

YEAR 12 RETREAT PROCESS

Updated: 2025
Review: 2029

Rationale

The Year 12 Retreat is an integral component of the Religious Education program. It aims to assist students in recognising the importance of holistic development and give further understanding to the ideal of “fullness” of life. Activities are designed to open students to their spiritual dimension and stage as well as fostering a sense of community and a heightened awareness of their own giftedness and that of others.

Students are away for 2 nights at an external site, during Term 2, after their Semester 1 Exams. The Retreat provides students with the opportunity to reflect, share and wonder on their past life experiences, their present circumstances and what the future may bring.

The College views the Retreat as an opportunity for students to contemplate on how the Mercy values of respect, courage, compassion, service, hospitality and justice will guide their future decisions.

Finance

Parents contribute to the cost of the Retreat with the costing appearing on their Tuition Statement at the commencement of Year 12.

The College is required to inform the external provider of the final number of attendees three weeks prior to the commencement of the Retreat. The College will be charged for this number of attendees.

Notification of Extenuating Circumstances / Credit

All Year 12 students are expected to attend the Retreat.

Should there be extenuating circumstances which prevent a student from attending, the following process will be implemented:

1. The family is required to notify the College in writing as soon as possible, indicating the reason for their child not attending. Supporting documentation, where appropriate, should be provided at the time. The Head of Year 12 or the Director of Ministry & Community may contact the families to discuss the matter, depending on the circumstances for not attending.
2. Following the completion of the Retreat, each extenuating circumstance will be considered by the Head of Year, Director of Ministry & Community and the Finance Manager to determine if families will be credited.

Where a decision is made to provide a credit to the School Fee Account, the following guidelines will apply:

- a. The family notified the College of their child’s inability to attend the Retreat more than 3 weeks out from Retreat: full refund will be credited to the family.
 - b. The family notified the College of their child’s inability to attend the Retreat within the 3 weeks leading up to the Retreat: a partial credit may be considered depending upon the amount charged by the external provider for food and accommodation.
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