Policy: School Donations

Policy Statement

Jireh Christian School ("the School") Board recognises that voluntary donations are an important source of income and are used to provide, enhance or improve facilities and resources for the School and its students. The School acknowledges its responsibility to set a suggested voluntary donation amount that is reasonable and affordable for the parent body.

Policy Terms

1. "School Development Donation" – a voluntary contribution towards the general property maintenance of the School.
2. "Special Character School Donation" (formerly "Special Character Donation") – a voluntary contribution towards the general operation and resources of the School. The School uses the name "School Donation" in all enrolment documentation, prospectus material, and website content.
3. "Special Character Donation" – a voluntary contribution requested by the Proprietor, the New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust ("NZCPT"), to support the provision, maintenance or development of the School's special character.
4. "Attendance Dues" are not voluntary donations. They are compulsory fees payable directly to NZCPT, under clause 30 of Schedule 6 of the Education and Training Act 2020. Ongoing failure to pay attendance dues may result in the Proprietor requesting the Principal to remove students from the roll.
5. "Activity costs" are considered separate from donations. Activity costs directly correspond to learning outcomes.

Procedural Guidelines

1. The Board sets and reviews by resolution the School Development Donation and the School Donation ensuring it is reasonable, transparent, and affordable.
2. The Board will review the School's Equity Index (EQI) annually to confirm or reconfirm the School's eligibility for the Government's School Donations Scheme. While the School remains ineligible, the Board will continue to set its own voluntary donations.
3. Any qualifying donation or contribution will be recorded and receipted in accordance with applicable tax requirements, so that donors can claim any tax credit or deduction to which they may be entitled.
4. Under clause 34(2) of Schedule 6 of the Education and Training Act 2020, all financial contributions other than Attendance Dues, whether requested by the Board or the Proprietor, must be voluntary, and no student may be refused enrolment because of a parent's unwillingness to contribute.
5. Activity costs should only be requested sparingly from parents. Costs may be requested for items that involve a take-home item, e.g. a clock made in Technology and activities not deemed directly related to the curriculum. Activity costs need to be carefully managed to ensure that students who either cannot afford or are unwilling to pay the costs are provided with a similar activity at School which can achieve a similar educational outcome.

Legislative Compliance

Education and Training Act 2020
Financial Information Schools Handbook, MoE

Review schedule: Annually

ADOPTED BY BOARD

Date 12th September 2017 Chairperson **R Thornton (Acting)**

Reviewed Date	31st October 2017	Chairperson **R Thornton**
Reviewed Date	16th October 2018	Chairperson **G Budler**
Reviewed Date	15th October 2019	Chairperson **M Causley**
Reviewed Date	1st December 2020	Chairperson **M Causley**
Reviewed Date	25th May 2021	Chairperson **M Causley**
Reviewed Date	24th May 2022	Chairperson **M Causley**
Reviewed Date	20th February 2024	Presiding Member **A Coombridge**
Reviewed Date	15th September 2026	Presiding Member **A Coombridge**