



ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE SUTHERLAND

FUNDRAISING POLICY

This policy recognises fundraising as a legitimate activity, undertaken by the College and based on the values inherent in the College's vision statement.

Context

St Patrick's College has a deep commitment to supporting a range of charitable organisations. It is important that this service to others is informed and guided by the key principles of Catholic Social Teaching and that due consideration is given to the competing needs of different groups and organisations.

St Patrick's is involved in four types of fundraising, all of which require the approval of the Principal:

1. General Fundraising: Each year, our usual fundraising efforts are directed towards charities such as Caritas Australia (Project Compassion), Charitable Works Fund and meeting local needs through Catholic Mission eg Christmas hampers.
2. Curriculum Based Fundraising: This type of fundraising flows from specific learning outcomes associated with learning areas and units of work eg to reduce costs for excursions such as World Youth Day.
3. Disaster Response: This type of fundraising arises in response to sudden local or global needs
4. Other: This type of fundraising is approved at the discretion of the Principal eg to contribute to graduation expenses. Fundraising intended to obtain individual financial gain or advantage will not be approved. Fundraising must benefit the student body. Students should not use the confines of school to raise funds for individuals or outside organisations.

Principles

Our fundraising policy is aligned with Sydney Catholic School's '*Catholic Social Teaching – A Framework for Faith in Action*' and therefore assists in our discernment of the increasing number of requests for financial support through fundraising activities.

St Patrick's College will:

- give priority to Catholic organisations and agencies, especially Caritas Australia, Catholic Mission, St Vincent de Paul and the Archdiocesan Charitable Works Fund. Particular support should also be given to Religious Congregations involved in works of welfare, mission, outreach and advocacy
- be sensitive to the purpose and function of the Catholic Education Foundation when the support of external charities
- investigate the philosophy, mission and 'known practices' of non-Catholic charitable organisations so as to avoid those that have positions contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church
- develop a strategic approach to mission and outreach, providing a balanced and appropriate response to local needs, and national and international causes. Charitable commitments should be carefully planned on an annual basis so as to ensure that communities are not overburdened
- facilitate opportunities for education and formation so that fundraising and social outreach do not occur in isolation but are experienced and viewed within the full context of the Christian tradition
- consider carefully the need to support 'high profile' campaigns which already receive significant community, and in some instances, government support
- establish and promote alternatives to fundraising, enabling opportunities for advocacy, awareness-raising and volunteerism
- recognise students, staff and families may give generously to charities externally and therefore encourage rather than oblige students to participate in, or contribute to, fundraising as a means of social outreach. Financial support to charities should always be voluntary
- operate with total transparency in the support of charities, especially where fundraising is involved. All members of the community should be made aware of the purpose and processes of any monetary collection, and advised of the final amount to be contributed
- review periodically their support of charities and engagement in social outreach. This evaluation should include an examination of how monies/resources are utilised by beneficiaries, and consider the balance and sustainability of the levels of support.