



18 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of the College Council I trust that everyone is safe and well during the current challenging Stage 4 lockdown restrictions. I write to update you on financial decisions made by the Federation College Council at our term 3 meeting on Tuesday 1 September.

At the recent term 3 Council meeting, the College Council acknowledged that our teaching staff are working above and beyond to ensure the continuity of learning for our students. The wellbeing needs of both staff and students has also been a priority over this unprecedented time.

Feedback has demonstrated that in this second phase, staff and students are more attuned to the demands of remote learning. The benefits that have emerged around parent, school partnerships important and need to be preserved moving forward.

The College Council is also aware that many families are enduring financial difficulty as a direct result of COVID-19 and the impact that the restrictions are having on the economy. As indicated in previous communications from the College this year, there is support available for families who meet our financial assistance assessment criteria.

The largest expense of a school is staff wages. It is anticipated that these will rise with the negotiation of the new agreement due in 2021. I therefore ask that families continue to support the College by continuing to pay school fees in the regular cycle.

In recognition of the financial hardship that many in our community are currently experiencing, the Federation Council and College Principals have decided **not to raise School fees for 2021**. This decision is taken in consideration of the outstanding efforts that the majority of families are making in contributing regular payments towards the cost of their child's education.

Once again, thank you for all of your support and encouragement throughout this year. The community of Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs has demonstrated collegiality, tolerance and compliance, which has contributed significantly to our successful remote learning program.

Keep safe and take care these school holidays.

Yours sincerely,

Jamie Madigan
Principal