

Victory Christian College is dedicated to providing quality, caring, affordable, Christian education to the Bendigo and surrounding district community. The College is an independent school which receives Federal and State Government funding, but requires payment of fees by parents to ensure the continued day to day operation of the College, and to contribute to capital improvement of facilities.

In line with the College policy to provide an affordable Christian education, fees are kept to an amount that is manageable for most family incomes. Substantial discounts on tuition fees are offered for the second and subsequent children enrolled in the College.

PAYMENT OF FEES

Tuition fees and levies are invoiced in November for the following year. Upon commencement of the school year, families are required to be on a fortnightly direct debit payment plan. The payment plan consists of 21 fortnightly instalments and commences on the first Thursday in February and ends mid-November. An additional payment, if required, will be made at the end of November to clear any outstanding balance. Click on this link to setup a payment plan: <https://tinyurl.com/VCCFeePaymentPlan>

Victory Christian College requires that fees are:

- Paid in fortnightly instalments via direct debit, with the amount advised in writing by the Finance Department.
- Payments made on a weekly or monthly basis are permitted by prior arrangement with the Business Manager.
- Failure to pay annual fees may result in cancellation of enrolment and/or accounts being forwarded to a debt recovery agency. In this instance, families will be responsible for all associated costs.
- Statements are emailed monthly.
- The College does not discount fees because of student absence or family holidays.
- School camps and overseas experiences are charged out on a 'break-even' basis. As such, accounts should be up to date, to guarantee participation.
- Fees are expected to be paid in full by the 30th of November of each school year.
- Families experiencing temporary difficulty in paying College fees, are asked to please contact the Finance Office immediately.
- Where there is a history of significant arrears in fees, the College may place families on a Stop Credit arrangement. When on Stop Credit, families must pay each Term's fees and levies in advance prior to each Term commencing. This allows enrolment to be maintained without accumulating further arrears or enrolment cancellation.

ADEQUATE NOTICE PERIOD

- **One Term's notice is required when a child leaves the College.**
- **Two Terms' notice** is required for students exiting at the end of **Year Ten** (end of Term Two) This amount of notice is required to enable the College to plan for its VCE Program.

ENROLMENT APPLICATION FEE

A fee of \$100.00 is charged only once per family to cover administrative costs of enrolment. This fee is payable on submission of the Enrolment Application Form and is not refundable. Families enrolling second and subsequent children at the College, do not need to pay this again.

TUITION FEES

The annual tuition fees for **2023** have been set by the College Board. They are as follows:

- **Prep to Year Six: \$3,460** per student, per annum (p/a)
- **Years Seven to Ten: \$3,700** per student p/a
- **Years Eleven and Twelve: \$3,810** per student p/a

COLLEGE LEVIES

Levies are calculated per student and invoiced in November for the following year.

Facilities & Equipment Levy

This levy enables the College to continually upgrade its facilities and equipment.

Prep to Year Twelve: \$175 per student p/a.

Resource Levy

This levy contributes to the cost of a broad range of student consumables such as class requisites, photocopying, stationery, education materials and special publications. It also covers digital textbooks, and online subscriptions for specific year levels.

- **Prep to Year Four:** \$230 per student p/a.
- **Year Five to Year Eight:** \$250 per student p/a.
- **Year Nine to Year Twelve:** \$280 per student p/a.

Excursion and Sport Levy

This levy is charged annually to enable students to participate in co-curricular activities without the inconvenience of minor expenses being charged throughout the year.

Prep to Year Twelve: \$175 per student p/a.

Secondary Subject Levies

- **Years Seven and Eight:** \$440 per student p/a.
- **Years Nine and Ten:** \$680 per student p/a.
Additional Charges apply for VCE Subjects undertaken at Year Nine or Ten Level (\$60 per subject)
- **Years Eleven and Twelve:** \$170 per subject
Please note: VET and Distance Ed subjects are delivered in association with external providers and will incur higher charges. Outdoor and Environmental Studies also incurs a higher charge to meet the cost of camps.

iPad Program Levy

We are gradually implementing the distribution of College owned iPads to students to provide a more secure, structured and transparent learning environment. College owned iPads will be controlled through an MDM platform (Mobile Device Management), which will remove many of the potential risks associated with online access.

From 2023, iPads will be provided to all students in Year Three, as they transition from using class sets to personal devices, and also to all new students commencing at the College from Year Four through to Year Nine. An annual iPad levy of \$165 will be added to tuition fees.

Camp Fees (indicative costs)

Year Level	Fee	Description
▪ Prep	\$ 30.00	Tea & activities at VCC
▪ Year One	\$ 45.00	Overnight – at VCC
▪ Year Two	\$200.00	Overnight Camp (venue TBA)
▪ Years Three and Four	\$280.00	Creswick Log Cabin Camp
▪ Years Five and Six	\$310.00	Urban Camp, Melbourne
▪ Year Seven	\$450.00	Adventure Camp, Halls Gap
▪ Year Eight	\$520.00	Beach Camp, Anglesea
▪ Year Nine	\$600.00	Wellbeing Camp, King Lake
▪ Year Ten	\$730.00	Snow Camp, Harrietville/Mt Hotham

Please note: Participation in camps is compulsory, however, an exemption from attendance will be accepted on medical grounds. A medical certificate is required before a refund can be issued, bearing in mind that some components of camp are pre-paid, and a full refund may not be possible.

DISCOUNTS AND REBATES

Note: Discounts and Rebates are not accumulative. Families receive one discount/rebate only.

Early Payment Discount

A 10% tuition fee discount is offered to families paying their **total annual** fees by 31st March. Click on this link to apply for an Early Payment Discount: <https://tinyurl.com/VCCFeePaymentPlan>

Fee Rebate for Health Care Card Holders

The College offers a rebate on tuition fees for families with Health Care Cards. The rebate only applies while families are valid recipients of this card. The rebate for 2023 is 10% of tuition fees. Click on this link to apply for HealthCare Card Discount: <https://tinyurl.com/VCChealthcard>

Special Needs Fee Rebate (Financial Hardship)

The College recognises that, in response to exceptional financial circumstances or family situations, some families may experience temporary difficulty in paying their tuition fees. Where this situation arises, families can apply for 'Special Needs' rebate assistance. In these circumstances the College requires the completion of a detailed financial questionnaire available from the Finance Office, along with attendance at a financial interview involving the Business Manager.

Once pertinent financial information and family circumstances are ascertained, the application is submitted to the College Board for assessment. The Board's decision is final. Following the Board's approval, the Special Needs Fee Rebate will be applied to the family's account with the College. This rebate is regarded as a temporary measure and will be adjusted as changes in circumstances permit. This rebate is for the year of application only. Applications for 'Special Needs Fee Rebate' will be considered by the Board as the need arises, but no more than once per term.

When considering rebate applications, the Board must follow guidelines set to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of rebate allocation. The Board can give up to a maximum rebate of 30% on Tuition Fees.

Families receiving fee rebates are expected to meet their payment schedule, which will be set in consultation between the family and the College's Finance Office.

Conveyance Allowance (Government Subsidy)

Students attending Victory Christian College may be eligible for financial support through the Conveyance Allowance Program to assist with the cost of transport.

To be eligible for the Conveyance Allowance:

- A student must reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from the College, and for private car and public transport travel, families must complete an application to the College. Click on this link to apply: <https://tinyurl.com/VCCConveyanceAllowance>
- VCC School Bus Service travellers need to submit a Conveyance Allowance application by clicking this link to apply: <https://tinyurl.com/VCCConveyanceAllowance>
- The Department of Education and Training (DET) pays the Conveyance Allowance to the College for distribution to families.
- Public transport applications must include proof of purchase of a half-yearly or yearly Victorian Student Pass.
- Applicants who were previously declined should re-apply only if they have changed their home address.
- For private car and public transport travel, the College will allocate the full amount received from DET against the family School Fee Account.
- For students using VCC bus services, the College will use Conveyance Allowance funds received from DET to reduce the cost for the College and for families. All eligible VCC bus travellers must apply for the Conveyance Allowance and authorise the College to retain the allowance.

DISCOUNTS AND REBATES (CONT)

CSEF - The Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (Government Subsidy)

CSEF is a Government Program that provides payments for eligible students to attend activities like school camps, swimming and school organised sports programs, excursions and incursions. Health Care Card Holders are eligible.

Application Forms are available from the Administration Office and applications close end of June each year. Primary student subsidy: \$125, Secondary student subsidy: \$225. Click on this link to apply for HealthCare Card Discount: <https://tinyurl.com/VCChealthcard>

Volunteer Hours Policy

It has long been recognised that the assistance of parents, helps to enhance our College Programs. Assistance includes listening to children reading, Library work, canteen roster, committee & sub-committee membership, supervision on sports days, camps, excursions, and participation in Parent and Friends activities.

This Policy, which is reviewed annually, defines the number of volunteer hours from each family, and provides a range of approved activities through which families can be involved to provide assistance. The time involvement for 2023 is set at 10 hours per annum from each family, at a set rate of \$20.00 per hour; a maximum of \$200. This amount is credited off accounts, as parents participate in activities such as those listed above.

Volunteer hours are collected by the Administration Office and tallied each term. The Finance Office then credits off the appropriate amounts for each family.

In this way, the College can provide flexibility for families to contribute their time, acknowledge valuable involvement in a wide range of activities, and provide an avenue for parents to reduce their fees.

Child Safe Standards apply to all volunteers.

BUILDING FUND DONATION

The Building Fund was established to develop and maintain the College's buildings and facilities. Generous donations from families and supporters in the past have enabled us to continually upgrade and develop our buildings and amenities. Ongoing development to accommodate anticipated growth is underway to provide our students with excellent facilities for their education. The College invites families to donate a minimum of \$100.00 per year to this fund. All donations paid to the building fund are fully tax deductible. Your donation by 30th June will enable you to claim the tax deduction for the current financial year. Click on this link for Building Fund Donation: <https://tinyurl.com/VCC-BuildingFundDonation>

2023 FEE SCHEDULE SUMMARY

ENROLMENT APPLICATION FEE
Enrolment Fee: \$100

TUITION FEES AND SIBLING DISCOUNTS				
Year Level	1st Child	2nd Child	3rd Child	4th Child
Prep	\$3460	\$2420	\$1040	No tuition fees charged for fourth and subsequent children. (Levy charges still apply)
Year One and Two	\$3460	\$2420	\$1040	
Year Three and Four	\$3460	\$2420	\$1040	
Year Five and Six	\$3460	\$2420	\$1040	
Year Seven and Eight	\$3700	\$2590	\$1110	
Year Nine and Ten	\$3700	\$2590	\$1110	
Year Eleven and Twelve	\$3810	\$2670	\$1140	

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT LEVY
Prep to Year Twelve: \$175

RESOURCE LEVY
Prep to Year Four: \$230 Year Five to Eight: \$250 Year Nine to Twelve: \$280

EXCURSION AND SPORT LEVY
Excursion and Sport Levy: \$175

iPAD PROGRAM LEVY
Year Three students: \$165 Any new students in Years Four to Year Nine: \$165

SECONDARY SUBJECT LEVIES	
Year Seven and Eight	\$440 (per student p/a)
Year Nine and Ten	\$680 (per student p/a)
Year Eleven and Twelve	\$170 (per subject p/a)
VET Courses	\$400 (per course p/a)
Distance Ed Subjects	\$400 (per subject p/a)
VCE Outdoor and Environmental Studies	\$600 (per student p/a)

CAMP FEES (Indicative costs)					
Prep	\$ 30	Years Three and Four	\$280	Year Eight	\$520
Year One	\$ 45	Years Five and Six	\$310	Year Nine	\$600
Year Two	\$200	Year Seven	\$450	Year Ten	\$730

2023 FEE SCHEDULE SUMMARY (CONT)

DISCOUNTS & REBATES

Discount for Low Income Health Care Card Holders: 10% discount on tuition fees.

Discount for Fees Paid in Advance: 10% discount off the tuition fees component is given when the full year's fees are paid by 31st March 2023

Volunteer Hours: 10 hours per family at a set rate of \$20 per hour. Maximum Rebate \$200

Special Needs Rebate: Maximum rebate 30% on tuition fees

Conveyance Allowance: Travel subsidy for families who live more than 4.8 km's from the school. Paid quarterly. and applied to Fees.

CSEF: Applications must be received by end of June. **Primary** \$125 **Secondary** \$225

OTHER FEES & CHARGES

Private Art & Music Lessons: Will be invoiced separately and are paid on invoice.

VRT Racing Events: Will be invoiced separately and are to be paid on invoice.

Overseas Trips: Optional overseas trips for secondary students. Will be invoiced separately and are to be paid on invoice.

BUILDING FUND DONATIONS

Voluntary donations to the Victory Christian College Building Fund are tax deductible. Parents are invited to support the College with donations to help us continue to improve our facilities. Please Click on this link to make a Building Fund: <https://tinyurl.com/VCC-BuildingFundDonation>

METHODS OF PAYMENT

Direct Debit: Click on this link to setup a payment plan: <https://tinyurl.com/VCCFeePaymentPlan> to have fees automatically debited from your nominated bank account. Preferred payment frequency is fortnightly.

CONTACT DETAILS

Victory Christian College
6 Kairn Road, Strathdale VIC 3550
P: 5445 2600
www.vcc.vic.edu.au

ENQUIRIES

Please direct enquiries to the following:
Enrolment enquiries: enrolment@vcc.vic.edu.au
Fee enquiries to Damian Broderick: damianbroderick@vcc.vic.edu.au
General enquiries: admin@vcc.vic.edu.au
Office Hours are Monday to Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm