Ocompass Course Confirmations: Setup Guide

A step by step guide on configuring your Course Confirmation template to collect school fees, agreements, donations and responses.

This document outlines:



Template set-up



Payment Items



Tracking & receipting payments

Getting Started

What are Course Confirmations in Compass?

This module allows you to create cycles (templates) to collect payments & information for a defined group of students, where you can:

- Include a range of payment items either a set amount or an optional amount.
- Allow payment via pre-defined instalments, using percentages over set dates.
- Track and monitor the payment status for each student through the portal.

Permissions

Grant your team the right permissions to access and administer the Course Confirmations module, and others with integrate with it, including:

CourseConfAdmin - full access to the Course Confirmations module.

PaymentInstalmentsAdmin - access to administer Payment Plans, and receive emails when an instalment has failed.

PaymentPlansBase - allows the user to view payment plan details but not edit or add payment plans.

CompassPay Portal Login - obtain your login details from your Business Manager or Compass Support to access all transactions and transfers for receipting purposes.

What can I use Course Confirmations for?

Using Course Confirmation's range of payment items, as well as the Agreements & Questions sections, the module can be utilised to take payment, automatically set up payment plans and gather responses.

School Fees

Create and take payment for your school's items, including school fees, essential items and materials.

Agreements & Questions

Gather responses and consent for agreements including Media, ICT, Uniform, etc.

Donations & Voluntary Contributions

Using the unlocked & minimum online fee features, allow parents to choose their own amount for funds (eg. Library, Building, etc.)

Subject Fees

Integrating directly with an export from your timetabling software, allow parents to pay for subjects/electives their students will take.

Compass

Step 1 - Set up your Template

Templates allow you to create a payment cycle for a group of students who all need to complete the same batch of items - the same agreements, questions and school fee/payment items.

Group

Step 1a - Name & Academic Group

Templates are grouped within the Target Academic Year - select the year these fees relate to.

Depending on your school's needs, you may have multiple templates within each Academic Year - for example, if year levels have different pricing and/or payment items.



Step 1b - Description/Summary

Here's where you'll provide an overview of the template, letting parents know what to expect.

Introductory Comment

Word formatting

removed on save (Shown to parents at the beginning of the confirmation process)

You may include payment schedules, what's included in each payment item, and how best to complete the form.

Many schools also enter their contact details here for parents to use if they get stuck!

Dear Parents and Carers,

High School is proud to offer a range of exemplary curricular and co-curricular programs to students across the school. While the Victorian Government supplies most of the school's funding, this is not sufficient to meet all the costs of the school's programs. All schools are dependent on locally raised funds to supplement government funding for curriculum programs, school services and resources. Locally raised funds in the form of parent contributions are essential for the operation of the school's extended learning program, specialist staff and the provision of additional equipment

Parent Payment Policy

The Department of Education and Training (DET) Parent Payment Policy provides advice on the different types of payments that schools may request from parents and outlines the procedures and protocols to which schools must adhere. The High School Council is responsible for developing and approving a school-level parent payment arrangement that is compliant with the Department's policy. The DET policy is available here https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/parent-payment/policy or a hard copy is available on request from the general office.

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High School offers a range of supports to families who are experiencing financial hardship and are unable to make the parent payment. The DET also provides a range of supports to families that will complement the school supports. The school-based arrangements could include establishing payment instalment plans and providing access to school resources.

Step 1c - Open to Parents

When your template has been completed, and you're happy to let parents begin accessing and completing the Course Confirmation - tick the 'Open to Parents' option. Don't forget to also click 'Save' at the bottom of the screen to update the template.

This alerts the parent to the template via a dashboard **notification**. Some schools also send out a News Feed post or email to further notify their parents.

Course Confirmation Template	Created	Condition Flagging	Open?	Remov
2020 School Charges: Year 7 - 10	11/07/2019	[Select Condition]	•	×
2020 School Charges: Prep - Year 6	11/07/2019	[Select Condition]	•	×
2020 School Charges: Year 11 & 12	18/08/2020	[Select Condition]	•	*
2020 Laptop Charges	12/11/2020	[Select Condition]	•	*

Quick Tip!

See which templates are open to parents in bulk from the Course Confirmations Dashboard.

Step 2: Payment Items

Step 2a - Payment Plans (optional)

Tick the 'Allow parents to pay via a Payment Plan' box to allow parents to opt for paying via instalments, instead of all at once.

Add your instalment dates as needed. For example, you may add four instalment dates for each term, and split this up into 25% for each date.

Step 2b - Per-Subject Charges

Quick Tip!

Be notified when a payment instalment has failed 3 times - to chase this up with the parent!

Don't see this option?

Ask our team about our **Payment Plans module** today!

Payment Plans



Course Confirmations allows you to generate specific charges to students based on their subject selections for that year.

For example, if the Food Technology elective is \$20, you can import student subject selections into the template - so the right students are charged applicable elective costs on top of their other payment items.

Export your student's enrolments from your timetable package, and import this file into the template to update everyone in one go! For more information and step by step guidance, search our Knowledge Base.

Step 2c - Payment Items

These are items that are to be paid for by the parents of each student included in the template.

You can add payment items with a set amount that **cannot be adjusted by the parent**, or ones that have a suggested amount that **can be adjusted by the parent** (Building fund donations etc).

Title	Sug	Def	MOF	Lkd?	Tax D	GST?	#	
Essential Items	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	v			1	1
Sports Equipment Contribution	\$75.00	\$50.00	\$10.00			V	2	1
Campus Library Contribution	\$75.00	\$50.00	\$10.00			V	3	1
Voluntary Building Fund Donation	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$0.00		V		4	1

Suggested fee (Sug)	Default Fee (Def)	Minimum Online Fee (MOF)	Locked (Lkd)	Priority (#)
Ideal amount for the parent	Displays as an auto-filled	The minimum amount the parent	Ensures the parent cannot	Determines the order which the payment items appear.
to pay. This displays as	value in the Amount field	can pay for this item.	change the Default amount.	
'Recommended' and cannot	- this can be edited if not	Leave at \$0 if optional, and the	'Fixed' will display next to the	
be edited by the parent.	locked.	correct amount if locked.	item name.	



Step 3: Agreements & Questions

Step 3a - Agreements

Use the Agreements section to include mandatory school documents or policies that your community needs to be aware of.

Add an Agreement, including the title and information. Then, tick whether students and/or parents should sign.

Step 3b - Questions

Set up questions you'd like parents to answer as part of the process.

You can also associate these with agreements, if need be, and see these answers easily through the Additional Questions Export!

Quick Tip!

You can copy your Agreements & Questions into each template - use the same ones each year!

Agreements	Parent Agr	Parent Agreement	
Add Agreement	Agreement	I have read and accept the agreement above.	
Title		 I have not yet read/do not accept the agreement. 	
Acceptable Use Agreement for Internet and Digital Technologies	Full Name		
ICT Agreement			
Privacy Agreement			

Step 4: Add your students

From the **Selected Students tab**, add the relevant students to your Course Confirmations template.

This might be the whole school, or a specific year level, depending on the payment items, agreements and questions included.

Step 4a - Add by a Cohort

Like other Compass modules, use the inclusion boxes to add students within a specific year level, form group, house, class or ID code.

The 'add individual' section is useful for adding students who may enrol after you've already published your Course Confirmations template.

Add Individuals	Type a student/staff name/ID		Add
Add By Group	All Years All Forms All Houses	nclude Future Students	Add
Add By Class	All Classes		Add
Bulk Add ID Codes	Type comma-separated ID codes e.g. AAA0001,B	3B0002,CCC0003	Add

Step 4b - Manually set status (optional)

If a parent has paid manually at the office, or via other means, tick the student's name, and set status to complete for selected.

This will avoid any confusion, and ensures the parent won't be asked to pay through Compass if they've paid externally.

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Step 5: Administer your Payments

As payments are made by parents, either in full or via a payment plan, you're able to track and receipt these quickly and easily. Each transfer provides a clear breakdown of each transaction's details.

All payments are **processed through CompassPay** via daily transfer batches to your school's bank account.

Step 5a - Track Payment Status

As families complete their Course Confirmation, or staff set these manually, the status column on the **'Selected Students' tab** of the template updates to indicate where the parent is up to in the process.

To view specific payment details for a student, locate them in the list and **click the magnifying glass icon** to expand the details.

et S	Status: Complete	e 🗸 Sele	All		Detai	led CSV Export Summary CSV Export Dele	te: Selected	i All	
	ID Code	Last Name	First Name	YL	Form	Complete	CPay Date	CPay ID	
	Y	Y	Y	4					
	ALE0002	BESGROVE	Bailey	10	10A	Awaiting Payment			-
	ALL0014	ALLEN	Michelle	1	01B	In Progress			-
	AND0027	BOURKE	Bryce	10	10A	Complete via Payment Plan			-
	ARD0005	CARSON	Bradley	10	10C	Not Started			
	ARM0013	CHANG	Brandon	10	10A	Awaiting Manual Payment			-
	ASH0004	CLARK	Kenneth	10	10A	Complete			10

Not Started	The Course Confirmation has not been opened/viewed.	Awaiting Manual Payment	Parent has opted to pay manually at the office & downloaded the form.
In Progress	Parent has started the Course Confirmation cycle but has not completed it.	Complete	Payment is complete in full.
Awaiting Payment	Parent has worked through the cycle to the final payment stage but not yet paid.	Complete via Payment Plan	Parent has chosen to pay using instalments and completed their details.

Step 5b - Receipt Payments

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Payments made by parents through Compass are transferred to your school's bank account via daily CompassPay transfers.

Each daily transfer list itemises the transactions received, allowing for simple tracking and receipting. Using the download file, you can **rapid receipt these automatically into CASES21**.



Here's an example Course Confirmation payment showing in the

CompassPay Transfer Batch.

You can see the student's breakdown, including what the parent has chosen to pay for each item, and subject fees if applicable.

Australian Mathematics Competition (69657) - \$6.50	\$97.50	15	Rapid Receipting
Purchase of the Volleyball Playing Top (69693) - \$50.00	\$1,700.00	34	
Volleyball Program Player Training Contribution (69280) - \$60.00	\$360.00	б	
Year 8 AFL (66142) - \$15.00	\$15.00	1	

Download



Top Tips & Tricks

from our School Fees experts

Exports

Detailed CSV Export - breakdown of all payments within the template, broken down by students.

Summary CSV Export - shows all templates and students, with their payment status. For example, this can be useful to identify all the families who are on Awaiting Payment, to see if they need help.

Date 🔺

Additional Question Report - export all answers to the questions within the template in one go.

Flexible Payment Plans

All Payment Plans can be manually adjusted as needed, through the Payment Plans Dashboard (via Grid icon). You can either set up a new plan from scratch, or edit an existing plan to update the instalment dates and amounts, or add/delete as needed.

Perfect for adjusting plans to suit an individual family's needs, or seeing what's left to pay.

Future Students

Add your future students to their Course Confirmation template within the Selected Students tab - just tick the 'include future students' box when adding. As long as you've provided the relevant parents with their login details, they'll be able to complete the template regardless of the student's status.

Compass App Integration

Course Confirmations can be easily paid for within the App - anytime, anywhere.

Parents will see a notification for an open template, and are able to complete all questions, agreements and payment through their mobile device.

03/02/2021	\$375.00	Succeeded	1/3	
15/03/2021	\$500.00	Failed	3/3	
19/07/2021	\$375.00	Pending	0/3	×
	Add Instalment(s)			
	First Instalment:	05/07/2021		

←

Status

Amount

First Instalment:	05/07/2021	•		
Amount (\$):	1.00	\$		
Repeat:				
Repeat method:	O Bill amount o	on each repeat.		
	O Split amount	evenly over inst	talments.	
Repeat pattern:	Every: 1	week(s) until:	05/07/2021	0
Repeat on days:	Mon Tu	Wed	Thu	
	Fri Sa	at Sun		
Total amount:	\$1.00			

Course Confirmations

You have 1 failed instalment requiring action.

Attempts

Course Confirmation/Payment: 2021 School Fees Year 7-12

Dear Parents/Carers

[See More]

General Payment Items

Click on the title of an item for more information.

Item	Recommended	Amount
Essential Items	(Fixed)	\$125.00
Sports Equipment Contribution	\$75.00	\$50.00
Campus Library Contribution	\$75.00	\$50.00
Voluntary Building Fund Donation	\$25.00	\$5.00
Total for this section:		\$230.00

Enter Payment Details

If you have any questions, please call 03 9005 5217 or email support@compass.education



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Course Confirmation and Payments

Click on a course confirmation/payment process below to proceed

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Confirmation/Payment Process	Stat
2021 School Fees Year 7-12 - CARSON, Bradley (ARD0005)	Not Star

*Completed via payment plan

Checklist

Are your Course Confirmations all ready to go?

Template Setup

- Create your Course Confirmation template (if applicable, additional templates if fees vary)
 - Assigned to the correct Academic Year
 - Has a name that makes sense for staff and parents (eg. 2022 School Fees Year 7-12)
 - **Descriptions** are completed (eg. include payment schedules, information, contact details)
 - **Payment items** have been added, using the right configuration
 - **Essential/Locked Items** (eg. school fees, levies, mandatory programs)
 - **Voluntary items and/or contributions** (donations, magazines, uniform items)
 - Your Subject Fees CSV has been imported from your timetable (if applicable)
 - Each item has a description (if applicable)
 - Payment Plan option added and completed (if applicable)
- Agreements added (if applicable eg. ICT, Media Consent, Bullying)
- **Questions** added (if applicable eg. instrumental, volunteering, language)
- **Students** added (ensure these are the right students for this year)

Parent Rollout

O Tick Open to Parents from the Basic Template tab

Alert your parents

- Use our **recommended News Feed** post
- Attach our **Parent Guide to paying for Course Confirmations**
- **Track payment status and receipt payments** throughout your fee collection

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