Michael Oak Waldorf School
NURTURING CONSCIOUS INDIVIDUALS

4 Marlow Road
Kenilworth
7708
Cape Town
South Africa
Telephone: (021) 797 9728
Email: info@michaeloak.org.za

COMMUNITY NOTE – FEES 2027

Dear Michael Oak Community,

As we look ahead to 2027, we would like to share with you the outcomes of our recent budget process and the associated school fees for the year ahead. This communication is part of our commitment to transparency and collaboration with our community.

Reflections on the year past

2026 has been a year of transition and holding, as the school worked through the process of appointing a permanent School Coordinator. I held this role in an acting capacity for nine months, carrying the school through to the end of Term 3. Benson Munyoro takes up the position of School Coordinator in Term 4, and we look forward to welcoming him into the Michael Oak community.

Alongside this transition, 2026 has also been a year of resilience and growth. Together we have refreshed our Strategic Plan, strengthened our organisational structures, and celebrated important pedagogical milestones.

Highlights include:

- Growth in enrolments, with 29 new students joining us over the course of the year, and the work of consolidating this growth continues into 2027.
- Enhanced enrolment, marketing and communications efforts led by the new Marketing, Enrolment and Communications Lead.
- Strengthened operations leadership, with new roles appointed to ensure robust administration and coordination through a year of change.
- Extensive repair and maintenance work, security upgrades and future plans led by the interim Estate Manager.
- A Renewal Process comprising a community survey, workshop sessions and a Pedagogical Renewal process, laying groundwork for the school's continued organisational development.

These developments have laid the foundation for long-term sustainability and what is envisioned to be a thriving school for years to come.

Strategic Direction for 2027

Our priorities for 2027, guided by the Strategic Plan, are to:

- Strengthen marketing efforts to support enrolment growth.
- Embed additional leadership capacity across the school, building on the stability established through the leadership transition.
- Continue expanding towards a full Waldorf education offering.
- Ensure staff stability and continuity.
- Enhance productivity in both administration and teaching.
- Maintain focus on improving facilities and maintenance.
- Further enhance governance.

The 2027 budget has been carefully developed around these priorities, ensuring that we continue to invest in the stability and growth of the school while remaining mindful of affordability for families.

Fees for 2027

In preparing the budget have worked to keep this increase as low as possible while safeguarding the quality of the education we offer. We explored a range of scenarios to balance sustainability, risk, and growth, and after careful consideration, the Board of Trustees has approved an average fee increase of 6.98 percent across the school.

This decision reflects:

- A conscious understanding of the financial strain many families are feeling at present.
- Rising costs, including salary increases that recognise the dedication of our staff while remaining responsible stewards of resources.
- The need to maintain and grow our Waldorf offering as our unique value proposition.
- A continued commitment to improving facilities and governance structures.

Key highlights to note:

- Camps and outings have been excluded from the base fees, as these vary year on year.
- Sundries and levies continue to be included and are reflective of each class's particular needs for the year.
- Sibling discounts will remain in place at 2.5 percent.
- From 2027, we are introducing an extended day offering in Playgroup and Kindergarten for parents who would like to make use of this service. Additional Aftercare will run from 15h30 to 17h30. Full rates are set out in the accompanying fee sheet.

Comprehensive information is provided in the accompanying fee sheet for your reference.

Looking Ahead

Michael Oak's journey ahead is one of deepening roots, resilience and growth. Having moved through a year of transition with a settled leadership structure now in place, the school is well positioned to build on this foundation. With your support, we continue to build a sustainable school that provides a full Waldorf education, nurtures every child, and serves the community with strength and purpose.

Kind regards



Beulah Tertiens-Reeler
Acting School Coordinator