

**From:** [REDACTED] **Sent:** Tuesday, 10 April 2012 9:17 PM **To:** McAuliffe, Allen T; [hrkelly2@bigpond.com](mailto:hrkelly2@bigpond.com) **Subject:** Changes to Sandy College

Dear Allen and Howard

I have attached the feedback form that was sent out a while ago.

I wanted to also express my views on changes to Sandringham College, and I know that I am not alone in these views.

It is vital that the essence of Sandy, especially the senior campus, does not change. I don't think it matters so much where the senior campus is, it is more about the structure, support and atmosphere that must be preserved. As a friend of mine said recently (her children go to St Leonards) "Sandy is like an oasis in amongst all those private schools". It is a place where the students are free to express themselves. That is why students come from so far and wide to study at Sandy.

My son finished Yr 12 last year after having been at the Beaumaris campus. He was so happy at the senior campus, and the feedback I got was that so many of the other students were also happy. He is now at university and enjoying it.

Because my son was very happy at the senior campus, I moved my eldest daughter from Mentone Girls Secondary College this year to Sandringham College to do Yr 11. She is Academically very strong, had many friends and was happy at Mentone. I did not move her because she was unhappy or did not fit in. She is very creative, is interested in fashion, and I know that Sandy has a very good reputation in the Arts. I wanted her to be completely immersed in the arts in a school that has a very strong faculty. This reputation must be preserved.

For us, not having a uniform was part of the decision to move. My daughter is developing her ideas on fashion, the area she has decided to pursue as a career. **I have heard that you are wanting to bring in uniform. You can't do this without changing the essence of the school.**

In the first few weeks of this year I asked my daughter if she was happy at her new school; she is very happy. I asked her if she was glad to be away from the pressure to conform, expecting her to say "Mum, there is no pressure to conform at Mentone". I was surprise when her response was "Yes, so happy to be away from it". Don't change Sandy to make it more like the other schools in the area. If that was what people wanted they wouldn't leave their other schools to come to Sandy.

My youngest has just started Yr 7 at Mentone Girls Secondary College. I hope that the Sandringham College that exists now is still there for my youngest daughter when she gets to VCE.

Regards

[REDACTED]

### FEEDBACK

In this paper we are asking you to look at the following ideas and provide feedback on them.

- *Do they reflect the values and aspirations that you have for the College?*
- *Are there aspects that are missing from your perspective?*
- *As you look at them can you reflect on what you see as the key strengths of the College?*
- *Can you also think of aspects of the College that in your view need a stronger focus?*

Please choose up to 5 of the value statements below or add your own in the space below.

### Values:

Whatever its form and governance, it is our aim to make the College the most viable first choice of the community.

- We want to see a College that is committed to excellence in teaching.
  - A College that offers excellence and choice across the whole spectrum of curriculum.
  - A College that values a broad range of options, avenues and pathways.
  - A College where students develop a strong sense of being a citizen, who has respect, is tolerant and has a strong sense of community. We see that community as being both local and global.
  - We want students that graduate with a sense of achievement, self-belief and a strong desire to keep learning and be creative in their own endeavours.
  - We want students to have a strong sense of environmental responsibility, locally and globally
  - We want to see students who live and value diversity.
  - Above all we want to see students who have a love of learning, a desire to question, to pursue information, to be skilled in thought and the capacity to seek evidence, reflect on evidence and make informed defensible judgements.
  - We want to see them armed with the skills that enable them to handle a range of sources of information and a capacity to manage information rather than be managed by it.
  - We want them to aspire and to strive for personal excellence.
  - We want them to be the best that they can be in any path they pursue.
  - In stating these aims we want a College, however organised and governed, that has the facilities required to enable our students to flourish and our staff to be able to teach in contemporary facilities that utilise appropriate technology and flexible spaces and that are resourced accordingly.
  - We want a College that has facilities that treats our teaching and non-teaching staff as professionals in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
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Sandringham Reference Group

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