



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, 19 November 2020

Assalamualaikum

MFIS and the NSW Minister

As reported in the Board Update on 9 September, the School received a letter from the NSW Minister for Education on 7 September 2020 that stated she was lifting the suspension of State Government financial assistance payable to the School. The letter advised that: 'the provision of state financial assistance will recommence after the school receives this letter. This will include any state financial assistance due but unpaid since the funding suspension due and any debt recovery required. I am pleased to see the effort your School has made to ensure it complies with the requirements of the Act and commend you for this effort.'

Quite reasonably, based on this and other statements in the letter, it was assumed that the matter had been finalised and that the concerns of the NSW Minister had been resolved. The Minister's letter made no reference to any potential further action/s with regards to this matter.

It, therefore, came as a shock on Monday, 16 November (more than two months after her previous letter was sent) to receive a letter that stated, 'Before I make my final decision regarding the issue of recovery, I seek further clarification/information in relation to some of the submissions that the school has made.'

The letter also confirmed that 'given the serious nature of the matters contained in this letter, you may wish to seek independent legal advice'.

You can be assured that the Board has already begun this process and will provide a response to the Minister within the 14 days she has allowed.

The school will continue to receive both State and Commonwealth funding provided it continues to remain compliant with State and Commonwealth legislation. This final matter to resolve is whether the NSW Minister will decide that the School needs to repay any money provided to it by the NSW Government in 2014 and 2015 and, if she decides 'Yes', how much should be repaid and over what period of time.

You can also be assured that the School will continue to operate as normal and will deliver quality programs to your children aimed at ensuring every student has the opportunity to achieve their personal best intellectually, physically, emotionally, socially, religiously, morally and vocationally.

Best wishes to Year 12

Yesterday the Graduation assembly for our Year 12 students was held at Homebush. COVID-19 restrictions meant only Year 12 students, their parents and their teachers were able to attend.

The Board wishes all Year 12 students the very best for the future and hopes that they will look back with pride and pleasure on their years at MFIS and remain in contact with the School.

Wassalam.

DR JOHN BENNETT

Chair