



St. Francis de Sales Primary School  
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31<sup>st</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **2025 Annual Tuition Fee**

I am writing to provide you details of changes in tuition fees for the 2025 academic year.

Any decision to adjust tuition fees is never made lightly, nor without careful and thorough consideration of our students' needs and our school's capacity to provide an education experience that supports every student to flourish. We are also cognizant of the financial pressures that many families have experienced this year.

St Francis de Sales, too, is facing increasing costs in multiple areas of school operations, including Work Cover premiums, Child Safety Compliance, Risk Management, Teacher Resources and Professional Learning, and Higher Central System Costs.

Our tuition fees at St Francis de Sales are also influenced by the Commonwealth Department of Education's calculation of our community's ability to financially contribute to the operating costs of our school, known as the Capacity to Contribute, or CTC, which is reviewed annually. School funding is complex, so I have included with this letter a simple school funding "explainer" which I hope will support your understanding of how government funds Catholic (and other non-government) schools and how tuition fees support our school.

To ensure that we can continue to deliver a personalized, high-quality education that is responsive to the diverse interests and academic, social and emotional needs of our students, it is necessary to adjust our fees in 2025. As a result, St Francis de Sales' annual tuition fee for 2025 will be \$2828. This is an increase of \$145.00 on 2024 fees.

If you possess a Health Care Card, you may be eligible for a Concessional Fee Discount. Please contact the office to obtain your application and Direct Debit Form.

The Maintenance Levy will be credited to your account if you attend:

- Two full mowing rosters or Two full major working bees

Mowing rosters will be sent out to families in March 2025. Working Bee notices will be sent out prior to the date of the Working Bee. There will be 2 major working bees during the year. It is important that if you are on the mowing roster, you attend both rostered dates, as we depend on this roster to maintain the school grounds between the working bees.

Swimming, School Camp, Sacrament Levy and Sports Levy are based on actual costs.

**Please note if the school fees are paid in full by Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025, a 5% discount is applicable.**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the fee increase, or wish to discuss your individual circumstances, please do not hesitate to contact me. We remain committed to keeping tuition fees as low and affordable as possible, and to working closely with our community to make this transition as smooth as possible.

Thank you for your understanding. I am grateful for your ongoing support and trust in our school.

Yours sincerely,

Christine White  
Principal

## ST FRANCIS DE SALES SCHOOL FEE PAYMENT OPTIONS 2025

FAMILY FEE	1725.00	Per Family
CAPITAL LEVY	251.00	Per Family
MAINTENANCE LEVY	250.00	Per Family (Rebateable)
STUDENT LEVY	354.00	Per Student
EXCURSIONS/INCURSIONS	130.00	Per Student
Swimming	118.00	Per Student
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2828.00</b>	

### Other Charges

Camp - Gr 5/6	425.00	Payment in full by 2nd December 2024
Chromebook 1:1 Program Gr 3	600.00	Payment in full by 9th February 2024
Sports Levy Gr 5/6	25	Per Student
Sacrament Levy Gr 6	27	Students receiving Confirmation

Number of Children	1 (2828)	2 (3430)	3 (4032)	4 (4634)
Term 1 - due on 14.03.25	942.67	1143.33	1344.00	1544.67
Term 2 - due on 16.05.25	942.67	1143.33	1344.00	1544.67
Term 3 - due on 15.08.25	942.67	1143.33	1344.00	1544.67

**PLEASE NOTE IF THE SCHOOL FEES ARE PAID IN FULL BY FRIDAY, 14th MARCH 2025  
A 5% DISCOUNT IS APPLICABLE**

IF YOU CHOOSE TO PAY VIA DIRECT DEBIT, THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE APPLIES:

NO OF CHILDREN	WEEK (40)	FORTNIGHT (20)	MONTH (10)	DISCOUNT AMOUNT
1 CHILD = \$ 2828 With 5% discount of \$ 141.40	70.70	141.40	282.80	2686.60
1 CHILD = \$ 2828 With 5% discount \$141.40 + Rebateable Maintenance Levy	64.45	128.90	257.80	2436.60
2 CHILDREN = \$ 3430 With 5% discount of \$171.50	85.75	171.50	343.00	3258.50
2 CHILDREN = \$ 3430 With 5% discount \$171.5 + Rebateable Maintenance Levy	79.50	159.00	318.00	3008.50
3 CHILDREN = \$ 4032 With 5% discount of \$201.60	100.80	201.60	403.20	3830.40
3 CHILDREN = \$4032 With 5% discount \$201.6 + Rebateable Maintenance Levy	94.55	189.10	378.20	3580.40
4 CHILDREN = \$ 4634 With 5% discount of \$231.70	115.85	231.70	463.40	4402.30
4 CHILDREN = \$ 4634 With 5% discount \$231.70 + Rebateable Maintenance Levy	109.60	219.20	438.40	4152.30

Payments via Direct Debit will commence from 14.03.25

Payment via EFTPOS, Cash, or Credit Card accepted at the office.



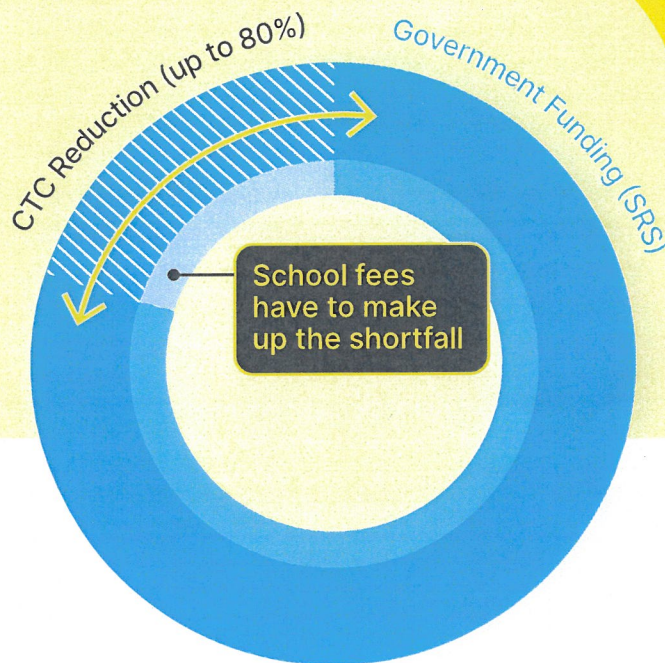
## Parent Guide to Catholic

# 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.



### 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.

