FINANCIAL SUPPORT—Health Care Card Tuition Scheme

To be eligible, families need to have either a Family Health Care Card, a Pensioner Concession Card with the code ‘PPS’ or a New Start Card. This discount is given on tuition fees only.

The aims of this scheme are twofold:

• To reduce the financial burden on families with limited financial resources currently in the system and,
• To reduce the financial barrier that prevents Catholic families from accessing a Catholic Education.

STUDENT WITHDRAWAL

Notice of withdrawal can only be given in writing to the Principal. At least one full term must be given prior to the removal of a student. Verbal notification is not considered due notice.

MUSIC LESSONS

Details of private music lessons and the costs are available from the office.

GOODS & SERVICES TAX

Education in general is GST free. Some charges may, however, be taxable.

SPECIAL FEE PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Any payment arrangements outside the tabled options are to be submitted in writing and forwarded to the Principal by January 31, 2018.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

All information on Fees, Charges and Business Arrangements is available on the school website.

INSURANCE

It is strongly recommended that parents check their general Health and Insurance policies to ensure adequate medical, personal property and liability insurance cover. Students at St Benedict’s are covered by the Catholic Church Insurance. This policy provides a limited cover only.

SACRAMENTAL CHARGES

Charges for Sacraments are handled by the Parish. Any enquiries should be directed to the Parish Secretary on 9364 1120.

OTHER EXPECTED COSTS

• Uniform Costs (a separate price list is available from the uniform shop)
• Book list items—costs associated for the school year (pencils, stationary items)
• Incursion and excursions

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION.

Families of St Benedict’s are invited to participate in fundraising activities and community building projects to enrich the school community and our social justice outreach objectives.

Contact details:

St Benedict’s School
Aleness St, APPLECROSS WA 6153
T: (08) 6217 3500
E: admin@stbenedicts.wa.edu.au
W: www.stbenedicts.wa.edu.au
2018 SCHOOL FEE INFORMATION

School fees are invoiced at the start of the school year. To assist families with the payment of their fees, St Benedict’s School offers several payment options. Payment can be made via BPay, Credit Card, Cash, Cheque & Direct Debit.

OPTION 1
One annual payment due by 15th February 2018. (cash, cheque, credit card, direct debit, BPay)

OPTION 2
Three equal instalments payable on 15th February, 15th May & 15th August 2018 (credit card, direct debit, BPay)

OPTION 3
Nine equal monthly instalments commencing on 15th February with the final instalment on 15th October 2018 (credit card, direct debit, BPay)

A sibling discount is applied to the full tuition fee component only for siblings attending the school at the same time. Please note that the sibling discount does not apply to 3 Year Old Kindergarten

APPLICATION FEE FOR ADMISSION
To commence the enrolment process, a non-refundable fee of $100.00 per application is payable upon submission of the ‘Application for Admission’ form. This fee does not guarantee an interview or a position at the school. Please contact the School Registrar on (08) 6217 3500 for further enrolment information.

ENROLMENT FEE
Upon acceptance of a position at St Benedict’s a non-refundable enrolment fee of $300 is required. This will be deducted from your school fees once your child has commenced school (excludes the 3 Year Old Kindergarten program).

FULL FEE PAYING STUDENTS
Please contact the School Finance Officer on (08) 6217 3500 for fees, charges and enrolment information.

OUTSTANDING FEES
If you are having difficulties paying your fees for any reason please contact the School Finance Officer to discuss a suitable arrangement. The School Board does reserve the right to recover outstanding debts in accordance with our school policy.

SPLIT BILLING
Parents who wish to split their billing between two parents/guardians must provide written confirmation to the office. The request must be signed by both parents.

FEE REVIEW DATE
All fees are reviewed annually prior to the commencement of the new school year.
7th December 2017

Dear Parents & Guardians,

On 15 November 2017, St Benedict’s held their Annual School Community Meeting. It was during this meeting the School Board announced the school fees and charges for 2018.

State and Commonwealth funding does not provide all of the funds necessary to maintain the operation of the school. The school therefore, relies on families in our community to contribute to the increasing costs of running our school. The St Benedict’s School Board spends considerable time reviewing the current economic climate, funding restrictions, impact on families in our school community and the growth requirements of our school when determining school fees.

The increase for 2018 will be 4% on tuition only, which also translates to the building levy as in Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA) policy. This is markedly reduced from the 8% increase recommended by CEWA. Please see the increase in real terms per child in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>4% increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PP- Year 6</td>
<td>$91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building levy</td>
<td>$19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We are pleased to enclose the Fees, Charges and Business Arrangements brochure for 2018. In 2018, the format of this brochure has changed in line with all Catholic Primary Schools. Also included with the brochure is a Frequently Asked Questions information sheet about fees.

Fees and charges and options to pay will be forwarded to families in one invoice which will be posted in February 2018.

To assist families with the payment of fees and charges, several payment options will be offered to each family. The payment methods include cash, cheque, credit card, direct bank debit and BPay.

- **Option 1** One annual payment of the full amount due on February 15th, 2018
- **Option 2** Three equal instalments payable on February 15th, May 15th & August 15th, 2018
- **Option 3** Nine equal monthly instalments commencing on the 15th February 2018 with the final instalment due on the 15th October, 2018

If families have any questions regarding any aspect of the school fees for 2018, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Susan Moltoni, the school’s Finance Officer or to make an appointment with Mr Darren McDonald, Principal on 6217 3500 at the beginning of term 1, 2018.

Yours faithfully,

ST BENEDICT’S SCHOOL
70 Alness St, APPLECROSS WA 6153
Telephone: 6217 3500
Email: finance@stbenedicts.wa.edu.au
ABN 87 303 594 198

DARREN McDonALD    ANNA FITzGERALD
PRINCIPAL          SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR
School Fees – Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why do our fees increase each year?

Our fees increase for two main reasons:

The first one is due to the new Gonski model of funding implemented by the Federal Government that assesses schools on their community’s capacity to pay. This is measured by our Socio-Economic Status (SES). Here in Applecross we have one of the highest SES numbers in the state and our current rate of fees does not match what the government has calculated as our capacity to contribute is so we need to work gradually towards it.

The second one is that our costs rise each year with inflation and salary increases. The increase helps us to maintain our quality teaching, teacher assistant and administration staff structures that serve us so well, along with providing our students with resources that they need.

2. What if the three options of paying fees don’t suit my circumstance?

Here at St Benedict’s we understand that everyone’s financial situation is different, please make an appointment with the principal to discuss your situation and a plan can be developed to meet yours and the school’s requirements.

3. What if I am having trouble paying my fees?

From time to time for one reason or another families may be finding it hard to pay school fees and as a Catholic organisation we are sympathetic to this. Just make a confidential meeting with the principal to discuss your situation and alternative arrangements can be made.

4. What does the amenities part of my fees cover?

At St Benedict’s the Amenities Fee contributes to the costs of many items such as:
- consumables e.g. art supplies and paper
- classroom curriculum resources e.g. teacher resource books, equipment for hands on learning like puzzles, blocks and dice etc.
- deferred maintenance e.g. painting, carpets or replacement and repair of loose furniture etc.
- payment of utilities
5. I have to buy my child an I-Pad, how come I still have to pay an IT levy?

There are many costs associated with IT that just don’t pertain to hardware. At St Benedict’s the IT Levy contributes to the costs of:

- substantial fees charged to us by CEWA that help with IT on a system level ranging from support (both technical and curriculum) and infrastructure at CEWA around Leading Lights (formerly Cathednet).
- onsite costs and maintenance of our own infrastructure e.g. Wi-Fi charges, cables, globes for projectors and projector replacement and our onsite IT provider.
- continual upgrading of school hardware and software e.g. K-2 I-pads, class laptops, LCD screens, Apple TVs etc.

We hope this information has helped us to continue to create transparency and understanding around our fees and charges.