



Islamic College of
South Australia

07th April, 2017

Assalamu alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu,

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As you are aware we are fast approaching the end of Term 1 - 13 April 2017. This date is also the date that our funding will cease from the Federal Government.

This decision by the Federal Government was made on 15 February 2017. According to the Australian Government official from the Department of Education and Training, this decision quote- *'has not been taken lightly and the department is well aware of the impact across the school community - for students and their families, and College staff. However, after a long process spanning many years, the department was left with no alternative. In addition to issues around financial management, the governance arrangements at the school - including a constant turnover of Board members since 2015 - remains a concern.'*

In order to be eligible to receive Australian Government funding, it is very clear that all school authorities must meet the requirements of the Australian Education Act 2013 (the Act). School authorities are required to have appropriate governance and financial management arrangements in place, and ensure that funding is used for the benefit of the school in providing school education.

Unfortunately, since 2012, according to the department, our school has been the subject of ongoing review, which has included formal audits, to examine its governance and financial arrangements and how Australian Government funding is being used.

In 2015, an audit found our school had serious non-compliance issues around financial management and governance. The Department of Education and Training issued a formal Notice to our school in November 2015, which outlined how our school was not complying with the requirements of the Act.

In April 2016, the department imposed further conditions on our school. These conditions included obligations around governance and financial management, and that our school must report regularly to the department throughout 2016 on progress with changes at the school in order to comply with the Act. Unfortunately, our school has not been able to demonstrate full compliance with the conditions and the Act.

As a consequence, on 16 February 2017, the department notified our school its approval to receive Australian Government funding has been revoked, with the decision to take effect from 13 April 2017. As part of that notification, our school was advised it has 30 days from the date of the decision to apply to the department for a review.

On 17 March 2017 the Chairman submitted the application and we are waiting to hear from the Senior Departmental Officer who will review the Decision and review our Application and then make a decision and inform the school. According to the department, this decision can take from 4 to 8 weeks or even longer. In other words, it can take as long as the Senior Departmental Officer requires. So in the meantime, we just have to wait and wait patiently...

On a happy note, I was really happy to receive a letter from the Australian Government today during Jum'a Prayer which approved a payment of \$445,480 to our school. This is a big relief for the school. This means we all come back to school on Monday May 1st 2017 for Term 2 inshallah. During this time, I am anticipating that we will receive good news from the Senior Departmental Officer approving the

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continuation of our funding because we are and will be complying to all the sections of the Education Act which were mentioned in the Notice.

I pray you all enjoy the final week of Term 1 and have a good, safe and restful break during the two week Autumn School Holidays.

May Allah guide and protect us all, Ameen.

I'd like close this letter with a well known Surah from the Holy Quran to remind myself first and you all of Allah's statement. Although only three verses its meaning is very clear and deeply profound:

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

1. By the Time *through the ages*.
2. Surely mankind is in loss.
3. Except those who Believe (have Faith) and Do Good Deeds; enjoin one another to (follow) the Truth, and enjoin one another to Patience.
(Holy Quran, Chapter 103, Verses 1-3).

Yours in Islam,

Br Kadir Emniyet
Principal

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