

2016 Diocesan School Fees

Dear families

As you may be aware, there is still uncertainty around long term government funding for Catholic schools. Indications are that federal government funding for education post 2017 will be linked to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which historically has been much lower than the education inflation rate. Funding growth linked to CPI will not meet increases in the real costs of schooling.

To maintain our current service levels we will need to increase diocesan tuition fees by 5%. This increase will mean we can continue to fund important initiatives to improve student learning, including:

- literacy and numeracy programs such as Focus160, Reading Recovery, EMU, EM4 and professional learning for teachers and leaders to support the implementation of these programs
- increasing support for students with disabilities, behavioural and emotional needs
- improving our learning spaces, technology and infrastructure
- building new schools and expanding existing schools to cater for new places

Scholarships and fee arrangements

We are committed to ensuring that **no child will be refused enrolment due to a family's financial situation**. There are a range of scholarship and support programs to assist families including:

- The Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund
- Fee arrangements and discounts
- The Byallawa co-contribution scheme for Indigenous families

Annual Diocesan Tuition Fees - 2016

Annual Diocesan Tuition Fee can be paid upfront at the start of the year or as three equal payments in Terms 1, 2 and 3. Flexible payment plans are also available around weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments. The fee is only charged for the first three children currently enrolled in the diocese. There is no additional Diocesan Tuition Fee for the fourth child attending a systemic school in the diocese or other participating Catholic schools.

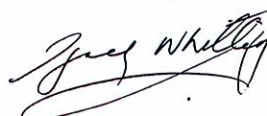
Annual Diocesan Building Levy - 2016

The Diocesan Building Levy enables us to continue to maintain all schools to a high standard, and ensure we can expand or build new schools in high growth areas. To ensure this continues we will need to increase the building levy by \$33 per family per year. The levy for 2016 will be \$735 per family, payable in three equal instalments of \$245 in Terms 1, 2 and 3.

We continue to make every effort to contain educational costs and we do not take the decision to raise fees lightly. **If a school fee increase will be difficult for your family to manage, please contact your school principal.** We will provide every assistance to families in financial need.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Catholic education.

Yours sincerely



Gregory B Whitby
Executive Director of Schools

The 2016 Annual Tuition Fees are as follows:

Annual Fees		1st Child 100%	2nd Child 75%	3rd Child 50%
Tuition Fee Primary	Kindergarten	\$1,098	\$825	\$549
	Years 1 - 6	\$1,419	\$1,065	\$711
Tuition Fee Secondary	Years 7 - 8	\$1,968	\$1,476	\$984
	Years 9 -10	\$2,184	\$1,638	\$1,092
	Years 11 - 12	\$2,790	\$2,094	\$1,395

