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Dear Parents & Carers

Re: College Fees

Catholic schools have a long tradition of offering school fee relief and assistance to families facing financial difficulties. Catherine McAuley College keeps fees as affordable as possible, but we know many families will be facing serious financial difficulties during this challenging time.

Earlier this month we provided advice on how the College is assisting families at this time. To view this advice please refer to the following link: [School Fees](#)

We saw recently through the bushfire season and ongoing drought, that some families are more affected than others, so we need to ensure that the right support and assistance goes to where it is most needed.

We appreciate how difficult it is for parents to come forward with financial concerns, but we will ensure each case is handled with care and discretion.

To the question of whether there are any 'blanket' fee reductions, we advise this is not our position. Remote learning for second term has necessitated changes to our infrastructure with a need to implement additional resources to support the effective delivery of the program. Whilst operating costs will decrease in some areas, there are increases in others.

The College operates a "Global Family Fee" which represents the shortfall in revenue needed to balance the College budget after taking into account Commonwealth and State Grants and other ancillary revenue sources. The "Global Family Fee" represents just under one quarter of the College revenue budget. As outlined above, our focus with respect to fees is to follow in the footsteps of our foundress Catherine McAuley and provide compassionate assistance to those in need at this time by supporting many families with fee assistance as they bear the loss of income through unexpected employment.

We will continue to monitor and respond to the impact on our families and the College. We are firmly of the view that no child should miss out on a Catholic education because of financial stress; this includes families seeking enrolment for their children for the 2021 school year.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Business Manager, James Bennett, via email jbennett@cmc.vic.edu.au should you wish to discuss your individual situation.

Yours sincerely

Mr Brian Turner
Principal

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