



ST PIUS X COLLEGE

CHATSWOOD

18 August 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Changes to the College's Text Book Hire Service for Years 7-12 in 2018

For many years, families of the College have benefited from the convenience provided through the College's Text Book Hire service. Recent changes to curriculum through the NSW Education and Standards Authority (NESA) have led to the introduction of a range of new courses and material to be covered commencing in 2018. In the following years, additional new courses will continue to be introduced as NESA implements their HSC Reforms and continues with the transition to the Australian Curriculum. The introduction of each new course will require the acquisition of new textbooks to support teaching and learning. In addition to this, licencing and copyrights restrictions are in many cases preventing the College from passing on e-textbooks each year to new students.

In projecting the effects of these continued changes, the economic benefit of a Text Book Hire arrangement for families will be significantly and increasingly diminished. As such, the College has made the decision that it will not be feasible to continue to provide the services of Text Book Hire. This will be phased out over the next two years.

Therefore parents and carers with sons in Years 7, 9 and 11 (being the commencement years for what NESA refer to as Stages 4, 5 and 6) for the 2018 academic year will be responsible for the acquisition of textbooks. Students in Years 8, 10 and 12 in 2018 will continue with their books as issued under the current system. This will change for these students in 2019.

In the past, the College has used a portion of the Resource Fee that has been charged to parents and carers to fund Text Book Hire. Next year, the Resource Fee for Years 7, 9 and 11 will be reduced by \$203 to reflect these changes and the new Resource Fee will be \$375.

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Parents and carers of students in Years 8, 10 and 12 in 2018 will still benefit from the current Textbook Hire System and will therefore continue under the present arrangement and Resource Fee.

From the commencement of 2019, the phasing out of Text Book Hire will be completed and all parents and carers with sons in Years 7 through to 12 will be responsible for the acquisition of textbooks.

To implement this change, during Term 4 the College will issue booklists for Years 7, 9 and 11 and will nominate a preferred supplier(s) to facilitate the purchase of textbooks. Parents and carers are not obliged to purchase textbooks from the nominated supplier and may acquire textbooks from other sources.

The following table projects the anticipated costs of purchasing textbooks based on current prices and the College's existing curriculum. It is anticipated that in most cases, parents and carers may choose to purchase either a hard copy text, or online version or both. Please refer to the accompanying explanatory notes on how these costs have been calculated.

Anticipated Costs of Purchasing Textbooks		
	Low Cost	High Cost
Stage 4 Years 7 and 8 2018-19	\$346.17	\$598.06
Stage 5 Years 9 and 10 2018 -19	\$510.51	\$865.08
Stage 6 Year 11 and 12 2018 -19	\$547.66	\$734.97

Explanatory Notes – Calculation of anticipated costs

- Based on prices from current supplier as of May 2017 and subject to change.
- Costs are for a Stage as some books will be used for two years.
- Low Cost – cheapest option possible –this would either be an online or hardcopy version depending on what is offered by publishers.
- High Cost – most expensive option – a combination of online and hard copy versions if available.
- Year 7 and 8 includes the cost of all subjects requiring textbooks.
- Years 9 and 10 costs are based on core subjects that all students undertake and includes the three most expensive elective subjects. Final costs will depend on the combination of elective subjects chosen.
- For Years 11 and 12, this is an average cost based on six different subject packages. The final cost will depend on the range of subjects chosen.

Parents and carers of students in the Junior School (Years 5 and 6) should note that there are no changes to the present arrangements. In the Junior School the textbooks are used as workbooks in which the students write their responses. The current Resource Fee of \$578 will remain for the Junior School.

The College acknowledges that the phasing out of Text Book Hire will be an additional expense and responsibility for parents and carers. In considering this decision, the College believes that this is the most efficient and effective approach to providing teaching and learning resources for the students and it will bring benefits in enabling the provision of the most up to date materials.

Further detailed information will be presented at the Parents and Friends Meeting on Monday 21st August in the Sarto Centre commencing at 7.30pm.

As is always the case, the College will assist parents where there are financial difficulties and parents are invited to contact the College Business Manager, Mr Nick Carson to discuss these matters.

Once again, I thank parents and carers for their ongoing support of the College in its endeavours to provide the best education for the students in our care.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Couani', followed by a small dot.

Mr John Couani
Principal