Rationale

Mordialloc College is committed to providing the best possible education to all students of the College by offering access to a broad and diverse curriculum.

The major source of funding for the College is through Government provided funds by way of the Student Resource Package (SRP). This funding provides for a standard curriculum at the College. In order to ensure that our students have access to a more broad and diverse educational program that provides a range of opportunities and rich learning experiences, we ask for the financial support of families in the form of Parent Supported Materials and Services and Subject charges.

Aims

- To ensure that students who attend Mordialloc College receive an education of a commensurate standard and diversity as compared to that being delivered by other schools in the local neighbourhood;
- To allow all students access to a broad and diverse range of subjects to choose from;
- To deliver an educational program that provides a range of opportunities and rich learning experiences for all students;
- To allow subjects offered within the elective component of the school and/or require student consumption or possession of materials to be delivered effectively e.g. Food Technology, Wood Technology, Photography, Ceramics, Art etc.;
- To allow students to have access to subjects that cater for particular interests or prepare for particular career areas e.g. Food Technology, Wood Technology etc.;
- To ensure that the school population is not disadvantaged when high cost subjects are offered;

Implementation

- Parent Supported Materials and Services payments and Subject charges will be determined on an annual basis by the College Council as part of the annual program budget cycle;
- Classroom items that students consume or take possession of will be carefully sourced to ensure the best possible prices are obtained;
- Parent Supported Materials and Services payments and Subject charges will be used during the school year in which they are requested and will be for the direct and immediate benefit of each student;
- Students, who are not eligible for funding through the Student Resource Package, must enrol as full fee paying students and pay the appropriate Government fee to cover their tuition at the College. These students will be exempt from the additional Parent Supported Materials and Services payment and Subject charges;
- Parent Supported Materials and Services payments and Subject charges are divided into the following three categories:

1. Essential Educational Items

These payments are required for all students. It allows the school to fund fully the bulk purchase of materials that students consume or take possession of and services such as our Learning Centre, Enquiry Zone, Mordialloc Experience, a diverse range of elective subjects, text books, sporting equipment, musical equipment, technology, audio visual equipment, external testing materials, guest speakers, the annual swimming and athletics carnivals, stationery, photocopied materials in all subject areas, student awards and attendance at Awards Night. It also contributes to the ongoing costs associated with the College Bus, our colour weekly...
newsletter, colour year level newsletters, the professionally produced annual school magazine and student lockers for all students.

2. **Optional Extras**
   These payments are for educational items, services and programs that a student chooses to use or participate in. These items, services and programs are available only on a strict user pays in advance basis. Optional extra items, services and programs include hire of musical instruments, instrumental music tuition, optional competitions, Selected Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) Program, Year 9 City Experience, Advance Program, school production, year level camps, music camps, excursions, incursions, student locks, student planners, student personal internet access, student personal photocopying, VCE formal, VCE hoodie, Valedictory Dinner.

3. **Voluntary Contributions**
   The College does have a voluntary contributions project for 2014. The development and maintenance of the College Resource Centre.
   
   **This payment is entirely voluntary.** Parents are invited to contribute to the development, maintenance and utility/cleaning costs associated with the Resource Centre.

**Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)/Federal Government’s Schoolkids Bonus**

Families who are in receipt of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) and Federal Government’s Schoolkids Bonus are invited to deposit this with the College and have this available as a credit that can be used to pay school costs and, through a signed agreement, pay for materials/camps/excursions etc.

Any portion of these payments not expended by the end of the school year will be returned to the parent/guardian via cheque unless there is an agreement by the parent/guardian that this money be carried over to the next school year.

- Parent/guardians will be provided with sufficient notice to plan for the payment of the Essential Educational Items, Optional Extras and the Voluntary Contribution. They will also be provided with details of how these monies will be spent via a copy of this policy document;
- Initial notice for payment will be mailed to parents/guardians in November of the year prior to the commencement of the year in which the materials and services are to be used;
- All details of payment or non-payment by parents will remain confidential;
- Invoices for unpaid Essential Educational Items and/or Optional Items accepted by parents will not be generated or distributed more than once a month;
- All students will have access to the standard curriculum;
- Students will not be refused instruction or denied access to the standard curriculum program on the basis of payments not being made for educational items, services or voluntary financial contributions;
- Access to enrolment and advancement to the next year level will not be conditional on the payment of any monies.
Evaluation
Evaluation of Parent Supported Materials and Services and Subject charges will be conducted annually by School Council as part of the program budget cycle.

Mordialloc College endeavours to support families, with suggested payment plans and/or with other appropriate payment arrangements made on an individual basis, by sourcing second hand book and second hand uniform sales and purchase options. In 2014 Mordialloc College will introduce an onsite Uniform Shop for the purchase of new uniforms.

Mordialloc College is sensitive to the differing financial circumstances of individual students and their families. The Principal, Assistant Principals and/or Business Manager welcome parents/guardians to discuss alternative payment methods should they be experiencing financial difficulties.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in 7 November 2013