

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Contributions and Charges

We appreciate every family's financial contribution to the cost of schooling their child with proceeds enriching and improving the curriculum and opportunities for our students.

Families are advised by December each year as to the **maximum** costs that **could** be applied for the following year. Contributions are applied to Year 7 to 10 students and are legislated to a maximum of \$235.00 per year however (compulsory) charges are dependent on the actual cost and the student's participation.

WHAT IS A VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION?

High school voluntary contribution is charged for year 7-10 only. It is a maximum of \$235 per year per student and goes directly into classrooms to purchase extra resources for student to use, thus enriching the education your child receives. We use the contribution for items such as fiction and non-fiction books, photocopied materials, materials for art, software for media, design and technology, home economics and science. This also assists us to keep the cost of student Personal Items Lists (Booklists) down to a minimum and providing more savings for our families. Contributions received are highly valued by the school and directly supports the high-end education students receive at Duncraig Senior High School.

WHAT DO I GET FOR \$235?

We use the contribution for Items such as text book and novels, photocopied materials, materials for art and media, design and technology, home economics and science. These funds are given to the classroom to be used directly for the benefit of students.

WHAT DOES A SUBJECT CHARGE PAY FOR?

Subject charges are for options (electives) in year 9 and 10 and **all** subjects in year 11 and 12. In these years of schooling, student programs utilise much more by way of materials, subscription, guest speakers, excursions and equipment. The subject charge goes directly into the classrooms enabling teaching staff to purchase the required materials and consumables for your child to use. Charges are considered compulsory.

WHAT DOES THE \$100 TECHNOLOGY VOLUNTARY APPROVED REQUEST (VAR) PAY FOR?

The Technology VAR helps the school immensely. The VAR helps to supplement the major expense of:

- Maintain some 400 computers, student loan laptops, high specification specialist media computers.
- Our classrooms have Vivi units installed allowing collaboration between teachers and students.
- Our students have access to a wide variety of online tools such as SEQTA, Literacy Planet and Clickview and SORA.

WHAT WILL EXCURSIONS COST?

As part of our excursion planning process, comprehensive quotes are received from the suppliers and the costs passed onto the student. We do not make any profit and maintain value for money for our families. If we deem the costs too high, we will search for an alternative that will provide the same educational outcomes. We are committed to keep value for money front and centre of these arrangements.

MY CHILD HAS CHANGED OPTIONS, CAN I GET A REFUND?

Should the new option (elective) be cheaper than the previous unit, you may request a refund of the difference. Alternatively, you may wish to apply the payment to future excursions, options etc, or transfer it to a sibling. The amount available is dependent upon the progress of the school year as we may have committed the funds to purchase resources or pay outside providers. We will provide you with various options at the time.

MY CHILD WAS SICK WHEN THE EXCURSION WAS ON, CAN I GET A REFUND?

If your child was unwell or didn't attend school on the day of an excursion or paid activity, we can provide a partial or full refund depending on what the school paid prior to the event. For example, the entrance fee is dependant on the number of students who go through the gates of a venue, therefore this portion could be refunded.

WE SAID OUR CHILD WOULD ATTEND THE CAMP HOWEVER HAVE CHANGED OUR MIND.

If your child changed their mind, was unwell or didn't attend the school camp, we can provide a partial or full refund depending on what we have already paid for. This is dependent on the event and timing so please discuss this with us so we can help you.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A PAYMENT TYPE PLAN?

Contributions and charges, over the course of your child's high school career is an investment in your child's education and can add up. The value of our curriculum and your child's schooling experience is contrary to the costs of sending your child to Duncraig SHS. Your child will receive an outstanding education at Duncraig SHS for the fraction of the cost of private school.

Lower school costs are modest however some options can be expensive in year 9-12. We highly recommend putting a Set and Forget plan in place when your child is in Year 7 to spread the cost evenly over the time your child is in high school.

We suggest families invest \$25 per fortnight initially to see the majority of all costs in year 7-10 covered, depending on the price of options in year 9 and 10. By increasing this slightly to \$30-\$35 per fortnight for Year 11 and 12 there is potential to have all costs covered with minimal financial strain to you and your family.

'Set and Forget' Plans or short term instalment plans can be customised to suit your own personal situation. You will be kept up to date of the balance and contacted should the credit balance get high. Our intention is to make things easier for families.

You will be emailed regular statements and reminders during the school year of any balances owing. Any unpaid charge is classified as a debt and does get referred for debt collection at the end of the school year.

Please do not wait for the cost owed to the school to get to an unmanageable level. Please ring, email or see us so confidential and discrete arrangements can be put in place.

Please see our Contributions and Charges Explained document available on our [website](#).

Any further questions can be directed to our Corporate Services Accounts Receivable team
Duncraig.SHS.Payments@education.wa.edu.au

