

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY

RATIONALE:

- The quality and variety of education programs offered by our college are enhanced if government funds are supplemented by voluntary donations from parents.

GOALS:

- To provide high quality learning opportunities that caters for the needs of all students.

GUIDELINES:

- Consistent with the Education & Training Reform Act 2006, our College Council supplements Department of Education and Early Childhood Development funds by seeking voluntary financial contributions from parents and guardians.
- College Council will make clear distinctions between voluntary contributions and those materials and services which parents are required to pay, so that parents are not confused regarding the voluntary nature of the contributions.
- College Council requests for voluntary contributions will be kept to a reasonable level and within expectations of the college community.
- College Council will provide all parents with information detailing the purposes for which voluntary contributions are being collected.
- College council will request voluntary financial contributions in January / February of each year as part of its parent payment schedule.
- As with all parent payments to the college, College Council will provide opportunities for all parents wishing to make voluntary contributions but are experiencing financial difficulties to enter into alternative and confidential payment arrangements with the Principal nominee.
- Unpaid voluntary financial contributions do not constitute outstanding debts. No collectors of any type, including debt collectors, will be used to obtain funds from parents or students.
- The college's proportion of each eligible parent's Education Maintenance Allowance will not be used for the payment of voluntary contributions unless specifically requested by the parent.
- Voluntary contributions are not compulsory, and students whose parents have not paid voluntary contributions will not be treated differently from those who have donated. Similarly, the public identification of students or their parents who have paid or not paid voluntary contributions will not occur.

- The principal will ensure that all staff are aware of this policy and adhere to it.

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| EVALUATION: |
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- This policy to be reviewed as part of the college's two year review cycle, individually, in teams and with the community in 2016.