



15 November 2021

Dear St Joseph College families

COLLEGE FEE SCHEDULE 2022 AND FEE REBATE UPDATE FOR 2021

Please read the following information carefully.

Key Points

- **2021 COVID-19 Fee Rebate \$300 per student (See Conditions below).**
- **Fee increase 2022 - 2.5%.**
- **2 Additional Camps Budgeted for 2022. Year 7 Victor Harbor SA and Year 9 Central Australia NT (Note the Year 7 proposed camp for 2021 was not budgeted for in the 2021 Global Fee).**

Fee Increase Background

Each year the college works hard to ensure financial stability while keeping fees to a minimum. The decision to raise fees is not taken for granted or made without careful consideration of the resource needs of the college balanced against the capacity of families to contribute and the general economic conditions forecasted.

This year the CPI, as of September, is 3.0% with the December quarter forecast to come in around 0.8% with the opening up of the individual states economies as they get back to normal as much as possible after lockdowns.

This means that costs on average will have risen by a total 3.8% for 2021.

After consideration by the Mercy Education Limited Board, College Advisory Council and the College Executive team, the Global Fees for 2022 have therefore been set at:

Year 7 - \$4293 and Years 8 to 12 - \$5408.

This represents a 2.5% rise and translates to \$2.00 per week at year 7 (\$104 per annum) and \$2.54 per week (\$132 per annum) for Years 8-12.

The decision to not implement the 3.0% or the projected 3.8% rise to cover costs was taken in the light of the financial challenges that some families have experienced this year.

Two Additional Camps Background

A Year 7 camp to Victor Harbor SA and a Year 9 Central Australia camp has been budgeted for 2022. There is now a camp/retreat for each year level at the college.

2021 COVID Fee Rebate Background

I am also pleased to advise that after a review of the College's financial commitments and in light of the challenges we have all faced this year and also in the spirit of three of our Core Values from the College's Strategic Plan being Justice, Compassion and Community, we are in a fortunate position to be able to provide some fee relief for our families.

This will be in the form of an ex gratia refund against the Global School Fees that parents have already paid. The refund is in respect of the 2021 Global School Fees.

The rebate will be \$300 per student

A reminder as to how this figure is derived:

The college operates a large and complex budget which involves many different streams of expenses. All of these expenses have to be covered by the various income streams. The Government, both Commonwealth and State provide approximately 80% of the income stream while the Global fees charged to our families cover the remaining 20%.

As such, any analysis of cost savings the college has made, in the light of a potential refund of global fees, will be limited to 20%. For example, if the college realises a net savings of \$100,000 for 2021 then \$20,000 will be shared amongst our families in the form of fee relief.

A review of the transactions for 2021 has shown the following:

Savings

- Modified camps and excursions. Note only one camp, the Snow Camp was cancelled. As the Year 7 camp was not originally costed into the 2021 Global fee this is not a saving for 2021.
- Curriculum expenses.
- Electricity, gas and water bills.
- Transport costs.
- Casual Relief teachers.

Additional Cost

- Increase of IT bandwidth and virtual access program costs from 2020 levels.
- Cleaning costs.
- Canteen revenue loss.
- Hiring of college facilities revenue loss.
- COVID 19 Fee Relief to those families who have experienced hardship this year.

Please be aware there are conditions that must be met before families will be eligible. The rebate will be offered to families:

- If all fees and any incidental charges incurred have been paid in full a refund will be issued, or if requested, credited to the 2022 fee.
- A credit to the remaining fee balance of 2021. Direct debits will be adjusted accordingly. This is subject to full fee payment being made in the 2021 school year.

Families will not be eligible if the following applies:

- They have already received COVID 19 assistance in previous terms during 2021.
- They are on a reduced repayment plan where there will be an outstanding balance at year end which will be subject to a concession request.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our St Joseph's families that have continued to support and trust us in the ongoing education of your children during these very trying times.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me on 50188000.

Your sincerely



Mr David Lim
Business Manager