



17 January 2025

Dear Parents and Caregivers

As we prepare for the start of the school year, we hope you are as excited about a new year of learning and discovery as we are. I would like to thank you for the way in which you engage in our community and support your child's education and the financial commitment you are making through fees and levies which contribute toward the successes of our school as we strive to provide your students with engaging learning experiences.

While changes due to government funding models for non-government schools continue to have an effect on school funding and class sizes we have endeavoured to minimise the impact on families through ongoing, strong financial management of the school. As advised last year, due to increasing costs we have had to increase fees for 2025. In addition the technology levy has been raised by \$50 to accommodate the increasing price of purchasing devices and maintaining our IT services. Our book pack costs have also been increased by \$10.

We understand that the current financial situation is also increasing pressure on families. If you are experiencing difficulty paying your fees please make an appointment to speak to myself or our Financial Secretary, Maree McIntosh about concessions or other fee paying arrangements. Please understand that Sacred Heart Primary School will continue to plan for the future, which will include identifying cost reductions to ensure any future fee increases are manageable for all while we also continue to strive to provide the best educational experience for your students.

School Fees/Tuition and Levies for 2025

School Fees/Tuition (The school fees/tuition fees include an amount remitted centrally, the Archdiocesan Education Levy, which provides shared resources to all schools within the Archdiocese)

- 1 child \$1604
- 2 children \$2568
- 3 children \$3208
- 4 children \$3528

Levies (Paid on a per child basis)

- Prep to Year 6 levy is \$710 per year (or \$177.50 per term). This levy covers co-curricular activities, visiting educational programs, excursions, Local Area Network (LAN) maintenance and support and curriculum resources to enable remarkable learning to take place in our classrooms.

Levies (Paid on a per child basis) cont.

- Athletics (Yr 3 to Yr 6) \$38 per year
- Yr 1 to Yr 5 Ipad program \$250 per year
- Prep Ipad program (shared devices) \$100 per year
- Book pack Prep to Yr 6 \$110 per child

Levies (Paid on a per family basis)

- Parents and Friends levy is \$100 per year (or \$25 per term) This fee, together with a small number of extra fundraising activities, provide the funds for our vital school parent network to invest in the school.
- Capital levy is \$656 per year (or \$164 per term) This levy covers the maintenance to our existing facilities (with some buildings heritage listed) and loan repayments.

Voluntary Levies

We also have two voluntary levies. The first is the Library Fund Levy (\$25 per term) which is a tax deductible levy, with the monies accumulated to be used for any project in relation to the Library and it's resources.

The second is the F.A.I.T.H levy (standing for 'Families Acting In Times of Hardship'). The funds accumulated from this levy will be used at the discretion of the School Board to further our pastoral works within our own community & to support our families in their hour of need in relation to educational expenses.

This fund works alongside our 'Meals from the Heart' initiative, with the School Board as the mechanism for distribution of these monies. All deliberations of the School Board are confidential & we can then guarantee the anonymity of the recipients of this fund. This levy is not tax deductible.

Early-bird discount:

A discount of \$50 applies if the full yearly amount of Fees and Levies is paid prior to the due date of Term 1 accounts

Direct Debit

Direct Debit is the preferred method of payment of school fees. This method offers families the opportunity to spread the payment of their fees fortnightly or monthly over a ten month period starting in February and ending in November. It also allows for a constant flow of income into our school. To access this form of payment please download the form from the parent portal or contact the school office for the required form. Please note if you are paying through direct debit and you wish to contribute to the voluntary levies you will need to make a separate payment either via BPay or through the office. Other methods of payment include BPay, EFTPOS and cash over the counter.

I gratefully acknowledge the hard work and dedication by the whole parent community, who contribute to the ability of Sacred Heart to provide an exceptionally high standard of education and facilities, whilst keeping fees and levies reasonable, and to minimize any increases. The funds provided through the generous support and hard work of the P&F also provides additional resources, and enhancements to our learning environments, all of which our children have access to on a daily basis. And I would like to thank all our parent volunteers, as the presence of families at school and behind the scenes, assisting in so many ways, certainly helps us in providing high quality Catholic education, excellent resources and facilities for our children.

Kind Regards

S McDonald

Sarah McDonald
Principal