18 August 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians

2015 Tuition Fees

The annual review has occurred to determine the level of school tuition fees in 2015. The decision to raise fees is not taken for granted, nor taken 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 arise from the lower recurrent assistance that is provided by governments for students in non-government schools. Tuition fee income is used by schools to meet recurrent expenditure of the school. A minor portion of the tuition fee is used to purchase land for existing and new primary and secondary schools in the Diocese of Cairns.

In 2015 the attached Tuition Fee Schedule will apply for families with children attending primary and secondary schools in the Diocese of Cairns.

In the Diocese of Cairns the rationale has been to increase tuition fees by the movement in the Education Index of the Consumer Price Index (as reported by the Australian Bureau of Statistics). For the year ended 31 March 2014 the overall Education Index moved by 5.1%. Within this movement the increase for secondary education was 6.0% and primary education 4.4%. For 2015 the decision has been made to increase secondary and primary tuition fees by the above respective movements.

In addition to the above movement the level of sibling discount in primary schools has reduced from 2014. This reduction is necessary as many of our primary schools will have a reduced enrolment as a consequence of Year 7 moving to secondary in 2015. Reducing the level of sibling discount offered in primary schools will help to offset reduced income levels of primary schools.

The 2015 tuition fee increase applies to tuition fees only. Schools and colleges charge various levies to support specific initiatives or needs within each school and college. As this level of expenditure differs at each site, these levies are individually set.

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. If your family may experience genuine financial hardship in paying fees, please make contact with the Principal or Parish Priest to discuss fee concessions.

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.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Bill Dixon
Executive Director (Acting)

Enclosure: 2015 Tuition Fee Schedule (1)
Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns
2015 TUITION FEES

The approximate cost of the tuition fee component of a Catholic primary school education over a 40 week school year is $36.50 per week (or $28.00 per calendar week). For a secondary education, the approximate tuition fee ranges from $61.20 per school week ($47.00 per calendar week) for lower secondary to $75.10 per school week ($57.70 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 $30 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 schools, a 24% discount on tuition fees applies for two children, a 42% discount for three children, and up to a 75% 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.

Ten 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 2015 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)
  - 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 $1,112.
    b) Annual tuition fees for this family structure are $1,112 per student times 2 students. Total tuition fees payable of $2,224.

- 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 $849.
  b) Annual tuition fees for this family structure are $849 per student times 3 students. Total tuition fees payable of $2,547.

- 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 $1,112 and the annual fee for the lower secondary student is $2,082.
  b) Annual tuition fees for this family structure are $3,194 ($1,112 + $2,082).

- 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 $849, the annual fee for the lower secondary student is $1,715 and the annual fee for the upper secondary student is $2,103.
  b) Annual tuition fees for this family structure are $4,667 ($849 + $1,715 + $2,103).
Catholic Diocese of Cairns 2015 Per Student Tuition Fee Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUITION FEE PER STUDENT</th>
<th>Number of Students in Parish &amp; Diocesan Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREP &amp; PRIMARY - YEARS P-6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discount Percentage</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREP &amp; PRIMARY - per week (40 wks)</td>
<td>36.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREP &amp; PRIMARY - per term</td>
<td>365.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 - PREP &amp; PRIMARY - per year</td>
<td>$1,462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LESS COUNTRY DISCOUNT @ 10%</td>
<td>-146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 - PREP &amp; PRIMARY AFTER COUNTRY DISCOUNT</td>
<td>$1,315</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 2015 - MIDDLE SCHOOL (St Andrew's College Year 6) | $1,812 | $1,368 | $1,080 | $810 | $648 | $540 | $463 |

| LOWER SECONDARY - YEARS 7-9 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Discount Percentage | 0% | 15% | 30% | 48% | 58% | 65% | 70% |
| LOWER SECONDARY - per week (40 wks) | 61.24 | 52.06 | 42.87 | 32.15 | 25.72 | 21.44 | 18.37 |
| LOWER SECONDARY - per term | 612.43 | 520.57 | 428.70 | 321.53 | 257.22 | 214.35 | 183.73 |
| 2015 - LOWER SECONDARY - per year | $2,450 | $2,082 | $1,715 | $1,286 | $1,029 | $857 | $735 |
| LESS COUNTRY DISCOUNT @ 10% | -245 | -208 | -171 | -129 | -103 | -86 | -73 |
| 2015 - LOWER SECONDARY AFTER COUNTRY DISCOUNT | $2,204 | $1,874 | $1,543 | $1,157 | $926 | $772 | $661 |

| UPPER SECONDARY - YEARS 10-12 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Discount Percentage | 0% | 15% | 30% | 48% | 58% | 65% | 70% |
| UPPER SECONDARY - per week (40 wks) | 75.10 | 63.84 | 52.57 | 39.43 | 31.54 | 26.29 | 22.53 |
| UPPER SECONDARY - per term | 751.01 | 638.36 | 525.71 | 394.28 | 315.42 | 262.85 | 225.30 |
| 2015 - UPPER SECONDARY - per year | $3,004 | $2,553 | $2,103 | $1,577 | $1,262 | $1,051 | $901 |
| LESS COUNTRY DISCOUNT @ 10% | -300 | -255 | -210 | -158 | -126 | -105 | -90 |
| 2015 - UPPER SECONDARY AFTER COUNTRY DISCOUNT | $2,705 | $2,298 | $1,893 | $1,419 | $1,136 | $946 | $811 |

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
- St Rita’s School, Babinda
- St Augustine’s School, Mossman
- St Rita’s School, South Johnstone
- St Anthony’s School, Dimbulah
- St Stephen’s Catholic College, Mareeba
- St Teresa’s School, Ravenshoe
- Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School, Thursday Island
- Mount St Bernard College, Herberton
- Our Lady Help of Christians School, Earlville
- St Thomas’s 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, Smithfield
- St Gerard Majella School, Wooree
- St Monica’s College, Cairns
- St Mary’s Catholic College, Wooree
- St Francis Xavier’s School, Manunda
- St Andrew’s Catholic College, Redlynch
- Good Counsel College, Innisfail
- Good Counsel Primary School, Innisfail

In addition to the above schools the 2015 Tuition Fee Schedule applies to;

Revised August 2014