



McAuley Catholic College

PACIFIC HIGHWAY, CLARENZA
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NON-PAYMENT of FEES

POLICY

McAuley Catholic College is committed to providing a quality Catholic education for all students whose enrolment is accepted. This includes the children of those families who cannot afford to pay the fees which are charged.

McAuley Catholic College is dependent on payment of **Tuition fees** to the Parish Office and payment of **Subject Resource fees** to the College Office, in order to make up the shortfall not covered by State and Federal Government grants and allocations from taxes collected. These fees are used to pay for support staff wages, maintenance costs and the day to day operational costs of the College. In addition, fees are used to service principal and interest repayments on our College loans. Federal Government funding has covered only 51% of all costs associated with construction of McAuley College and the Parish has had to take out substantial loans over the years to cover the balance of the costs of construction.

Parents/Carers who cannot afford to pay all or some of the fees charged must discuss this matter, confidentially, with the Principal and the Parish Manager and either commence a payment plan or explain their position of financial hardship before exemption or partial-exemption from Parish or Subject Resource fees will be granted. This exemption will be granted willingly for those families enduring financial hardship, in line with the philosophy and commitment of Catholic education. All discussions will be kept confidential on a strict 'need-to-know' basis.

However, after issue of invoices, if no contact is made with the Principal and Parish Manager to discuss payment plans or explain financial hardship, then it will be presumed that the non-payment of fees is a choice made by parents/carers and the following action will be taken:

- Semester Reports and References will not be issued until appropriate contact is made with the College Principal and Parish Manager.
- While attendance at compulsory educational excursions and school trips or retreats will be expected and will continue, attendance at non-compulsory trips, camps or excursions will not be allowed until appropriate contact is made with the Principal or Parish Manager. This exclusion includes all sports trips where students represent the College, the 'Snow trip' and all other elective excursions.
- Other action deemed appropriate may be taken after consultation between the Principal, the Parish Manager and the Parish Priest. This may include withdrawal of enrolment.

This College takes seriously the Catholic Church's commitment to help those in need and will steadfastly support those enduring financial hardship, either long-term or short-term, but it has also, an obligation to exercise wise stewardship over its limited resources and therefore must discern between those genuinely needing support and those seeking to gain an advantage from the generosity of others.

Leon Walsh
Principal

Eris Hackett
Parish Manager

Fr Jim Griffin
Parish Priest