

# SCHOOL FEES

**Scope:** This policy applies to all staff employed in Catholic schools, colleges, kindergartens and outside school hours care centres conducted by Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton (referred to as Catholic Education in the document).

## 1. POLICY STATEMENT

No student should be excluded from a Catholic school because of the inability of their parents / carers / guardians to pay the prescribed fees - in whole or in part.

Where parents / carers / guardians are financially able to pay the prescribed fees in full or part but do not do so, collection action as outlined in Catholic Education procedures referred to in this policy will be progressed.

## 2. DESCRIPTION

Catholic schools are open to all who seek and support the values espoused by the school. The continuing provision of quality Catholic Education for all students in the Diocese of Rockhampton requires that all enrolling parents / carers / guardians assume responsibility for the payment of school fees and levies according to their ability to pay. This policy establishes procedures to ensure that access to Catholic Education remains a viable option for all families within our Diocese. For some families the payment of fees associated with enrolment may present a financial burden.

Federal and State governments acknowledge the right of parents / carers / guardians to choose the school which best suits their children's needs for educational, religious, cultural or other reasons. However, in comparison with funds spent on children in government schools, government funds committed to non-government schools remain limited. School fees are essential to the continued operation of Catholic schools. Upon enrolment, parents / carers / guardians accept responsibility for the payment of school fees. Parents / carers / guardians will be made aware of the available concessions and payment options during the enrolment process.

## 3. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

1. Catholic Education school fees and levies are reviewed annually and communicated to schools in August.
2. In signing the enrolment contract parents / carers / guardians agree to abide by the school fee collection and concession procedures.
3. Schools will make available to parents / carers / guardians a wide range of payment options.



4. The document *School Fee Collection and Concession Procedures* is available to guide schools in implementing this policy. All concessions are to be approved by the principal and reviewed annually.

#### 4. REFLECTION MATERIAL

##### CATHOLIC EDUCATION POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

- [Current School Fee Schedule](#)