

22 October 2024

Assalamu alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh families,

InshaAllah this letter finds you in the best state of health and iman. Alhamdulillah, we are in the last term of the year. Our VCE students will soon start their final exams. It can be a nerve-racking time but I'm confident that both our students and their teachers have done the hard work to see each of our students perform at the best. We wish them well and make dua for their success. The following letter is to share important news and reminders to our parents as we approach the end of 2024.

Student-free day for secondary school students

The College has designated <u>Friday 22 November 2024</u> as a student-free day for secondary school students. The day will allow teachers to prepare academic reports and make the necessary arrangements for a smooth introduction of 'Real Start' from Monday 25 November. Real Start introduces students to their teachers and classes for 2025 for the final two weeks of this year. The initiative allows students to commence the new academic year with confidence.

Primary School students will continue to attend school – the student-free day is for secondary school only. Please make the necessary arrangements for your secondary school child/children.

Important dates for end of 2024

Below are some important dates to keep in mind for the remainder of 2024:

- Monday 4 November Student-free day (all students)
- Tuesday 5 November Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
- Friday 1 November 2025 Bus Application Forms due (see below for full details)
- Friday 15 November 2025 Financial Assistance Forms due (see below for full details)
- Friday 22 November Student-free day (secondary students only)
- Friday 6 December Students last day for 2024 (dismissed at 2:30pm)

Bus applications for 2025

Minaret College's bus service offers a safe and convenient way for children to attend school each day. As a reminder, applications for the bus service are now open, and as we have limited allocations, I encourage you to submit the form as soon as possible. We do not assume that current bus users will continue with the service in 2025 so whether your children currently use the bus service or not, please ensure to **submit your application by 1 November 2024.** The application forms are available from the admin team at your child's respective campus.

T 03 9574 0567

2025 School and bus fees

Each year we review our school fees to ensure they remain both accessible to our families and ensure they are aligned to the operational expenses of the College. In 2025, school fees will increase by 5%. Fees for the bus and ELC will remain unchanged. We encourage parents to take advantage of the 10% discount made available for all families who pay the full years fees by the due date printed on the invoice. 2025 school fee invoices will be issued in Term One 2025.

Concessions for 2025

Each year the College reviews family concession details to ensure 2025 school fees have the appropriate concessions applied. **Families with a valid means tested concession card must submit a Financial Assistance Scheme form to the finance team by Friday 15 November.** Concessions applied in 2024 do NOT rollover to the subsequent year so please ensure you submit the appropriate paperwork for continued or new concession arrangements.

Term dates for 2025

As a reminder, term dates for 2025 are included in the table below and are available for easy reference on our website. As is our standard approach, students are dismissed at 2:30pm on the last day of each term so please keep this in mind and make any necessary arrangements for the earlier pick-up time. Also please note that the Term One school holidays next year will be 3 weeks in duration. This is due to Eid ul Fitr and Easter Public Holidays spanning those three weeks. Holidays for the remainder of the year will be the typical 2 weeks.

Term	Term Begins	Term Ends	Comments
Term One	Tues 28 Jan	Fri 28 March	 Australia Day Holiday – Mon 27 Jan Ramadan – Fri 28 Feb – Sun 30 March (TBC) Labour Day Holiday – Mon 10 March Eid ul Fitr Holiday – Mon 31 March – Wed 2 April (TBC)
Term Two	Wed 23 April	Fri 4 July	 Easter Monday – Mon 21 April Anzac Day Holiday – Fri 25 April Day of Arafat – Thurs 5 June (TBC) Eid ul Adha Holiday – Fri 6 – Sun 8 June (TBC) King's Birthday Holiday – Mon 9 June
Term Three	Tues 22 July	Fri 19 Sept	
Term Four	Mon 6 Oct	Fri 5 Dec	 Student-free Day – Mon 3 Nov Secondary Student-free Day – 21 Nov Melbourne Cup Holiday – Tues 4 Nov

Revised and new policies

- To ensure a positive and safe experience for all students on the bus service, we have a published a Parent Code of Conduct Bus Services. The full policy can be found in the policies section of our website.
- We have also revised the Student Uniform Policy, to give greater clarity on the expectations for student haircuts. The full policy can be found in the policies section of our website.

May Allah (SWT) put place barakah in our efforts and time. Ameen.

Kind regards,

Mohammed Taksim

Executive Principal