



# ST GEORGE COLLEGE

**Subject:** Progress update RE: Building and Accommodation for St George College and revised opening date

**Audience:** Prospective Parents

**From:** Tony Papapavlou, College Executive Officer

**Date:** 25 January 2023

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Dear prospective parents and friends of St George College,

Firstly, thank you for your continued interest and overwhelming support of St George College. Since this project's inception more than five years ago, a tremendous amount of engagement, planning and consultation with government, community and education stakeholders has taken place to get us to where we are today. Incredible progress has been achieved in this time. In August of 2022, the Non State School Assessment Board (NSSAB) granted accreditation to St George College for primary education and decided that St George College Ltd is eligible for government funding for the school. The approved school site is located at 25 Besant Street, 36 Browning Street and 27 Edmonstone Street, South Brisbane.

A fundamental and critical piece of the process in opening St George College is acquiring and securing Ministerial Infrastructure Designation (M.I.D.) approval to commence the development which includes the refurbishment of existing buildings. The M.I.D. process is managed through the Office of the Deputy Premier by the Queensland Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Local Government and aims to give applicants a considered, whole-of-government response on a request for community-supporting infrastructure. The applicant in this instance is the Greek Orthodox Community of St George – Brisbane "The Community".

This process is complex, time intensive and often requires the submission and re-submission of impact, community consultation and engagement and design reports.

The State Government recently requested further work be undertaken by the Community and its design partners on aspects of the masterplan design. This is standard practice in the M.I.D. process, and while the Community and College are confident they will address the changes requested by the M.I.D. team, it will result in the project timeline being delayed and a revised opening date for the College to be at the commencement of 2025 School year.

We are sure you can understand, the planning and approval process for any new school is not a simple one. The School Board and Day School Project Committee have been working tirelessly to see the school welcome its first cohort of students in January 2024, however following key stakeholder meetings held recently, it has unfortunately become clear that the timeline for the official school opening will need to be revised.

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We understand some prospective parents will need to make alternative arrangements for their children who are on the St George College expression of interest waitlist, and we appreciate the frustrations this may cause.

It is our intention to communicate openly and regularly with St George College prospective parents and interested parties, as we understand and acknowledge that any delay to the school opening has the potential to impact the enrolment plans and subsequent education arrangements for your children and your families.

Our priority and commitment is ensuring the Greek Orthodox Community of Brisbane sees this important piece of educational infrastructure come to fruition and we will be communicating regularly with you all as we continue working through this process.

The outpouring of support from the community for this project has been incredibly encouraging and we know how culturally important this College is to so many of you.

You may have questions and we encourage you to reach out on mobile 0417 133 456 or email [tony@saintgeorgecollege.com.au](mailto:tony@saintgeorgecollege.com.au), if you wish to discuss this further.

Without the invaluable support of our community, this bold undertaking would remain nothing more than an ambitious dream. Your engagement, involvement and participation are essential in bringing this vision to life and making a positive impact on our community.

Tony Papapavlou  
College Executive Officer

Emanuel Kallinicos  
Chair St George College Board of Directors