



St Brigid's Primary School

Finance Policy

Rationale:

St Brigid's is an inclusive Catholic primary school called to "Make Christ Present" in all of its policies and practices. We are, therefore, challenged to create a financial approach, which is equitable and inclusive to cater for all of our families especially those marginalised and/or receiving a low income. We must also balance this with providing staffing levels and resources, which ensure a rich learning environment for all of our students. Our mission is to provide for a well-resourced and supportive learning environment, which is spiritually rich as was the example of St. Brigid, our Patron.

Christian Values:

In the Spirit of St Brigid and 'Making Christ Present', our aim of maintaining a viable learning environment will:

- ↑be accessible to those who share the values of the school
- ↑be aware of the diversity within our community
- ↑be supportive of the disadvantaged
- ↑support dignity, and
- ↑be respectful

Policy Statement:

To ensure the ongoing viability of the school, a balance between providing well resourced services, equipment, buildings, support and staff must be achieved, whilst keeping fees accessible to families.

St Brigid's Primary School:

- is cognisant that school fees and other monies need to be distributed responsibly while having transparent reporting processes.
- is to be equitable to all families, by using the standardised financial assessment process, available across the Archdiocese for fee concessions.

Principles:

St Brigid's:

- Understands that confidentiality is paramount when dealing with parents' financial capacity.
- Actively encourages all families who share our religious and educational values to become members of our community regardless of their financial capacity.
- Promotes equity and accountability in a practical way to ensure that all families contribute to the education of their children within their financial capacity.
- Remains adaptive to current economic factors and is responsive to the needs of the community.
- Acknowledges that the short, medium and long term goals must be incorporated into all future financial decisions.
- Aims for transparency with regard to reporting relevant financial information to stakeholders;
- Recognises that flexibility for budgets produced is necessary to allow for changing financial situations.
- Recognises that families prioritise their finances to send their children to this Catholic school because of the Catholic ethos and therefore ensures that stakeholders are vigilant and responsible in ensuring proper use and allocation of funds.
- Recognises that Catholic Schools need to continue to build proactive partnerships with government in order to raise the profile of Catholic Schools, with an aim to increase financial support.