

13 November 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Tuition Fees and Levies for 2018

Santa Maria College is committed to providing a holistic educational environment within a structure of "One Community, Three Villages", where each student's story is known so that she can learn. Under the governance of Good Samaritan Education the College ensures its long-term educational philosophies and financial viability is sustainable within its mission and vision. An important component of this is providing accessibility to families who want a Catholic secondary education for their daughter.


As you may be aware, the Australian Government through the Gonski 2.0 funding model has recently legislated important changes to how it funds Catholic schools. Santa Maria College receives approximately 62% of its revenue from Government funding and the impact of these changes means that Government funding for Santa Maria College will decrease by 4-5% in 2018. Future funding for Catholic Schools beyond 2018 remains unclear. While our revenue will be reduced significantly for 2018 the cost of education such as staffing costs, curriculum initiatives, technological requirements and building programs continue to increase, placing further pressure on revenue streams.

In light of the above information the College Board has reviewed financial forecasting not only for 2018 year but for the next five years to ensure we are providing a holistic education in a contemporary learning environment that is sustainable. The Santa Maria College Board has set the Tuition Fees for 2018 at \$6,610 per annum. This represents an increase of 6.0% (\$375 increase) from the 2017 Tuition Fees. The Capital Levy remains at \$625 per family for the 2018 year and this assists the College with loan repayments for the Benedictine Centre and future capital works to embed our Village structure.

The "2018 Fee Schedule" and the "2018 Payment Schedule" are attached with other documents to assist the process. This information is also available on our website www.santamaria.vic.edu.au. We encourage you to read these documents as they outline your obligations and expectations in relation to the payment of fees and levies.

If you have any queries in relation to this material, please contact Finance Services and/or Mr Leon Nolen, College Business Manager on 9489 7644.

Yours sincerely



Deborah M Barker
Principal

Encl:



Ms Fiona Leahy
Chair of Board