Friday, 18 October 2019



Dear Parents

## The cost and value of a personal education for boys

It is a privilege for the Board of Governors to be a part of a community that is so committed to providing personal education for boys. Over time, St Charles College has come to represent hope, and resistance to mediocrity, and we are conscious of our need to constantly refine and adapt what we do. We have the unique opportunity to offer international standards in a values-based environment and ensure that our boys can confidently approach the future and what it brings.

When we examine the budgets and set fees each year there is an opportunity for every individual in the organisation to evaluate what they do and set new standards for the coming year. So, when the management and staff of the College charge the Board of Governors to 'deliver a school that Africa needs', we also understand that there is a cost to providing value at this level. Collectively our goal is to deliver on our commitment to quality and to honour your trust in us.

You will notice that we have taken some bold steps this year in response to our understanding of the particular pressures that parents experience at particular moments in their education investment journey with us. Past structures and thinking have been simplified and increases at particular grade levels, and in boarding particularly, have been applied, or limited, to reflect the reality of the financial lives of our families.

This year our development program included the delivery of two of the five large projects that have been prioritised. Development projects are advanced on the basis of having the most positive impact on the greatest number of boys/families. The upgrading and extension of the hockey facilities, with LED lights, has certainly impacted boys across the College. The new boarding establishment meets international standards and allows the repurposing of space that is freed up for the extra classrooms we need and the redesign of our media centre of the future. Migrating to a digital environment in the Senior School and the strengthening of arts, culture and technology pathways are just some of the ways that more boys can be extended and developed. At every level we are working to place what we offer at the very edge of world-class practice.

We are pleased to invite commentary on the fee structure\*. Any constructive commentary can be sent to <u>commentary@scc.co.za</u> and will certainly be included in the annual discussions of the Finance Committee.

Yours faithful

S Quin Chairman St Charles College Board of Governors (18-Oct-19)



\* Our commentary is attached to the back of the fee structure.