



# LEVIES

## Policy

### **Rationale:**

- Locally raised funds add significantly to the school's ability to provide a diverse and high quality curriculum

### **Aims:**

- To provide a diverse range of high quality learning opportunities for all students.

### **Implementation:**

- School council seeks to supplement Department of Education and Early Childhood Development resources with a variety of locally raised funds, including charging levies.
- Late in term 3 of each year, the Finance committee, after consulting with subject coordinators and other relevant staff members, will make recommendations to school council regarding proposed levies for the following year.
- School council will only consider submissions for levies consistent with Exec Memo No 2005/029: 'School Material Charges and Parent Voluntary Contributions'.
- The purpose and amount charged for school levies will be decided by school council, and communicated to parents as part of the school's book list during November of each year.
- Generally, levies may be charged as subject contributions (eg: class sets of texts, consumable items such as ingredients for Home Economics), or as a service levy (eg: bus fares, locker charges). Any charge must not exceed the cost of providing those materials or services to students.
- Students must not be denied access to a particular subject due to their inability to contribute to the relevant subject levy or any voluntary contribution. However, unless the relevant subject levy is paid the student may not be provided with the higher cost materials or services relating to that subject.
- The provision of student reports cannot be conditional upon the payment of a levy charge or voluntary contribution.
- Items made by students during subjects for which the parents have contributed financially become the property of the student.
- Where a parent pays a levy for a specific purpose, the school may not use the funds for any other purpose without the consent of parents.
- The school portion of each eligible parent's Education Maintenance Allowance can be used to pay for school levies for materials and services that parents are normally expected to pay.
- As with all parent payments to the school, school council will provide opportunities for all parents experiencing financial difficulties to enter into alternative and confidential payment arrangements with the principal to pay school levies.
- In addition to school levies, school council may also seek voluntary contributions.

### **Evaluation:**

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four-year review cycle. School council will review the level and purpose of school levies annually.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

November 2007