



February 2020

Dear Parents/Caregivers

The Board of Trustees decided in November 2019 to opt into the Donations Scheme for Decile 1 – 7 schools.

The school cannot now ask for donations, **except for overnight camps and trips** where we can request a donation covering accommodation, food and travel components.

If families/whānau or any other organisations still want to give a **voluntary donation** to the school, GST is not payable and donation tax credits can be claimed.

Examples:

- Year 13 Camp (2 nights – parents/caregivers will be asked to pay the cost of accommodation, food and travel. School will pay for external instructors, equipment hire etc.)
- One Day Field Trips; Visit to a Museum/Art Gallery; hiking or kayaking trip etc – will be paid for out of the Donations Scheme Funding as they are linked to curriculum: teaching and learning.
- Extra-curricular trips; culture groups; sports teams etc – parents/caregivers will still be asked to pay costs, fees, subs etc.
- Education Perfect (an inter-active, on-line teaching and learning tool) will be paid for by the school. (In 2020 this will be at a cost of \$21,000 and will be for English, Mathematics & Statistics and Sciences Years 9 – 13; Social Studies Years 9 & 10)
- Provision of SuccessMaker (Reading, Spelling and Maths support) and ESOL (English for Speakers of other Languages) has never been charged for at Te Awamutu College and will remain free.

TE AWAMUTU COLLEGE

Creating Learning Success for Every Student



- Parents/Caregivers will still be asked for payment where there is a “take – home component” in a student’s course, for example:
 - o bedside cabinet
 - o tool box
 - o item of clothing
 - o food produced and able to be taken out of classroom
(These courses will have been selected and costs/fees will have been included in written Course Selection information)
- School Ball – school can request payment for this optional activity
- School Uniform – schools can require students to wear a uniform and request payment for items sold at school
- Textbooks, compulsory workbooks and photocopied handouts are provided free to students.
- Parents/Caregivers/students are still expected to pay for a student’s personal photocopying/printing.
- Parents/Caregivers are expected to ensure that their child/children have the required stationery for each of their subjects/courses.

Obviously, 2020 is a “trial year” for the Donations Scheme and we will be monitoring payments and donations being made and review our involvement at the appropriate time.

Most parents/caregivers will notice a reduction in how much they will now directly pay towards their child/children’s education.

Te Awamutu College is supportive of the principle of greater equity in education as we collectively strive at “**Creating Learning Success for Every Student**”.

Kia Kaha

Craig Yarnndley
(Board of Trustees Chairperson)

Tony Membery
(Principal)