1. **TEXTBOOKS & STATIONERY:**
   Parents are asked to purchase textbooks for those subjects where textbooks are used extensively for personal study and homework purposes as well as class use.

   Items are purchased from the Link Educational Supplies Pty Ltd booklist which can be accessed on-line (please see separate sheet entitled “How to shop at Link”). Printed copies of the booklist are included in this package. Materials may be purchased elsewhere but we encourage parents to make use of Link Educational Supplies Pty Ltd because:
   - They provide convenient ordering arrangements and either mail delivery to your home or delivery to school in January
   - They pay the school a percentage of takings which contributes towards various student benefits including the provision of a 24 hour accident insurance cover for all students

   As a cost saving to parents, the school council also runs a second-hand book exchange. This enables parents to recoup part of their outlay by selling books no longer needed and purchasing good condition second-hand copies for about 2/3rd of the new price.

2. **STUDENT LOCKERS:**
   All new students are expected to pay a one-off Locker Fee ($60 at Year 7, reducing by $10 per year for new enrolments at other year levels. Once paid, the fee entitles the student to a combination lock free of charge.

3. **EXCURSION AND CAMPING COSTS:**
   (Including fares and/or admission charges and / or replacement teacher costs) – Most are payable when the excursion or camp is organised but in some cases the cost is included in the subject fee.

4. **FAIRHILLS HIGH SCHOOL BULK PURCHASE SUBJECT FEES SCHEME:**
   More extensive learning materials and services are desired by most parents above those provided from the quite limited student per capita Government allocation to schools. The specific subject fees are set by the School Council each year with the expectation that all parents will pay. Parents alternatively may choose to provide the items themselves but, without the bulk purchase arrangements available to the school, this would be a more expensive and less convenient option.

   Council has set the subject fees at $530 for the whole year. This amount is then distributed to the specific subjects of English, Maths, Languages, Humanities, Science, Physical Ed, and Arts.

   The subject fees cover a wide range of items including:
   - Expendable materials such as –
     - Wood
     - Art Supplies
     - Clays and glazes
     - Photography materials
     - Graphics supplies
     - Science chemicals and equipment
     - Sports equipment.
   - The various cultural activities and incursions organised by the different Key Learning Departments to enrich the curriculum
   - Some entrance fees for subject competitions
   - The provision of student reference books in some subjects
   - Sports days
   - Some excursion costs (including transport) in some subjects
   - Participation in our KIOSC programs
   - Participation in the year 9 Global Classroom program

   To ensure consistency with Government Policy the Council provides parents with three options with regard to paying the Subject Fees:
   1. Pay the fees as requested
2. In the case of genuine financial difficulty, the school asks the parent to contact the Business Manager to request an extension to the collection date, or a support subsidy to cover part of the costs of the materials/services.

3. Provide the materials and services themselves. This is usually more expensive and is often inconvenient.

We prefer parents to pay before the end of the preceding year, but at the latest by the due date of 6th February 2015. We ask parents to respond promptly so that:

- we have the money for materials available right from the start of the year
- the school doesn’t have to waste time and money sending out reminder letters to parents.

Financial Assistance (School Kids Bonus) is available from the Federal Government for eligible parents. The state-based EMA is no longer provided.

5. YEARS 7 & 10 COMPUTER FEES

Parents of years 7 & 10 students are asked to pay a $690 Computer Package Fee. This is used to provide each student with a school-owned Notebook computer for their personal use together with a protective carry case, a Department software package (Edustar) and technical support for the following three years.

6. COMPUTER PRINTING ACCOUNTS

Each student is provided with $2 of credit to start each year. Thereafter students are responsible to top up their printing accounts throughout the year as required.

7. INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC FEES:

The government provides the salaries for our instrumental teachers which is a great saving to parents. An additional fee of $50 per year is payable to cover materials/equipment/sheet music costs. This needs to be paid before the student commences lessons.

8. SCHOOL UNIFORM:

All students are required to wear the uniform stipulated by School Council. Buxwear Uniforms, our supplier, operates its own shop at the school, generally setting its prices at or below other uniform retail outlets. Second-hand items are also available. A list of items and prices can be obtained from the office at any time. The shop is open on Wednesday afternoon each week. A special Uniform Support Fund is available for parents experiencing significant financial difficulty. Parents are invited to seek assistance by contacting the Associate Principal, Ms Kathryn Middleton.

9. VOLUNTARY COUNCIL FUNDS:

The Council believes that many parents are willing to make donations to provide additional resources for their students’ benefit. The Council invites donations to the following two Funds which have been structured to provide significant taxation benefits.

**Building Fund:** The School Building Fund is registered with the Australian Taxation Office. Parent contributions made to this fund can be claimed in taxation returns at the marginal rate. For most parents this is approximately 30%. As a consequence, the school receives 30% more than it actually costs the parents to make the donation, by courtesy of the Australian Tax Office. The Council has recommended that the contributions to the Building Fund be $40 per year. The school receives $40 but it only costs most parents about $27. The funds raised are used for minor building projects to enhance the appearance of the school and/or provide additional facilities which are not provided for by the Government. The Council Facilities Committee identifies the priorities for projects early each year. In 2014 the Fund provided $4880.

**Library Fund:** A number of changes have occurred in the provision of Library services over recent years, including computerised cataloguing and borrowing, the provision and maintenance of audio visual equipment, including video cameras and digital cameras for students to borrow when producing work requirements, a much more extensive range of magazines and journals for individual research purposes and CD, DVD and Internet facilities. The Library Fund has been introduced to enable parents to contribute to improving the range of books, magazines and computer resources available for their students. It is registered with the Taxation Office in the same way as the Building Fund so again the school can receive significantly more than what it actually costs the parents. The School Council recommends a donation of $40.00 per year. In 2014 the Fund raised $5085 which was used to purchase additional library books and digital resources.

As there are sometimes misunderstandings about these parent costs, a copy of the Department policy can be found on the Fairhills Website in the ‘Enrolments’ section.