



MICHAEL PARK SCHOOL POLICY

SENSITIVE EXPENDITURE

Rationale

1. The board agrees that it has a responsibility to ensure that all expenditure of board funds is clearly linked to the business of the school and does not at any time provide unreasonable and personal benefit from those funds to any individual or group of individuals (staff or students).
2. The board acknowledges that at times there are expenses which may be considered to be beneficial only to individuals or small groups of individuals. These may include expenses in relation to travel (especially international travel), or to koha, gifts and other payments to individuals.
3. The board has determined that any expenditure which may be considered to be beneficial to individuals or groups of individuals will be carefully scrutinised before approval and will be supported by appropriate fund raising specific to that expenditure.
4. Particular reference should also be made to the board's travel policy in considering expenditure which may benefit individuals or groups of individuals.
5. The board has agreed on the fundamental principles of this Policy, and has delegated responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of this Policy to the principal (as the chief executive and the board's most senior employee).

Principles

6. The board requires the principal, where expenditure may be beneficial to an individual or group of individuals, to take account of the following prior to authorising this expenditure:
 - i) Does the expenditure benefit student outcomes?
 - ii) Does the expenditure represent the best value for money?
 - iii) Is it in the budget?
 - iv) Could the board justify this expenditure to a taxpayer, parent or other interested party?
 - v) How would the public react if this expenditure was reported by the media?
 - vi) Would there be perceived to be any personal gain from this expenditure?

7. Any proposed expenditure which may benefit individuals or groups of individuals will be backed by funds which have been raised for the purpose. The funds will be raised with a full understanding of their purpose known to those contributing the funds – such as parents or other funding sources (eg. Charities). The funds raised will cover all costs (including travel and accommodation costs for teachers who may be involved).
8. In no case should the school borrow funds from an employee or board member
9. In no case should the school lend funds to an employee or board member, except in exceptional circumstances.
10. Amounts spent on gifts for employees and board members should be consistent with our financial position.

Accounting for expenditure

11. All expenditure which is incurred on behalf of individuals or groups of individuals will be fully accounted for.

Approval

12. In the event that the expenditure is for the principal, then the board has to give approval.
13. When the board approved this Policy it agreed that no variations of this Policy or amendments to it can be made except with the unanimous approval of the board.

Ratified by Board/RSST:



Signed for BOT/RSST

Date: 30/10/2017