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Media release



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LEADING SCHOOL SWIMS UP (FUNDING) STREAM

In an unprecedented move, SCOTS PGC College, a leading private school on Queensland's Scenic Rim has significantly lowered its tuition fees to provide better education opportunities to its community.

Despite receiving a marginal increase in funding as part of Tuesday night's Federal Budget announcements, SCOTS PGC College is moving ahead with its planned lower tuition fees.

SCOTS PGC College Principal Simon Shepherd said the school is striving to make quality and holistic education more affordable and accessible to families in Warwick and regional Queensland.

"We're incredibly grateful for the marginal increase in funding from the Australian Government. This, combined with our planned lowered fees means our students will benefit two fold," said Mr Shepherd.

Despite funding disparity compared to other similar independent schools, SCOTS PGC College is committed to its local community to ensure it gives families more opportunity to access outstanding, holistic education.

"We are currently funded between 15-26% less than other like independent schools, who also have received larger increases in funding."

"This does not perturb us from our planned fee reduction. Existing families and students will benefit from 2018," said Mr Shepherd.

"The Minister said he was committed to delivering fairness, opportunity and security to Australians, which echoes SCOTS PGC's approach to more affordable education opportunities."

SCOTS PGC College is in favour of a needs-based funding model for schools.

"We applaud the Turnbull Government for its move to deliver funding to schools that sees the individual needs of students supported, rather than a one size fits all approach," said Mr Shepherd.

Feedback regarding the fee reduction from staff, students and their families has been positive.

"When times are tough, country people band together. While some parts of our local area are doing well, other parts are experiencing an economic downturn. As a school, we made a decision some months ago to lower tuition fees," said Mr Shepherd.

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For more information, or to organise an interview with SCOTS PGC College's Principal Simon Shepherd, please contact Kathy Packenas from Engine Group on 0402 843 037 or email kathy@enginegroup.com.au



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