

# Nunawading Christian College

## Scholarship Policy



### Document Control

Revision Number	Implementation Date	Review Date	Description of Changes	Prepared By	Approved By
New Policy	June 2024	June 2027	New Policy	Mark Roberts	School Executive School Council

# Scholarship Policy

## Rationale

At Nunawading Christian College (the School), we support each individual student in developing their own voice and identity, as well as health, mind, and spirit. Learning is the heartbeat of our culture and throughout the history of the School each student has been instilled with the self-belief and resilience to embrace new opportunities and the confidence to pursue their passions so they make their way bravely, faithfully and happily through life.

## Background

Nunawading Christian offers a limited number of Academic, Leadership and Special scholarships on an annual basis. Scholarships recognise achievement, enable success and assume a commitment to the School.

The number of scholarships and their values (percentage of concession of fees) will vary from time to time and are dependent on the School's enrolment capacity and the sources of support, as some scholarships are possible due to the generosity of donors.

They are determined annually by the Principal and Heads of School. Each category of scholarship has varying limits of concession as detailed in the policy, but applicants should note that the School holds an expectation that all families should make their fair annual financial contribution.

Nunawading Christian College stresses the holistic formation of its students and sees education as a partnership with families. Families are expected to share the philosophy, priorities and aims of the school, as set out in the school prospectus, and to support the ethos of the school. The school expects scholarship recipients to follow all school expectations and show broad commitment to school life beyond single areas of interest.

## Policy Statement

Scholarships are generally tenable for the student's years remaining at the School (Academic Scholarship is an exception). Scholarships are open to both prospective and current students and are advertised externally via the School website, digital and social media and through other advertising forms.

All scholarships carry substantial concession of fees throughout the student's time at the school or duration of the scholarship. The scholarship application process is consistently over-subscribed and thus it is important that the scholarship holder is subject to six-monthly appraisal and review. No scholarship is awarded on academic excellence alone; in other words, those who score the highest results are not necessarily the ones who receive scholarships. The school reserves the right to withdraw a scholarship in the event of unsatisfactory progress. Only one Scholarship Concession can be held by a student at any one time.

All scholarships are awarded subject to satisfactory behaviour and involvement. In the case of Leadership scholarships, the successful student is expected to maintain their interest and involvement in the school Leadership program and to participate in Leadership recitals and programs as requested by the Leadership Department. In the Academic Scholarship successful students are expected to maintain their standard of excellence and effort.

In most cases, scholarships provide for some concession of tuition fees only. Nunawading Christian College believes that families should share the educational investment; therefore, in addition to the remaining tuition not covered by a scholarship, parents are expected to meet other expenses, such as:

- Uniforms
- Books
- Extra-curricular activities
- Annual Composite Levy

Scholarship applications are considered based on certain criteria and supporting documentation, as set out in the application form/process. Given the strong interest in scholarships, applicants may be competing against students with wide and varying abilities and backgrounds that are factors in their possible selection, and only some applicants will be short-listed for interview or to sit the Academic Scholarship exam.

Full Fee Paying Overseas Students are not eligible for these scholarships.

## Enabling Structures

All scholarship applications are expected to meet the following criteria:

- A commitment to embrace the Christian mission, philosophy and ethos of the School
- Acceptable and consistent performance in the classroom.
- Demonstrated commitment to learning and involvement in the life of the school via past reports, references, academic awards and achievements

- Specific background performance or participation for special / general excellence awards

Academic and Leadership scholarships are advertised online and in the media each year. Scholarships examinations are held at the School on the advertised date.

The final decision on awarding scholarships will be made by the Principal. All families who have been interviewed or have sat the Academic Scholarship exams will receive notification of this decision.

The School will not enter into discussion concerning reasons for awarding or not awarding either interviews or scholarships. The School respects the confidentiality of each applicant and, as such, does not publicise information about scholarship recipients at any stage in the selection process. Similarly, results of scholarship examinations and Leadership auditions are confidential and not released by the School.

## Academic Scholarships

All candidates must apply to sit the academic examination by completing the Scholarship application. Successful applicants will be invited to sit the Academic Scholarship examination.

This process may include an interview.

Applicants who have successfully addressed the criteria mentioned above will be invited to sit the Academic Scholarship. The scholarship panel, chaired by the principal or their delegate, will invite successful applicants after reviewing the application and the material demonstrating commitment to learning and involvement in the life of the school (also mentioned above).

Academic scholarships are awarded at 50% of Tuition Fees for the duration of the scholarship. Year 6 students can apply for the 1 year scholarship in Year 7, and Year 9 students can apply for the 3-year scholarship in Years 10-12.

A higher concession would be at the Principal's discretion based on family circumstance, positions available and all-round credentials of the applicant, as an example. The number and value of scholarships offered will vary from year to year and be at the discretion of the Principal noting strategic and budgetary requirements.

Academic scholarship students will be subject to an annual review. The student will be expected to actively participate in the life of the School and meet all

behavioural and conduct expectations. The student will need to maintain a satisfactory academic performance and attendance record.

The academic review may involve an interview with the student to discuss progress, learning strategies and setting personal goals.

Where any concern is held on performance, a meeting with the family will occur with prescribed objectives set for a defined period to ensure the student understands the minimum requirements of the scholarship going forward. Where such standards are still not met, the Principal may resolve to remove the scholarship.

More detail about the Academic Scholarship exam is set out in the attached document (Appendix).

## Leadership Scholarships

Nunawading Christian College offers Leadership scholarships annually for students in three different categories - Business, Community and Spiritual.

As academic achievement is also taken into consideration for Leadership scholarship applicants, the past two years of school reports will be taken into account with each student's application.

The Leadership The Principal has the discretion to consider amending the concession amount where family and school circumstances determine such a need.

The process for Leadership Scholarships is set out in the attached protocol (Appendix).

Leadership scholarship expectations and review.

The successful Leadership scholarship applicant is expected to take an active part in the Leadership life at the School. This includes attendance at lessons, classes, chapel and specified events/activities. Each successful applicant is expected to be part of one or more assemblies that have a specific need for their skill set.

An annual review meeting may be held in the second semester between the student, parent(s) and Principal (any member of the School Senior Leadership Team may also attend) in order to determine the ongoing tenure of the scholarship based on the progress of study and the commitment to Leadership life at the School. The Head of School will make a recommendation to the Principal regarding

the continuation of the scholarship and the Principal will advise the family of the review decision thereafter.

## Special Scholarships

General Excellence Scholarships are awarded from time to time at the discretion of the Principal. Such scholarships are awarded where an applicant demonstrates a significant level of achievement in a particular co-curricular or social justice activity or pursuit. The student will be of fine character and may either have demonstrated a concern for the broader community, excelled in a wide range of interests and talents (normally at an elite level), actively participated in their school and church community, and/or shown fine leadership skills with a commitment to their academic studies and ability.

Each Scholarship type will have a specific application process and clear criteria statement set out online including details of what the applicant must provide.

## Expectations, Commitment and Review

All scholarship holders, together with their parents / guardians will be required to accept and sign a Scholarship Agreement that will detail the concession conditions. This will include committing to the Christian mission, ethos, program and expectations of the School. The agreement will also include details of the annual performance review.

## Withdrawal

In the event that a student who receives a scholarship withdraws from NCC prior to their scholarship ending, the family will be required to pay the difference in tuition fees covered by the scholarship.

The amount to be reimbursed by the family may only be changed at the discretion of the Principal in consultation with the School Council.

Change wording to:

Reporting and Review

The Program will be subject to review and reporting by the School Leadership Team. The Policy will be formally reviewed every three (3) years.