



MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL

ABN: 41003 864 891

KNOWLEDGE IS LIGHT & WORK IS WORSHIP

www.mfis.nsw.edu.au

INFORMATION UPDATE

FROM THE BOARD OF MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL

Thursday, 29 March 2018

Assalamualaikum

Students first as we work to secure our future

The first and the most important thing to tell you is that the Board and leadership of Malek Fahd Islamic School will continue to put first the interests of students as we work to resolve our School's future and security of government funding.

We will throughout keep you informed of progress with timely updates.

Following last week's Federal Court rejection of our appeal to maintain government funding, the Federal Department of Education and Training advised us that the School would receive no further funding.

You will recall from last week's *Information Update* that Federal Court Justice Wigney stated: '*I agree with what both Perram J and Mortimer J have said in relation to the events that occurred after the hearing of the appeal and the refusal of the School's application to lead fresh evidence. One can only hope and expect that, given those developments and the circumstances generally, any new approval application by the School would receive favourable consideration.*'

The Court could not take into account the improvements and current compliance of the School with the Australian Education Act. The only way in which to demonstrate this and regain our funding is to submit a fresh application. Yesterday, I wrote to Education Minister Senator Simon Birmingham to initiate that process.

As I wrote to Senator Birmingham, the new Board has since March 2016 repaired all areas in which the School was mismanaged by previous Boards. As a result, and along with the resolution of legal action by the School against the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils, the Board is confident that the School is compliant with the Act.

The Board is confident that this can be resolved in our favour within timeframes that ensure no interruption to any student's education and welfare.

Jazakallah Khairan for your ongoing support.

Wassalam

DR JOHN BENNETT

Chair