

13th November 2024

Dear Holy Cross Parents and Carers,

Re: 2025 School Fees and Levies

It is with pleasure that I present the Holy Cross School Fee Schedule for 2025. We have made every effort to create a document that is clear and easy to follow, broken down into FOUR sections, as follows:

1. Tuition Fees (per child as per the attached Catholic Education Services 2025 Tuition Fee Schedule)
2. Resource and Activity Levy (per child)
3. iPad 1 to 1 Program Levy (per child Years 3 to 6 only)
4. Family Levy

To assist with financial budgeting and planning, the cost of **ALL** activities, excursions, and camps have been incorporated into the Resource and Activity Levy. This levy also includes the cost of our annual swimming program, all stationery and books, ICT subscriptions, ICT resources, Dance classes, sporting academies, interschool competitions, and the Year 6 Senior shirt. **Nothing additional will be added.**

Information regarding billing arrangements, payment options, fee discounts, camps, excursions and the structure of our 1 to 1 iPad Program are on the reverse of this letter.

Further assistance or explanation relating to financials, including the calculation of a weekly, fortnightly or monthly payment plan, please contact our Holy Cross Finance Officer, Mrs Carolyn Mealing accounts.trinitypk@cns.catholic.edu.au or 40506300 Extension 3.

With regards,

Sarah Hamilton
Principal

Address: Reed Rd, Trinity Park, QLD 4879
PO Box 1026, Smithfield, QLD 4878
Phone: 07 4050 6300
Email: secretary.trinitypk@cns.catholic.edu.au
Web: www.holycross.qld.edu.au

ABN: 42498340094



Billing Arrangements

Fees and Levies are determined on an annual basis and billed termly to the parties indicated on the Student Enrolment Form with the exception of Year 6 who are invoiced in Terms 1, 2 and 3 only. If the parties decide to vary billing arrangements, the Student Enrolment Form **must** be adjusted to reflect these wishes. Verbal advice received to vary the billing arrangements will not be considered.

Payment Options

By enrolling your child / children at Holy Cross School in 2025, you are demonstrating your commitment to Catholic Education and have a responsibility and an obligation to pay school fees and levies as they fall due. All fees and levies are due for payment 14 days after billing. Student Report Cards will be withheld if accounts remain unpaid at the end of a reporting period and contact with the Principal has not been established to discuss and arrange a mutually agreed payment plan.

The following options for payment of fees are available:

- ***BPay***
- ***Direct Debit – forms available at the school office***
- ***EFT – Electronic Funds Transfer***
- ***EFTPOS at the School Office***
- ***Credit Card at the School Office or by phone***

Catholic School Fee Discounts (see attached)

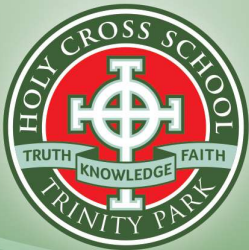
There are a number of support systems in place to ensure affordability of fees for families seeking a Catholic education. These include 'Multi-student / School Family Discount' and 'Pension and Health Care Card Holder Fee Discount'. Special consideration may be given to families with genuine financial hardship in consultation with the Principal and verified by the school.

Camps & Excursions

Camps and Excursions are an important component of our students' learning experiences and regarded as an essential part of the curriculum at Holy Cross School. The cost of camps and excursions are calculated on the full attendance of **all** students and prepaid by the school. It is therefore **not** possible to provide a refund for any excursion or camp due to non-attendance.

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2025 iPad 1 to 1 Program Levy (Year 3 to Year 6)

Our iPad program operates for students in years 3 to 6 and invoiced over a period of four years.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **If a student commences after the beginning of Year 3, there will be a catch-up payment charged for the iPad 1 to 1 Program as a new device is purchased for each child.**
- **If a student leaves Holy Cross School before the end of Year 6, there will be an option for families to pay a one-off payment, to purchase the iPad outright.**

Enrolment Cancellation

Families of students at Holy Cross School are required to complete an **Exit Form** and provide **four (4) week's written notice** to the Principal. Following an Exit Interview with the Principal, refund/credit of school fees will be calculated. Failure to provide four school weeks' notice (does not include holidays) may result in 50% of a term's school fees being charged to families.

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HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

FEES SCHEDULE FOR 2025

PREP to Year 6

ABN: 42 498 340 094

Phone: 07 4050 6300

Email: accounts.trinitypk@cns.catholic.edu.au

1. TUITION FEES (per child as per Catholic Education Services Tuition Fee Schedule *)

	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 Children	5 Children
Per Annum	\$1,766.00	\$1,501.10	\$1,236.20	\$927.15	\$741.72
Per Term	\$441.50	\$375.28	\$309.05	\$231.79	\$185.43

* Discount for multiple children attending Catholic Schools and Colleges within the Diocese

2. RESOURCE AND ACTIVITY LEVY (per child)

	Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Resource Levy (per Annum)	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$540.00
Resource Levy (per Term)	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$180.00*
Activity Levy (per Annum)	\$152.00	\$164.00	\$172.00	\$172.00	\$252.00	\$432.00	\$540.00
Activity Levy (per Term)	\$38.00	\$41.00	\$43.00	\$43.00	\$63.00	\$108.00	\$180.00*

3. iPad 1 to 1 PROGRAM LEVY (per child Years 3 to 6 only)

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
iPad Levy (per Annum)	\$184.00	\$170.00	\$150.00	\$140.00
iPad Levy (per Term)	\$46.00	\$42.50	\$37.50	\$46.67*

4. FAMILY LEVIES (Invoiced to the eldest child in the family)

	Per Annum	Prep to Year 5 (per Term)	Year 6 (per Term)
Capital Levy	\$750.00	\$187.50	\$250.00*
Technology Levy	\$450.00	\$112.50	\$150.00*
P & F Levy	\$40.00	\$10.00	\$13.33*

* PLEASE NOTE: Year 6 students are invoiced over 3 Terms for Tuition Fees and Levies.
All other students are invoiced over 4 Terms.

APPLICATION AND ENROLMENT FEES (per child)

Application Fee	\$ 75.00	(non-refundable)
Enrolment Fee	\$ 200.00	(non-refundable on non-commencement)

30 July 2024

Dear Parents,

2025 Tuition Fees

As part of planning for the next school year, each year in July (as part of our budget process) we conduct a review of expected operating costs for the coming year and determine the level of school tuition fees that will apply. I am writing to advise you that tuition fees for primary and secondary schools in the Diocese of Cairns will increase by **3.0%** in 2025.

The current annual rate of inflation is sitting on 4.0%, so our increase in fee levels is less than this. Raising fee levels in the current economic times is something that is very carefully considered. It is not taken for granted nor made without careful consideration of the resource needs of schools, balanced against the capacity of families to contribute.

For Catholic schools, the need to charge tuition fees and levies arises from the lower funding that is provided by government for students in non-government schools. The most recent figures show that the combined state and federal government funding for students in government schools is \$22,511 per student (on average) compared with government funding of just \$14,032 per student in non-government schools such as ours.

Revenue raised via tuition fees is used by schools to meet the ongoing expenses of providing a world-class education for our students. A minor portion of the tuition fee is also used to fund the purchase of land for existing and new schools and accommodation for teaching staff in regional and remote areas.

The 2025 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 at all for four or more students.

Please note that the 2025 tuition fee increase detailed here applies to tuition fees only. Schools and colleges also 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 our schools and colleges.

I appreciate that some families may face financial hardship in paying for tuition fees and levies. But it is important that families who want to access a Catholic school for their children are not excluded because they do not have the means to pay full fees. It has long been the Church's policy and practice to assist any family which finds itself in such a situation. It is therefore equally important that those families who can afford to pay their fees do so, so that we can continue to support those in need and reach out to the disadvantaged.

I am pleased to be able to announce that 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 2025.

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 complete confidentiality.

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

With best wishes,



Bill Dixon
Executive Director



The approximate cost of the tuition fee component of a Catholic primary school education over a 40-week school year is \$44.15 per week (or \$33.96 per calendar week). For secondary education, the approximate tuition fee ranges from \$75.65 per school week (\$58.20 per calendar week) for lower secondary to \$92.90 per school week (\$71.46) per calendar week for upper secondary. These approximations are before Subsequent Child and Rural Location discounts.

School Fees also comprise levies, which vary from school to school, and may include items like a Capital Levy, Resource or Year Levies and Activities Levies. Levies in secondary colleges add approximately \$75 per week. These approximations are before Subsequent Child and Rural Location discounts.

Discounts apply for families with more than one child attending Catholic schools in the Diocese of Cairns. In primary and secondary schools, a 15% discount on tuition fees applies for two children, a 30% discount for three children, and up to a 70% discount for seven children. This discount applies even if children are at different Catholic schools within the Cairns Diocese.

Twelve primary schools in the diocese and three secondary colleges attract a further discount because of their rural location and/or having limited access to a Catholic secondary college.

Please refer to the Explanatory Notes below, to assist with calculating fees from the 2025 Per Student Tuition Fee Schedule, overleaf.

Explanatory Notes

To calculate tuition fees payable, the following steps are necessary;

- Determine number of students per family attending Catholic schools in the Diocese of Cairns.
- Identify that column in Per Student Tuition Fee Schedule (top of schedule).
- Identify annual fee per student from that column for each level of education the students are receiving. That is Primary, Lower Secondary or Upper Secondary.
- If the students are attending a 'Country Discount' school the annual fee per student is the fee per student after country discount.

Examples of tuition fee calculation for different family structures (non-country discount schools) are:

Two Student family with both students in Primary School

- From the column '2 students in Parish & Diocesan Schools' the annual fee per student is \$1,501.
- Annual tuition fees for this family structure are \$1,501 per student times 2 students. Total tuition fees payable of \$3,002.

Three Student family with all students in Primary School

- From the column '3 students in Parish & Diocesan Schools' the annual fee per student is \$1,236.
- Annual tuition fees for this family structure are \$1,236 per student times 3 students. Total tuition fees payable of \$3,708.

Two Student family with 1 student in Primary and 1 student in Lower Secondary

- From the column '2 students in Parish & Diocesan Schools' the annual fee for the primary student is \$1,501 and the annual fee for the lower secondary student is \$2,572.
- Annual tuition fees for this family structure are \$4,073 (\$1,501 + \$2,572).

Three Student family with 1 student in Primary, 1 student in Lower Secondary and 1 student in Upper Secondary

- From the column '3 students in Parish & Diocesan Schools' the annual fee for the primary student is \$1,236, the annual fee for the lower secondary student is \$2,118 and the annual fee for the upper secondary student is \$2,601.
- Annual tuition fees for this family structure are \$5,955 (\$1,236 + \$2,118 + \$2,601).

Catholic Diocese of Cairns 2025 Per Student Tuition Fee Schedule

Tuition Fee Per Student							
Number of Students in Parish & Diocesan Schools							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

Prep & Primary - Years P-6

No additional charge for 4 or more siblings

Discount Percentage	0.0%	15.0%	30.0%	47.5%	58.0%	65.0%	70.0%
Prep & Primary - per week (40 wks)	44	38	31	23	19	15	13
Prep & Primary - per term	442	375	309	232	185	155	132
2025 - Prep & Primary - per year	1766	1501	1236	927	742	618	530
<i>Less Country Discount @ 10%</i>	<i>-177</i>	<i>-151</i>	<i>-125</i>	<i>-93</i>	<i>-75</i>	<i>-62</i>	<i>-53</i>
2025 - Prep & Primary after country discount	\$ 1588	\$ 1350	\$ 1112	\$ 834	\$ 667	\$ 556	\$ 476

Lower Secondary - Years 7-9

Discount Percentage	0.0%	15.0%	30.0%	47.5%	58.0%	65.0%	70.0%
Lower Secondary - per week (40 wks)	76	64	53	40	32	26	23
Lower Secondary - per term	757	643	530	397	318	265	227
2025 - Lower Secondary - per year	3026	2572	2118	1589	1271	1059	908
<i>Less Country Discount @ 10%</i>	<i>-303</i>	<i>-258</i>	<i>-213</i>	<i>-160</i>	<i>-128</i>	<i>-106</i>	<i>-91</i>
2025 - Lower Secondary after country discount	\$ 2722	\$ 2314	\$ 1905	\$ 1429	\$ 1143	\$ 953	\$ 817

Upper Secondary - Years 10-12

Discount Percentage	0.0%	15.0%	30.0%	47.5%	58.0%	65.0%	70.0%
Upper Secondary - per week (40 wks)	93	79	65	49	39	33	28
Upper Secondary - per term	929	790	650	488	390	325	279
2025 - Upper Secondary - per year	3716	3159	2601	1951	1561	1301	1115
<i>Less Country Discount @ 10%</i>	<i>-371</i>	<i>-315</i>	<i>-260</i>	<i>-195</i>	<i>-156</i>	<i>-130</i>	<i>-111</i>
2025 - Upper Secondary after country discount	\$ 3345	\$ 2843	\$ 2342	\$ 1756	\$ 1405	\$ 1171	\$ 1004

Note: the above figures have been reported without decimals.

Schools Qualifying as Country Discount

St Joseph's School, Atherton
St Michael's School, Gordonvale
Mount St Bernard College, Herberton

St Clare's School, Tully
Good Counsel Primary School, Innisfail
St Joseph's Parish School, Weipa

Good Counsel College, Innisfail

In addition to the above schools the 2025 Tuition Fee Schedule applies to;

Our Lady Help of Christians School, Earlville
St Thomas' School, Mareeba
Mother of Good Counsel School, North Cairns
St Joseph's School, Parramatta Park
St Augustine's College, Cairns

St Therese's School, Bentley Park
Holy Cross School, Trinity Park
St Stephen's Catholic College, Mareeba
St Gerard Majella School, Woree
St Monica's College, Cairns
St Mary's Catholic College, Woree
St Francis Xavier's School, Manunda

St Andrew's Catholic College, Redlynch
MacKillop Catholic College, Mount Peter
Newman Catholic College, Smithfield

Catholic School Fee Discounts 2025

For families with more than one child in Catholic primary and/or secondary schools in the Cairns Diocese, attend a country school, or hold a Health Care or Pensioner Concession card.

Why do Catholic schools have fees?

To provide quality learning environments, Catholic schools have fees to help meet the shortfall in government funding provided to students in government schools. Catholic schools strive to keep fees as low as possible.

The term 'school fees' includes tuition fees and levies. Each school assesses the school levies necessary to meet their individual school and community operation requirements. In doing this they are firstly guided by the tuition fee set by Catholic Education Services.

How do I enrol my child in a Catholic school?

Parents/carers are encouraged to contact the Principal of their preferred Catholic school to find out about their enrolment procedures and what information is required to complete the enrolment application (e.g. birth certificate, baptism certificate, school reports and academic records if applicable). Enrolment applications are accepted at any time and can be made online from a school's website, for more than one school, if desired.

Schools may not always be able to accept every family who applies, due to the availability of places. The Principal is then guided by Cairns Catholic Education's enrolment policy and the school may have waiting lists.

Multi-student/school family discount

Families with more than one child in the same or other Catholic primary or secondary schools in the Cairns Diocese receive tuition fee discounts for the second, third and subsequent children. This information is collected by the school at the time of enrolment and the discount is automatically applied.

Country area discount

Schools in more remote, country areas also qualify for a further Country discount. This discount automatically applies at the time of enrolment. Country schools are listed on the Cairns Catholic Education schedule of fees.

Pensioner and health care card holder fee discount

In addition to family and country school discounts, Cairns Catholic Education offers a means-tested concession card discount. Parents/carers with a current means-tested Australian government health care or pensioner concession card are eligible to receive a 70% discount to tuition fees (does not apply to school levies).

Card holders are required to advise the school of their concession card at enrolment or when the card is gained. Once the card is sighted by the school's administration, tuition fees for future terms will be adjusted. This scheme is intended to assist those families who genuinely do not have the financial capacity to pay tuition fees in full.

Special consideration

Families without a means-tested concession card who are experiencing genuine financial hardship in paying fees should speak with their school Principal or Parish Priest to apply for special consideration. These requests are treated with respect, dignity and confidentiality.

No child will be denied enrolment due to genuine financial difficulty which has been verified by the school. Catholic schools balance the need to charge fees with their historic role of providing access to quality schooling for all.

Concession Card Information

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Cairns provide a discount on tuition fees for holders of means-tested Health Care and Pensioner Concession Cards.

The discount applies to tuition fees and not to school levies and charges.

The cards must be current and list, as dependents, the students for whom the discount is sought.

Two categories of cards are eligible for the discount:

Health Care Cards

Only cards with the following codes that are means-tested or subject to an income and assets test are eligible for the reduced tuition fee rate:

- FA (Family Allowance)
- PP/PPP (Parenting Payment) (partnered)
- JSP/JS (Job Seeker Payment) includes old codes NSA/NA/SA (New Start & Sick Allowance)
- PA (Partner Allowance)
- SL/SpB (Special Benefit)
- WA/WDA (Widow Allowance)
- LI/LIC (Low Income)
- Austudy
- FH (Farm Household Allowance)
- CP/CAR/CD (Carer Payment)
- MO (Mobility Allowance)
- Carer Allowance entitlements (contact your school directly)

Card must be in the name of the fee payer.

Card in the name of the student will not be accepted



Pensioner Concession Cards

Only cards with the following codes that are means-tested or subject to an income and assets test are eligible for the reduced tuition fee rate:

- PPS (Parenting Payment Single)
- PP/PPP (Parenting Payment) (partnered)
- JSP/JS (Job Seeker Payment) includes old codes SA (Sick Allowance)
- PA (Partner Allowance)
- SL/SpB (Special Benefit)
- WA/WDA (Widow Allowance)
- CP/CAR/CD (Carer Payment)
- AGE
- DSP
- Carer Allowance entitlements (contact your school directly)





Concession Card Information

Frequently Asked Question

How much is the discount?

A discount of 70% on tuition fees ordinarily applies to holders of eligible cards.

How to apply

Parents and carers can apply for the concession by completing the Health Care Card Tuition Fee Discount Scheme Form and providing a copy of their concession card. Electronic forms with attached photo or scanned copy of the card will be accepted via email. Alternatively the application can be submitted directly to the school office.

The fee discount will then be applied to tuition fees on future term invoices. For families with children at more than one Cairns Catholic school this process must be repeated for each school.

The discount arrangement will expire on the expiry date of the card.

Parents and carers receiving a discount have a duty to inform the school of any renewal or change in eligibility for the card.

Further information

For any further inquiries including instructions for assessing any Carer Allowance eligibility, please contact your school directly.

What if a family is still not able to pay the discounted tuition fee and school levies?

Families in significant financial hardship are asked to make an appointment with the school Principal who will assess whether the family's financial circumstances meet the criteria for additional support. The process looks at family income, the number of dependents and the family's cost of housing (rental or mortgage). This process requires full disclosure and is treated with sensitivity and confidentiality.

What if a family without a means-tested concession card is having difficulty in paying fees?

Families without a means tested Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card who are experiencing genuine financial hardship in paying fees should speak with their school Principal or Parish Priest to apply for special consideration.

The same process as above will apply in determining an appropriate fee concession arrangement. No child will be denied enrolment due to financial difficulty.