

## Media Release

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# Catholic Education SA puts a freeze on fees

Catholic Education SA has announced it will freeze tuition fees at 84 Diocesan schools for the 2024 school year.

In an unprecedented move, this will be the third consecutive year that Catholic Education SA has not raised tuition fees.

In 2024, school fees will remain unchanged at:

- 59 Diocesan Catholic primary schools
- 22 Diocesan secondary and combined colleges
- 2 special schools – St Patrick’s and Our Lady of La Vang
- 1 special assistance school – Compass Catholic Community – remains fee-free.

“We recognise that cost-of-living increases are putting significant pressure on families,” says Dr Neil McGoran, Executive Director, Catholic Education SA.

“The bottom line is families matter. At a time when South Australians are experiencing high inflation, increasing interest rates and mortgage pressure, families need affordable school fees more than ever.”

“Growth in enrolments across the State in our 101 Catholic Schools, together with prudent financial management, puts us in a position where we are able to hold tuition fees at this year’s level.”

The announcement comes as the sector continues to grow, with 1,400 Reception students starting at Catholic Schools in Term 3. Over 52,300 students now attend the 101 Diocesan and separately governed Catholic schools in South Australia. The sector’s August census shows enrolments have risen over 4% since last year’s census.

Dr McGoran said the fee-freeze will provide welcome relief to families and will not impact the quality of education.

“We’re genuinely committed to keeping school fees as low as possible and ensuring a Catholic education is affordable and accessible to all.”

## **BACKGROUND**

### **Making Catholic Education More Affordable Initiative**

Since 2019, Catholic Education SA has been implementing the *Making Catholic Education More Affordable Initiative* to ensure our schools are accessible to any family who wants their child to have a Catholic education.

“We’ve introduced a range of initiatives, including widespread fee reductions, a low-income fee for families on modest incomes, and a free midyear intake for Receptions.”

In 2021, all diocesan Catholic primary schools reduced fees by an average of 15%.

In 2022, all diocesan Catholic primary schools froze their fees and diocesan secondary and combined colleges reduced fees by 1% to 7%.

In 2023, all diocesan Catholic primary, secondary and combined colleges froze their fees.

In addition to these measures, further fee remissions and reductions are available to any family who is struggling to pay school fees due to financial pressures. Families should contact their school for more information.

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**Schools included in the fee freeze are listed below:**

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL	SEAFORD	(R-6 COED)
ANTONIO CATHOLIC SCHOOL	MORPHETT VALE	(R-6 COED)
CARDIJN COLLEGE	NOARLUNGA DOWNS / ALDINGA	(R-12 COED)
CARITAS COLLEGE	PORT AUGUSTA	(R-12 COED)
CATHERINE MCAULEY SCHOOL	CRAIGMORE	(R-6 COED)
CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL	WARRADALE	(R-6 COED)
COMPASS CATHOLIC COMMUNITY	DAVOREN PARK	FEE FREE
DOMINICAN SCHOOL	SEMAPHORE	(R-6 COED)
EMMAUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL	WOODCROFT	(R-6 COED)
GLEESON COLLEGE	GOLDEN GROVE	(7-12 COED)
HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL	PARAFIELD GARDENS	(R-6 COED)
IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY SCHOOL	BROMPTON	(R-6 COED)
MARY MACKILLOP MEMORIAL SCHOOL	PENOLA	(R-6 COED)
MCAULEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL	HOVE	(R-6 COED)
MERCEDES COLLEGE	SPRINGFIELD	(R-12 COED)
MOUNT CARMEL COLLEGE	ROSEWATER	(R-12 COED)
NAZARETH CATHOLIC COLLEGE	FINDON/FLINDERS PARK/KIDMAN PARK	(R-12 COED)
OUR LADY OF GRACE SCHOOL	GLENGOWRIE	(R-6 COED)
OUR LADY OF HOPE SCHOOL	GREENWITH	(R-6 COED)
OUR LADY OF LA VANG SCHOOL	FLINDERS PARK	(R-12 COED)
OUR LADY OF THE RIVER SCHOOL	BERRI	(R-6 COED)
OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART COLLEGE	ENFIELD	(7-12 GIRLS)
OUR LADY OF THE VISITATION SCHOOL	TAPEROO	(Pre-6 COED)
OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE SCHOOL	ALBERT PARK	(R-6 COED)
ROSARY SCHOOL	PROSPECT	(R-6 COED)
SAINT DAVID'S PARISH SCHOOL	TEA TREE GULLY	(R-6 COED)
SAMARITAN COLLEGE	WHYALLA	(R-12 COED)
SCHOOL OF THE NATIVITY	ABERFOYLE PARK	(R-6 COED)
ST ALBERT'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL	LOXTON	(R-6 COED)
ST ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL	MILLICENT	(R-6 COED)
ST ANTHONY'S SCHOOL	EDWARDSTOWN	(R-6 COED)
ST AUGUSTINE'S PARISH SCHOOL	SALISBURY	(R-6 COED)
ST BARBARA'S PARISH SCHOOL	ROXBY DOWNS	(R-9 COED)
ST BERNADETTE'S SCHOOL	ST MARYS	(R-6 COED)
ST BRIGID'S SCHOOL	KILBURN	(R-6 COED)
ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL	STIRLING	(R-6 COED)
ST COLUMBA'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL	YORKETOWN	(R-7 COED)
ST FRANCIS DE SALES COLLEGE	MOUNT BARKER	(R-12 COED)
ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL	NEWTON	(R-6 COED)
ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI COLLEGE	RENMARK	(7-12 COED)
ST FRANCIS SCHOOL	LOCKLEYS	(R-6 COED)
ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL	WYNN VALE	(R-6 COED)

ST GABRIEL'S SCHOOL	ENFIELD	(R-6 COED)
ST JAMES SCHOOL	JAMESTOWN	(R-6 COED)
ST JOHN BOSCO SCHOOL	BROOKLYN PARK	(R-6 COED)
ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH SCHOOL	CHRISTIES BEACH	(R-6 COED)
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL	PLYMPTON	(R-6 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL	NORWOOD	(R-6 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S PARISH SCHOOL	GLADSTONE	(R-6 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL	BARMERA	(R-6 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL	CLARE	(R-9 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL	HECTORVILLE	(Pre-6 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL	KINGSWOOD	(R-6 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL	MURRAY BRIDGE	(R-9 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL	OTTOWAY	(Pre-6 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL	PAYNEHAM	(Pre-6 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL	PETERBOROUGH	(R-9 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL	PORT LINCOLN	(R-12 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL	RENMARK	(R-6 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL	TRANMERE	(Pre-6 COED)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL	WEST HINDMARSH	(Pre-6 COED)
ST MARGARET MARY'S SCHOOL	CROYDON PARK	(Pre-6 COED)
ST MARK'S COLLEGE	PORT PIRIE	(R-12 COED)
ST MARTIN DE PORRES SCHOOL	SHEIDOW PARK	(R-6 COED)
ST MARTIN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL	GREENACRES	(R-6 COED)
ST MARY MACKILLOP SCHOOL	WALLAROO	(R-9 COED)
ST MARY MAGDALENE'S SCHOOL	ELIZABETH GROVE	(R-6 COED)
ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL	GLENELG	(R-6 COED)
ST MONICA'S PARISH SCHOOL	WALKERVILLE	(R-6 COED)
ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL	MANSFIELD PARK	(R-6 COED)
ST PATRICK'S SPECIAL SCHOOL	DULWICH	(R-12 COED)
ST PATRICK'S TECHNICAL COLLEGE	EDINBURGH NORTH	(10-12 COED)
ST PIUS X SCHOOL	WINDSOR GARDENS	(R-6 COED)
ST RAPHAEL'S SCHOOL	PARKSIDE	(R-6 COED)
ST THERESE PRIMARY SCHOOL	COLONEL LIGHT GARDENS	(R-6 COED)
ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL	ELIZABETH PARK	(R-6 COED)
ST THOMAS' SCHOOL	GOODWOOD	(Pre-6 COED)
STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL	HENLEY BEACH	(R-6 COED)
STELLA MARIS PARISH SCHOOL	SEACOMBE GARDENS	(R-6 COED)
TENISON WOODS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL	RICHMOND	(R-6 COED)
TENISON WOODS COLLEGE	MOUNT GAMBIER	(R-12 COED)
THOMAS MORE COLLEGE	SALISBURY DOWNS	(7-12 COED)
WHITEFRIARS SCHOOL	WOODVILLE PARK	(R-6 COED)
XAVIER COLLEGE	GAWLER / TWO WELLS / EVANSTON	(R-12 COED)