



30 April 2020

Dear Parents

Currently we experience a lot of uncertainty in the world and in our country as well. The education sector and our school community face difficult times in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic. We need to evaluate the situation continuously and adapt to new circumstances. There are many questions on school activities, the offering of quality education and extracurricular programmes. Parents are wondering whether they must still pay school fees even if the school is closed and educators not working at the school. The SGB would like to share with you the following information:

1. School fees are approved by a majority of parents present during the approval of the budget. As such school fees are used to enable the school to manage its expenditure regarding all aspects of a school and to execute the budget as approved.
2. The Schools Act stipulates that parents have a **statutory obligation to pay school fees** unless their application for subsidies and exemptions is approved.
3. The law is not unsympathetic towards parents who cannot pay their school fees and the SGB also will understand. We know that many parents will be affected by the lockdown regulations and that some will lose their livelihood. If that happens you are eligible to apply for exemption or subsidies of school fees.
4. Financial obligations of schools are continuing even when schools are closed. Expenses for example salaries of SGB posts, municipal service accounts and other accounts must still be paid. Educators are still busy with learning and teaching in new formats.
5. The SGB already re-aligned the budget to focus on our core business. If huge changes occur we will inform you and the rest of school community.



6. We would like to urge you to keep on paying school fees. Please contact the school immediately if you can not fulfil your statutory obligation. We will assist you in finding a suitable solution.
7. When schools reopen, probably in phases, we can assure you that we will catch up and provide quality education as always.

The staff would like to assure you that we as a school community will overcome these challenging times. We have empathy with you as our parents in these circumstances and wish you all the best.

Kind regards

Chrismari Aucamp

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