



ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE

From the College Advisory Council

St Patrick's College Strathfield

ABN 70 273 700 830

Private Mail Bag 1 Strathfield NSW 2135

Telephone 02 9763 1000

Website www.spc.nsw.edu.au

29 November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the school year draws closer to an end and we look forward to the new year, I am writing to inform you that the Principal and the College Advisory Council have approved the fee schedule for the 2024 academic year.

We recognise the significant commitment families make to educate their son(s) at St Patrick's College, Strathfield. The College has always sought to balance the interests of staff, families, and the community we serve.

The Council endeavors to keep fees affordable for our families while considering the following challenges:

- 2024 reduction in government funding with a shortfall that equates to a 3% increase on each student's fees.
- Rising salaries and wages for our dedicated staff following the negotiation of a new Enterprise Agreement. This equates to an average of 8% increase in salaries for teachers and a 4% increase for support staff.
- Increase in other costs caused by inflation, increased interest rates, and increased insurance.

It is due to these factors that a fee increase has been unavoidable. The College will be absorbing most of the cost increases to alleviate the impact on our families and only undertaking urgent and limited Capital Works. Please refer to the 2024 Fee Schedule attached for further information.

Our fees represent exceptional value for a comprehensive, high-quality education, robust cocurricular sporting and cultural program, excellence in learning and teaching, and faith formation that allows the College to continue to develop young men who are prepared for a dynamic world.

We genuinely value the partnership we have with our parents and carers, and we want to assure you that every dollar of your child's tuition contributes directly to their education and overall College experience. We remain dedicated to creating a positive and enriching environment for all our students.

Building Fund

We appreciate every family's contribution to the College Building Fund. These funds are essential for the ongoing maintenance of, and improvements to our College. The annual contribution to our fund has increased from \$200 to \$250 per term (only over three terms per year). This is the first increase applied in over a decade. The Building Fund of \$750 is charged per year per family.

We absolutely rely on these donations to fund the capital cost of new buildings and refurbishments to existing buildings.

With the completion of the Scientia building, a state-of-the-art-facility, we move forward in the pursuit of creating a campus of excellence for teaching and learning. We continue with the vision of planning for the future, inclusive of high-quality building programs that will shape the learning and formation that occurs within them.

Parents are also invited to make additional payments beyond the Building Fund. This is called a Pledge. A Pledge can be offered for a single year or can be a commitment over several years. The College will always write to you on the expiration of your Pledge to ask if you would like to continue with this commitment.

Over time, all students benefit from these projects and all parents are expected to at least contribute to the Building Fund at the base level. All donations are tax deductible and receipts are mailed out after 30 June each year.

We thank you for your prompt payment of fees each term and for the many contributions financial and otherwise, that families continue to make to our Catholic College.

Financial Difficulty

We encourage any family experiencing financial difficulties in these challenging times to reach out to us on fees@spc.nsw.edu.au. We appreciate your trust and want to ensure that all families feel supported.

On behalf of the College Advisory Council, I wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable festive season, and we look forward to your continued involvement in the St Patrick College, Strathfield community.

Yours sincerely,



Anthony Meaker
College Advisory Council Chair



Dr. Vittora Lavorato
Principal