

Parent Guide to Catholic

School Funding

Catholic schools (and other non-government schools) are funded through a combination of:

- 1. Commonwealth Government funding
- 2. State Government funding
- 3. Parent contributions in the form of tuition fees and charges.

This is how the pieces of the pie fit together.

CC Reduction (up to 80%) Government Funding ISPS School fees have to make up the shortfall Baseline funding (the SRS)

There is an agreed annual amount that government funds every school to meet its students' educational needs. This is called the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS). Under this national agreement, the Australian and state governments together fund schools in line with the SRS.

The final SRS Base for 2024 was \$13,570 for each primary student, and \$17,053 for each secondary student.

In addition to this base amount, there are up to six loadings that can provide additional funding for student priority cohorts and disadvantaged schools.

To ensure that funding keeps up with changes in wages and other costs, the SRS base amount and loadings are indexed each year.

The Capacity to Contribute (CTC)

For Catholic schools, the SRS base amount is then reduced by the school community's CTC. This can be as much as an 80% reduction.

The Capacity to Contribute (CTC) for each school is determined by the taxable income of the families attending the school, as reported annually to the ATO.

Schools are currently expected to recover the CTC shortfall in SRS funding through school fees.

Importantly, none of this government funding can be used for buildings and infrastructure in Catholic schools. Our buildings and infrastructure are funded by capital grants from the Commonwealth and/or Victorian governments, and by parent contributions through fees, school cash reserves and capital levies.

Further information is available on the School Resourcing Standard through the Australian Government Department of Education.

