



School Fees in 2017

7 December 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians

Throughout the School's history, we have endeavoured to provide a high level of service for a relatively low fee, which is central to the ethos of the Anglican Schools Commission. The fees and charges for 2017 are set out in the attached schedule.

As I communicated last year, the most significant change in fees for 2017 relates to structural fee changes for the Primary School. I advised all families to budget for general fee increases greater than inflation, to allow for anticipated future Commonwealth Funding cuts, and I further advised Primary School families to expect additional increases resulting from structural changes. The 2017 fees have been set to better reflect:

- The differences in cost per student to deliver educational programs in Primary School, Middle School and Senior School;
- The increased educational support in Kindergarten and Pre-Primary; and
- The realignment of Primary School fees attributable to reduced class size from Kindergarten to Year 5.

For the majority of Primary School year levels the structural increase will be a one-off increase and subsequent years' increases are expected to be more modest than first communicated last year.

Future Structural Fee Changes

Kindergarten and Pre-Primary: 2018-2019

Increased educational support ratios, improved accessibility to on-entry testing, plus limited State and Federal funding available for Kindergarten will result in these classes incurring the same fees as Years 1 to 5 by 2019. This will add approximately \$50 per term (in 2016 dollars) when the change is fully implemented in 2019 and is in addition to any general fee increases for these years.

Year 6: 2018-2020

As advised last year, Year 6 students will gain broader access to curriculum resources and teaching when they move to Middle School in 2018. This will ultimately result in Year 6 fees being aligned with Middle School fees. The increase will be phased in over 3 years and will add \$715 per term (in 2016 dollars) to the current Year 6 fees, when this change is fully implemented in 2020. No general fee increase will be applied to Year 6 fees from 2018 to 2020, which means that Year 6 fees will be lower than those for Years 7 to 8.

Year 9: 2019-2021

Year 9 students will gain the advantage of increased specialisation and improved facilities with the move to Senior School in 2018. Passing on the increased costs and associated fee will be deferred until 2019 and will transition through to 2021. This smaller increase will add \$170 per term (in 2016 dollars) to the current Year 9 fees, when this change is fully implemented in 2021. No general fee increase will be applied to Year 9 fees from 2019 to 2021, which means that Year 9 fees will be lower than those for Years 10 to 12.

Our continued commitment to providing good value for money

My intent is for this letter to provide clarity regarding tuition fees to our existing and prospective parents to assist you with your own financial considerations for 2017 and onwards. The School offers a Tuition Fee Assistance Plan for families experiencing financial challenges due to unforeseen personal or economic circumstances. Please refer to the School Website or contact the Business Manager directly if you would like to investigate whether you might be eligible for this assistance.

I continue to remain confident that despite our fee increases, our fees, expenditure and long-standing 20% sibling discount still compare favourably to peer comparison. The upcoming completion of the Senior Academic Centre in 2017 confirms the School's commitment to reinvest additional income raised from the above-inflation fee increases to improve the School's facilities. If you would like to discuss the school fees in more detail, please contact my Executive Assistant on 9403 1302 or by email at principal@stmarks.wa.edu.au to arrange a time for us to meet.

Yours sincerely

Cameron Herbert
Principal