



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



**SCHOOL OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD**
"Known by your name"

Subject: 2026 Tiered Family Fee

Dear Parents and Carers,

Subject: Planning for Our Future: Introducing Tiered Family Fees

At School of The Good Shepherd, our primary focus is for every child to flourish. To continue providing the high-quality education and supportive environment your children deserve, we must maintain a strong financial foundation capable of adapting to increasing costs across many areas of our school operations, as well as a changing broader education sector funding environment.

Careful cost management and how we set school fees are central to meeting these challenges. Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) has analysed other Catholic school systems, sought information from over 50 of our schools, and gathered input from economic experts assessing our current fee model - where families pay the same flat tuition fee no matter how many children they have enrolled - against alternatives.

With a tiered family fee model, the total fee a family pays is adjusted according to how many children they have enrolled at the school.

Transitioning to tiered family fees has the following benefits:

Fairness: It ensures that school fees are distributed more equitably across families, with each child's enrolment contributing to the resources and opportunities they receive.

Sustainability: It allows the school to continue meeting rising costs and to invest in high-quality programs, staffing, and facilities for all students.

Consistency: It is in line with the common practice across most Catholic schools, which helps provide clarity and transparency for families.

This model is proven and currently already used by many MACS schools.

What a tiered family fee means for families at our school

Our school will be moving to tiered family fees beginning in the 2026 school year.

This will mean that your family will pay more depending on the number of children you have enrolled, but the increase of the adjustment for family size is designed to be manageable.



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



**SCHOOL OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD**

"Known by your name"

The tiered family fee structure for the 2026 school year will be:

Family Size	Family Fee (not including levies and capital fees)
1 Child	\$1800 per family
2 Children	\$1850 per family
3 Children	\$1900 per family
4+ Children	\$1950 per family

A breakdown of student levies and capital levies is included with this letter.

Our commitment to supporting you

A 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 excellent education experience. We are also cognisant of the financial pressures that many families have experienced this year.

We are committed to supporting you through this transition. Please be assured that all existing arrangements and discounts for families holding valid cards (including Health Care Card) will continue and we will work compassionately with any family experiencing financial difficulty.

We are here to answer any questions you may have, and I warmly invite you to contact me directly to discuss your family's specific circumstances.

Yours sincerely,

Carmela D'Amato

Carmela D'Amato
Principal



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



**SCHOOL OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD**

"Known by your name"

SCHOOL FEES AND LEVIES 2026

2026 Family School Fee Our school has a <i>tiered family fee structure</i> , meaning the total amount payable depends on the number of children you have enrolled. Families can choose to pay their fees annually, per term (over 3 terms), or set up a regular payment plan. All school fees must be finalised by the end of Term 3 each year.	<table> <tr> <th>Family Size</th><th>Family Fee</th></tr> <tr> <td>• 1 Child</td><td>\$1800 per family</td></tr> <tr> <td>• 2 Children</td><td>\$1850 per family</td></tr> <tr> <td>• 3 Children</td><td>\$1900 per family</td></tr> <tr> <td>• 4+ Children</td><td>\$1950 per family</td></tr> </table>	Family Size	Family Fee	• 1 Child	\$1800 per family	• 2 Children	\$1850 per family	• 3 Children	\$1900 per family	• 4+ Children	\$1950 per family
Family Size	Family Fee										
• 1 Child	\$1800 per family										
• 2 Children	\$1850 per family										
• 3 Children	\$1900 per family										
• 4+ Children	\$1950 per family										
Capital Levy Our capital levy is charged PER FAMILY due at the beginning of the school year	\$300 This levy contributes toward the improvement and maintenance of our buildings and grounds										
Curriculum Levy (per Student) Our curriculum levy is charged PER STUDENT and is due at the commencement of the school year	\$325 The curriculum levy covers all the classroom requirements, e.g. books, pencils, paper, art equipment, use of technology equipment, literacy and numeracy resources.										
Technology Levy Our technology levy is charged PER STUDENT and is due at the commencement of the school year	\$50 The technology levy is used towards the maintenance and replacement of technology hardware and software.										
Excursion Levy Our excursion levy is charged PER STUDENT and is due at the commencement of the school year	\$120 This will cover the cost of incursions and excursions. This will not be refundable should your child be away on the day of the excursion.										
School Camp School Camp Full day/evening experience: Year 4 2 Night School camp: Year 5 and 6.	Year 4 - \$160 Year 5 & 6 - \$400 This is additional to the Curriculum Levy and School Fees.										

Payment Options:

All levies are due in Term 1 of 2026. School fees can be paid annually or in the first 3 terms of the school year. Direct debit forms can be obtained from the school office. If you would like to be considered for the MAC's concessional fees please pick up a MAC's concessional fee pack from our school office.