



13 December 2023

Dear Parents and Caregivers

2024 PRIORITIES AND FEE SCHEDULE

As we approach the end of the year, I am writing to let you know about our key priorities and the fee structure for our School in 2024.

Throughout this year St Thomas Catholic Primary School and all schools within Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) have been dedicated to continuously enhancing the quality of Catholic education we provide. Our focus has involved significant investment in learning improvement, specifically addressing:

- Strengthening a Catholic culture that promotes learning, relationships, and human flourishing
- Ensuring systematic delivery of the curriculum
- Building leader and teacher expertise including full participation in collaborative coaching and planning time for all our teaching staff

This year, the NSW Government implemented significant pay increases for NSW public school teachers. In alignment with this, CSBB has provided equivalent adjustments to our valued teachers to ensure that we attract and retain a high performing workforce to deliver learning improvement for every student.

In light of the increased costs and other financial pressures, we have carefully assessed the necessary fees for 2024. It is important to note that our school has worked hard to minimise the impact on families by avoiding major adjustments to fees. I am pleased to inform you that, despite additional investments to enhance learning and increases in labor costs, we have been able to limit the school education fee increase to 4%.

St Thomas School remains firm on our commitment that no family in a **CSBB school** will be denied a Catholic education because of financial difficulties. Where parents or carers are billed an education fee for more than one child enrolled in a CSBB systemic school, the account will be eligible for a discount to the Education Fee (Sibling Discount). The discount will be automatically applied to the 2024 invoice, based on the number of Education Fee charges billed to an account. CSBB have maintained our financial assistance program which includes

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increased sibling discounts initially introduced during the pandemic. The sibling discount rates for 2024 will be:

Number of Education Fees billed to an account	Discount to the Education Fee
1	0%
2	25%
3	55%
4+	100%

Where parents or carers have multiple accounts with CSBB, sibling discounts may not be automatically applied to the invoice. Once invoices are received early in February 2024, any queries should be directed to the School Fee Liaison Team.

Attached, you will find a copy of the 2024 schedule of fees for St Thomas

For those experiencing financial hardship, we offer several fee support options to assist you. Please reach out to the School Fees Liaison Team via email (schoolfees@dbb.org.au) or phone 7256 2888.

We appreciate your understanding regarding the necessity of adjusting fees and look forward to partnering with you in your child's learning in 2024 and beyond.

Thank you for your continued support and we wish you and your family a restful break and every blessing for Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Enrica Bova
PRINCIPAL, St Thomas Catholic Primary School

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2024 SCHEDULE OF FEES

The 2024 fee structure for the first child in St Thoams School is outlined below.

DESCRIPTION	Amount (\$)
Education Fee ¹	\$5,502
Supplementary Fee ²	
Yr 6 Camp	\$328

1. Sibling discounts applied to education fee portion of total fee as outlined above.
2. Any other extra curricula charges other than those listed (band, instrument hire, chess, University competitions, school magazines, costs associated with representative sport etc) are to be paid via our alternative payment platform (QKR, COMPASS Pay etc).

BILLING

School fees are billed annually at the beginning of Term 1 by CSBB and are due in 10 monthly instalments. The first instalment is due 21st of February and the last payment being November. School fees may be paid more frequently (annually, fortnightly, or weekly), however the monthly instalment amount is to be paid by the 21st of the month. Our preferred method of payment for fees is BPAY.

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