



18 July 2023

Dear parents and carers,

2024 Tuition Fees

The annual review has occurred to determine the level of school tuition fees in 2024. We advise that tuition fees for our primary and secondary schools in the Cairns Diocese will increase by 3% in 2024.

The decision to raise fees is not taken for granted or made without careful consideration of the resource needs of schools, balanced against the capacity of families to contribute. The 2024 movement is significantly below the annual inflation rate (movement in the consumer price index) which is 7% (as at the end of the first quarter of 2023).

For Catholic schools, the need to charge tuition fees and levies arises from the lower funding that is provided by governments for students in non-government schools. Tuition fees are used by schools to meet ongoing expenditure of the school. A minor portion of the tuition fee is used to fund the purchase of land for existing and new schools and accommodation for teaching staff in regional and remote areas.

The 2024 tuition fee schedule for families with children attending primary and secondary schools in the Diocese of Cairns is attached. Sibling discounts will continue to be offered to families with more than one child enrolled in one or more Catholic schools in the diocese, at 15% for two students, 30% for three students and no additional tuition fee for four or more students.

The 2024 tuition fee increase applies to tuition fees only. Schools and colleges charge various levies to support specific initiatives or needs within each school or college community. As these costs vary from school to school, these levies are set individually by the schools and colleges.

The 2024 tuition fee increase of 3% is less than half the annual inflation rate. The movement in cost of living along with increased interest rates has placed pressure on family budgets, so I appreciate that some families may face financial hardship in paying fees and levies. It is important that families who want to access Catholic Education for their children are not excluded because they do not have the means to pay fees. It is our policy and practice to assist any family in this situation. If you believe the payment of tuition fees and levies will be a financial challenge for you, please contact your school Principal to confidentially discuss your situation and the options available.



To enable us to continue to support those in need, in line with our Catholic ethos, it is equally important that those families who can afford to pay their fees do so in a timely manner.

The tuition fee discount for eligible parents/carers with a means-tested eligible Australian Government Concession Card will continue at the rate of 70% in 2024. Families without an eligible Concession Card who are experiencing genuine financial hardship in paying fees should continue to apply for special consideration by speaking with their school Principal or Parish Priest who will treat the situation with understanding, sensitivity, and confidentiality.

Thank you for your continuing commitment to Catholic Education. We are proud of the quality of education provided in our schools and we are keenly aware and grateful of how much parental support we receive, both through payment of tuition fees and levies and so many other forms of generous help.

Together, our strong partnership between families and Catholic Education will ensure that we continue to provide the very best education possible for our students.

With best wishes,



Bill Dixon
Executive Director

