



## St Mary MacKillop School Wallaroo

### School Fee Schedule 2021

*The 2021 school fees schedule has been developed in consultation with the School's Finance Committee and approved by the School Board. It takes into account the priorities in our School Strategic Plan and the recommendation from Catholic Education for the 2021 school year.*

### **Fees to reduce** under SACCS 'Making Catholic Education More Affordable' initiative

As announced in Term 3, we proudly support the initiative of the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS) **to lower school fees in 2021**. This decision underpins our commitment to our school families to offer a high quality Catholic education that is accessible and affordable for all families.

The fee reduction will not impact the quality of education at our school. We will continue our commitment to the care, wellbeing and academic development of our students.

### Simpler Fee Structure

To provide a clearer picture of the annual school fees, we are moving to a simpler fee structure rather than a combination of different levies and tiers. This includes the introduction of a much lower fee for families on low income to reinforce the absolute priority that Catholic Education is accessible to all families.

### Annual School Fees 2021

<b>Full Fee per Student (R-7)</b>	<b>\$1,790</b>	<i>Reduction of \$486 from 2020 School Fee</i>
<b>Lower Income per Fee per Student (R-7)</b>	<b>\$1,074</b>	<i>Reduction of \$536 from 2020 School Fee</i>

### What is included?

The school fee above covers all tuition, levies and charges for each child's education. This is based on the first child in each family. Extracurricular activities, excursions, camps (not included in the above school fee) and the bus levy are excluded and will be invoiced separately.

Sibling discount will continue to be offered for families with more than one student attending our school – 15% for second child and 25% for third and subsequent children. We also reassure families that, where possible, fee remission will continue into 2021.

### **Lower Income Fee** (replaces previously offered Tier 2 and School Card Discount)

To be eligible for the Lower Income Fee, families need to qualify as a low income family. This is determined by the family's combined gross income and is a dollar (\$) value set by the State Government.

In 2021, the family's combined gross income needs to be below approximately \$60,264 for a family with one school-age child. (The limit will vary depending on the number of dependent children per family.)

Proof of income is required and families will need to apply for the Government School Card Scheme. Forms will be available from the School early in 2021. **We encourage families to apply via the School not directly via the School Card website.** This will ensure all applications are completed correctly and alleviate the difficulty of amending applications, as experienced this year.

Proof of income is required for families previously accessing the Tier 2 fee level. Please contact Julia Agnew early in 2021 to apply for the Lower Income Fee.

## Sibling Discount

Sibling discount is available for families with more than one child attending our school. When determining whether a family is eligible to receive this discount, consideration will be given to circumstances such as whether the children are all enrolled under the same party's name or if the family member can demonstrate full financial responsibility for the children's school fees.

The table below shows the per child total school fee, and per family total school fee, with sibling discount applied, for both the Full Fee and Lower Income Fee.

Full Fee 2021 (with Sibling Discount)				Lower Income Fee 2021 (with Sibling Discount)			
No. of Children	Discount per Child	Fee per Child	Total Fee 2021	No. of Children	Discount per Child	Fee per Child	Total Fee 2021
1 <sup>st</sup> Child	0%	\$1,790	\$1,790	1 <sup>st</sup> Child	0%	\$1,074	\$1,074
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child	15%	\$1,521	\$3,311	2 <sup>nd</sup> Child	15%	\$913	\$1,987
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child	25%	\$1,342	\$4,653	3 <sup>rd</sup> Child	25%	\$805	\$2,792
4 <sup>th</sup> Child	25%	\$1,342	\$5,995	4 <sup>th</sup> Child	25%	\$805	\$3,597

## Billing of School Fees

School fees will be invoiced in full early in Term 1, 2021. Tax invoices will be distributed to families via Australia Post.

## Early Payment Discount

We will continue to offer an Early Payment discount for families wishing to pay the annual school fees in full prior to 1 March, 2021. This discount will apply to the full annual school fee providing a further savings to our families.

## Payment Options

Families can take advantage of the Early Payment discount (as above). Alternatively, we will be asking all families to set-up a regular payment plan (refer below) using one of the payment methods:

- ✓ Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)      School bank accounts are printed on invoices & statements
- ✓ BPay      Individual reference numbers are printed on invoices & statements
- ✓ Credit Card      Accepting VISA and Mastercard (in person, mail or phone)
- ✓ Centrepay      Deduction direct from Centrelink benefits (refer to School)
- ✓ Cash/Cheque      Direct to Office/Bursar

## Payment Plans

Families not paying in full prior to 1 March, 2021 will be asked to submit an application for a payment plan. The frequency of payment is either weekly, fortnightly, monthly or quarterly with complying payments shown in the tables below.

Full Fee Payment Plan 2021						
No. of Children per Family	Total Family School Fees 2021	<i>Pay in Full (Prior 1 March for 5% Discount)</i>	Weekly (40 Weeks)	Fortnightly (20 Fortnights)	Monthly (11 Months)	Quarterly (March, June, September)
1 <sup>st</sup> Child	\$1,790	<i>\$1,700</i>	\$45	\$90	\$163	\$597
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child	\$3,311	<i>\$3,145</i>	\$83	\$166	\$301	\$1,103
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child	\$4,653	<i>\$4,420</i>	\$116	\$232	\$423	\$1,550
4 <sup>th</sup> Child	\$5,995	<i>\$5,695</i>	\$150	\$300	\$545	\$1,998

Lower Income Fee Payment Plan 2021						
No. of Children per Family	Total Family School Fees 2021	<i>Pay in Full (Prior 1 March for 5% Discount)</i>	Weekly (40 Weeks)	Fortnightly (20 Fortnights)	Monthly (11 Months)	Quarterly (March, June, September)
1 <sup>st</sup> Child	\$1,074	<i>\$1,020</i>	\$27	\$54	\$98	\$358
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child	\$1,986	<i>\$1,888</i>	\$50	\$100	\$180	\$662
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child	\$2,791	<i>\$2,652</i>	\$70	\$140	\$254	\$930
4 <sup>th</sup> Child	\$3,596	<i>\$3,417</i>	\$90	\$180	\$327	\$1,119

Refer to Appendix A for the Intention of Payment/Payment Plan Application for a payment plan. This document needs to be completed and returned via email or personally to Julia Agnew prior to the end of Week 10, Term 4 or on Book & Uniform Collection Day in Week 0, Term 1, 2021.

### School Bus Levy (Student Levy)

This levy applies to those students who travel on the St Mary MacKillop School buses in the morning and/or afternoon to and from school. The levy subsidises the on-going costs incurred with running the buses.

The levy will remain at \$45 per student, per term, and is billed each term. The charge is irrespective if the student travels on a morning or afternoon bus on one day or every day, during the school term.

The levy is capped at two children per family.

### Camp and Excursions

Parents may be asked to contribute to the cost of school camps and/or excursions that are not subsidised by the annual school fees. Invoices will be rendered and sent home when required.

### Splitting Family Account

In special cases, fee sharing between parents/guardians may be approved at the discretion of the Principal on the provision both parties are signatories on the Application for Enrolment document (parent/guardian declaration) and it is a mutual decision of both parties.

Families are encouraged to speak with Julia Agnew or Michelle Miller to discuss this option.

### Fee Assistance (COVID-19) Remission

The continuation of the Fee Assistance (COVID-19) remission will be confirmed in 2021. This remission has been offered during 2020 for families financially impacted, directly or indirectly, by the pandemic.

### Families Experiencing Financial Difficulty

Any families experiencing financial hardship outside the guidelines of the Fee Assistance (COVID-19) remission and feel they may not be able to meet the fee requirements of the School, are encouraged to promptly speak with Julia Agnew or Michelle Miller to discuss alternative payment arrangements, payment extension or the possibility of fee remission.

All discussions are strictly confidential and the granting of fee remission is at the discretion of the Principal.

### Late Commencement/Withdrawal

Should a student commence or conclude his/her studies partway through the year, a portion of the relevant school fees will be charged. Payment of school fees is still required where a student is absent from school for any length of time (e.g. holiday or illness).

### Enrolment Application Fee

A non-refundable application fee of \$20 is payable upon lodgement of an enrolment application. This covers expenses incurred by the School in the full enrolment process.

The application fee may be credited to your child's school fees when they commence their schooling.

### Book & Uniform Collection Day **\*\*NEW PLANS\*\***

#### Office Open Two Days

To accommodate the growing number of enrolments at St Mary MacKillop School and alleviate the wait time for families on this day, the Office will be open during two days in Week 0, Term 1 (week prior to the new school term) for families to collect student book packs and school uniforms.

The opening times are as follows:

- ✓ Tuesday, 19 January, 2021 from 8:30am to 2pm  
(Family surname A-L only)
- ✓ Wednesday, 20 January, 2021 from Noon to 5pm  
(Family surname M-Z only)

When setting the opening times we have endeavoured to be mindful of our parents who may be back at work and ensure an even number of families attend on each day. We thank you for your support with this decision.

Any families unable to attend on their designated day may wish to arrange for another family to collect the book pack/s on their behalf; or make alternate arrangements with the School. Please note: the Office will not be open outside of these hours on Tuesday or Wednesday as all staff will be undertaking professional development and participating in whole staff sessions. The book packs WILL NOT be ready for collection until Tuesday.

#### No Fee Payment Required

We are pleased to advise the School Board approved families will NOT be required to make a payment towards the 2021 school fees on the Book & Uniform Collection Day. (Previously families were asked to pay the Curriculum Levy.)

This decision offers further financial support to our families at this time of year as well as supporting the SACCS *Making Catholic Education More Affordable* initiative.

All school uniforms will need to be paid for on the day. EFTPOS facilities will be available.

#### Intention of Payment/Payment Plan Application for 2021

Again, whilst we are not seeking any monetary payment on the Book & Uniform Collection Day, it is imperative all families complete the attached **Intention of Payment/Payment Plan Application Form for 2021 (Appendix A)** and return to Julia Agnew either:

- via email or in person prior to the end of Term 4, 2020 (to save time waiting in line on the Book & Collection Day); or
- on their family's designated day in Week 0, Term 1, 2021 (refer to opening times above)

Government School Card application forms will be available from Julia on the Book & Uniform Collection Day. Please ensure all Centrelink benefit cards are presented as proof of documentation.