Dear Parents and Carers

2017 Tuition Fees

The annual review has occurred to determine the level of school tuition fees in 2017. We are delighted to be able to advise that tuition fees for our primary schools in the Cairns Diocese in 2017 will be at 2016 levels and that secondary college fees will rise by 2.5% - a much smaller increase than previous years.

The decision to raise fees is not taken for granted or 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 governments for students in non-government schools. Tuition fees are used by schools to meet ongoing expenditure of the school. A minor portion of the tuition fee is used to fund the purchase of land for existing and new schools and accommodation for teaching staff.

The 2017 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 Cairns Diocese, however the level of discount has been adjusted downwards for primary students to achieve consistency of sibling discounts across primary and secondary schools. The discount for two students is now 15% and 30% for three students.

The 2017 tuition fee increase applies to tuition fees only. Schools and colleges 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 the schools.

I appreciate that some families may face financial hardship in meeting fees and levies. It is important that families who want to access Catholic Education for their children are not excluded because they do not have the means to pay fees. It is our policy and practice to assist any family in this situation.

This year a fees discount was trialled for eligible parents/carers with a means-tested Australian Government Health Card or Pensioner Concession Card to receive a 70% rebate on tuition fees (an information sheet is attached). I am pleased to advise that this discount will continue to be offered in 2017.
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 confidentiality.

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

With best wishes

Bill Dixon
Executive Director
Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns

2017 TUITION FEES

The approximate cost of the tuition fee component of a Catholic primary school education over a 40 week school year is $37.50 per week (or $28.80 per calendar week). For a secondary education, the approximate tuition fee ranges from $64.30 per school week ($49.50 per calendar week) for lower secondary to $78.90 per school week ($60.70 per calendar week) for higher secondary.

School Fees also comprise of levies, which vary from school to school, and may include items such as a Building Levy, Subject Levies and General Purpose Levy. Levies in secondary colleges add approximately $40 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.

In Catholic secondary colleges, a 15% discount on tuition fees applies for two children, 30% for three children, and up to a 70% discount for seven children. Families with children at both primary and secondary Catholic schools in the Cairns Diocese also receive a discount even though the children are at two different Catholic schools.

Twelve primary schools in the diocese and two 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 2017 Per Student Tuition Fee Schedule, overleaf.

Explanatory Notes

- To calculate tuition fees payable, the following steps are necessary;
  a) Determine number of students per family attending Catholic schools in the Diocese of Cairns.
  b) Identify that column in Per Student Tuition Fee Schedule (top of schedule).
  c) Identify annual fee per student from that column for each level of education the students are receiving. That is Primary, Middle School, Lower Secondary or Upper Secondary.
  d) 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 are; (non-country discount schools)
  a) 2 Student family with both students in Primary School
      a) From the column ‘2 students in Parish & Diocesan Schools’ the annual fee per student is $1,275.
      b) Annual tuition fees for this family structure are $2,550 ($1,275 x 2 students).

  b) 3 Student family with all students in Primary School
      a) From the column ‘3 students in Parish & Diocesan Schools’ the annual fee per student is $1,050.
      b) Annual tuition fees for this family structure are $3,150 ($1,050 x 3 students).

  c) 2 Student family with 1 student in Primary and 1 student in Lower Secondary
      a) From the column ‘2 students in Parish & Diocesan Schools’ the annual fee for the primary student is $1,275 and the annual fee for the lower secondary student is $1,801.
      b) Annual tuition fees for this family structure are $3,076 ($1,275 + $1,801).

  d) 3 Student family with 1 student in Primary, 1 student in Lower Secondary and 1 student in Upper Secondary
      a) From the column ‘3 students in Parish & Diocesan Schools’ the annual fee for the primary student is $1,050, the annual fee for the lower secondary student is $1,801 and the annual fee for the upper secondary student is $2,210.
      b) Annual tuition fees for this family structure are $5,061 ($1,050 + $1,801 + $2,210).
## Catholic Diocese of Cairns 2017 Per Student Tuition Fee Schedule

### PREP & PRIMARY - YEARS P-6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discount Percentage</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>15%</th>
<th>30%</th>
<th>48%</th>
<th>58%</th>
<th>65%</th>
<th>70%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TUITION FEE PER STUDENT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Students in Parish &amp; Diocesan Schools</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>No additional charge for 4 or more siblings</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PREP &amp; PRIMARY - per week (40 wks)</strong></td>
<td>37.50</td>
<td>31.88</td>
<td>26.25</td>
<td>19.69</td>
<td>15.75</td>
<td>13.13</td>
<td>11.25</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PREP &amp; PRIMARY - per term</strong></td>
<td>375.00</td>
<td>318.75</td>
<td>262.50</td>
<td>196.88</td>
<td>157.50</td>
<td>131.25</td>
<td>112.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2017 - PREP &amp; PRIMARY - per year</strong></td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,275</td>
<td>$1,050</td>
<td>$788</td>
<td>$630</td>
<td>$525</td>
<td>$450</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LESS COUNTRY DISCOUNT @ 10%</strong></td>
<td>-$150</td>
<td>-$128</td>
<td>-$105</td>
<td>-$79</td>
<td>-$63</td>
<td>-$53</td>
<td>-$45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2017 - PREP &amp; PRIMARY AFTER COUNTRY DISCOUNT</strong></td>
<td>$1,350</td>
<td>$1,147</td>
<td>$945</td>
<td>$709</td>
<td>$568</td>
<td>$474</td>
<td>$406</td>
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### LOWER SECONDARY - YEARS 7-9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discount Percentage</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>15%</th>
<th>30%</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td><strong>TUITION FEE PER STUDENT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LOWER SECONDARY - per week (40 wks)</strong></td>
<td>64.32</td>
<td>54.67</td>
<td>45.02</td>
<td>33.77</td>
<td>27.01</td>
<td>22.51</td>
<td>19.30</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LOWER SECONDARY - per term</strong></td>
<td>643.19</td>
<td>546.71</td>
<td>450.23</td>
<td>333.67</td>
<td>270.14</td>
<td>225.12</td>
<td>192.96</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2017 - LOWER SECONDARY - per year</strong></td>
<td>$2,573</td>
<td>$2,187</td>
<td>$1,801</td>
<td>$1,351</td>
<td>$1,081</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$772</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LESS COUNTRY DISCOUNT @ 10%</strong></td>
<td>-$257</td>
<td>-$219</td>
<td>-$180</td>
<td>-$135</td>
<td>-$108</td>
<td>-$90</td>
<td>-$77</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2017 - LOWER SECONDARY AFTER COUNTRY DISCOUNT</strong></td>
<td>$2,315</td>
<td>$1,968</td>
<td>$1,621</td>
<td>$1,216</td>
<td>$972</td>
<td>$810</td>
<td>$695</td>
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### UPPER SECONDARY - YEARS 10-12

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Discount Percentage</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>15%</th>
<th>30%</th>
<th>48%</th>
<th>58%</th>
<th>65%</th>
<th>70%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TUITION FEE PER STUDENT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UPPER SECONDARY - per week (40 wks)</strong></td>
<td>78.93</td>
<td>67.09</td>
<td>55.25</td>
<td>41.44</td>
<td>33.15</td>
<td>27.62</td>
<td>23.68</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UPPER SECONDARY - per term</strong></td>
<td>789.25</td>
<td>670.86</td>
<td>552.48</td>
<td>414.36</td>
<td>331.49</td>
<td>276.24</td>
<td>236.78</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2017 - UPPER SECONDARY - per year</strong></td>
<td>$3,175</td>
<td>$2,683</td>
<td>$2,210</td>
<td>$1,657</td>
<td>$1,326</td>
<td>$1,015</td>
<td>$947</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LESS COUNTRY DISCOUNT @ 10%</strong></td>
<td>-$316</td>
<td>-$268</td>
<td>-$221</td>
<td>-$166</td>
<td>-$133</td>
<td>-$110</td>
<td>-$95</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2017 - UPPER SECONDARY AFTER COUNTRY DISCOUNT</strong></td>
<td>$2,841</td>
<td>$2,415</td>
<td>$1,989</td>
<td>$1,492</td>
<td>$1,193</td>
<td>$994</td>
<td>$852</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Schools Qualifying as Country Discount

- St Joseph’s School, Atherton
- St Michael’s School, Gordonvale
- St John’s School, Silkwood
- St Clare’s School, Tully
- Good Counsel Primary School, Innisfail
- St Rita’s School, Babinda
- St Augustine’s School, Mossman
- St Rita’s School, South Johnstone
- St Teresa’s School, Ravenshoe
- St Joseph’s Parish School, Weipa
- St Anthony’s School, Dimbulah
- Mount St Bernard College, Herberton
- St Stephen’s Catholic College, Mareeba
- Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School, Thursday Island
- 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 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
- Good Counsel College, Innisfail
- MacKillop Catholic College, Mount Peter

In addition to the above schools the 2017 Tuition Fee Schedule applies to:

- MacKillop Catholic College, Mount Peter
- St Francis Xavier’s School, Manunda
- St Andrew’s Catholic College, Redlynch
- Good Counsel College, Innisfail
- MacKillop Catholic College, Mount Peter
- St Francis Xavier’s School, Manunda
- St Andrew’s Catholic College, Redlynch
- Good Counsel College, Innisfail
- MacKillop Catholic College, Mount Peter

Revised July 2016