
Macquarie College COVID-19 Update 27 ~ 20 October

1 message

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20 October 2020 at 09:42



Good morning Parents and Carers,

This email is intended as a further update, in regards to Macquarie College's ongoing response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Term 4 at MC

Whilst current advice to schools in NSW continues to restrict site access by parents and visitors, for our students, the daily experience of school has largely been maintained in a positive and effective manner. The fact that this is the case is reflective of the hard work of our staffing team right across our campus and also your support as parents and carers for the health and safety measures that have been implemented onsite at MC through this year. Thank you for your continued support of those measures as we seek to maintain a safe and healthy school for both students and staff.

Based upon current advice, it is anticipated that our scheduled Junior and Senior School Closing Programs, Year 12 Formal and a number of other key year-end events will be able to proceed as planned on the currently published calendar dates, albeit with COVID-19 Safety Plans in place and resulting adjustments to what may have traditionally occurred. Details of those programs will be published over the next couple of weeks.

No Increase to MC School Fees in 2021

As has been previously published, Macquarie College remains committed to ensuring that no family will be faced with the decision to withdraw their children from the school based upon financial hardship brought about through the COVID-19 outbreak. Over past years, and as is the case in most schools, Macquarie College adjusts school fees on an annual basis, with the increase in fees typically tied to the standardised increases in the cost of operating the school. That is, the real-world cost of increasing wages and material costs that combined reflect the cost of actually operating the school on a week-to-week basis.

Notwithstanding those real-world costs, Macquarie College places a high value on each and every one of our students and the families they represent and as such, we remain committed to ensuring that we take all reasonable steps to ensure that, as a school community, we will get through this most difficult and complex financial period together.

From within that context, Macquarie College has determined that there will be no increase to K-12 school fees from 2020 into 2021. This decision will result in a genuine saving for families and while it does mean that Macquarie College will need to operate with additional financial diligence throughout 2021, we are also confident that the lived experience for families attending the school will not be diminished.

Thank you to our Business Manager, Mr. Stephen Andrews and the MC Finance Committee, for making this saving possible for our MC families.

MC COVID-19 Relief Fund - Continuing into 2021

As has been previously published, the MC COVID-19 Relief Fund, with the provision of an initial \$200,000, was established in 2020 to support MC families to navigate through this complex financial period via the following assistance measures:

- That the MC COVID-19 Relief Fund be made available to families to ensure that fee support and/or remission is able to be directed most effectively to families in need. (These funds will assist in ensuring that families in need can be assured of their capacity to meet their school fee commitments).

- The implementation of a fast-tracked system of highly flexible fee support and/or remission strategies (this measure streamlines and simplifies the previous support application process to ensure that families needing support are not being asked to navigate unnecessary complexity).
- The monitoring of these measures over the coming months to ensure that if COVID-19 support is still required post the 2021 school year, sufficient plans have been put in place to maintain such assistance on a needs basis.

This update is now confirmation that the MC COVID-19 Relief Fund will continue to operate throughout 2021 and all families are encouraged to contact our Business Manager, Stephen Andrews, at businessmanager@mc.nsw.edu.au, if assistance, via the MC COVID-19 Relief Fund may be beneficial either now or at anytime throughout the 2021 school year.

Finally, please also feel welcome to contact me directly at principal@mc.nsw.edu.au if I can be of assistance over the coming days and weeks. Your feedback and input is both valued and appreciated.

Kind regards

Rohan Deanshaw

Principal

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