

MacKillop
Catholic College



PROSPECTUS

Inspiring Hearts, Minds and Spirits

Acknowledgement

We acknowledge and pay respect to the first peoples and ongoing custodians of this land, the *Gimuy Walubara Yidinji* people.

Our school is established in *Yeti*, part of *Gimuy Walubara Yidinji* country.

We commit ourselves to actively working together for reconciliation and justice.



Flag of the *Gimuy Walubara Yidinji* Nation
[used with permission]

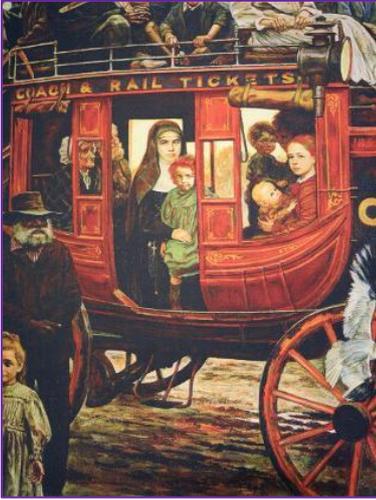
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Welcome!

MacKillop Catholic College - Mount Peter welcomes you!

We are committed to join with parents and families in partnership for the education, development and formation of our young people. And this we do in a safe, caring and disciplined environment.



As a Catholic school, we are inspired by the vision of Christ's Gospel as an authentic way to shape our humanity. We look to our patron, St Mary MacKillop – her spirituality and her life's work – as an example of the way being a disciple of Jesus gives life meaning, purpose and direction. Likewise, we too strive to be disciples of Jesus, inspired by Mary MacKillop's example. This gives the flavour to all we are called to accomplish as a Catholic school community.



A *Prep to Year 12* school, our College commences in 2016 offering Prep to Year 3. Over the succeeding years we will develop our full offerings through to Year 12, with an anticipated 1600 students, their families and members of staff forming our College community.

We look forward to partnering with you in ***Inspiring the Hearts, Minds and Spirits*** of our young people.

Mr Luke Reed
College Principal



Our Purpose

As a Catholic school, our **PURPOSE** is inspired by the *Gospel of Life*.



In the spirit of Jesus Christ, and faithful to the example of St Mary MacKillop, our **VISION** is a school community in which:

- children and their families are welcomed and loved
- students are inquisitive and happily learning
- learners are supported, guided and encouraged.

Our **MISSION** as a Catholic school is to:

- form confident and creative young people who value the ethic of love
- be a safe and welcoming community in which relationships are characterised by Gospel values
- offer the best quality pedagogy and curriculum for the creation and sharing of knowledge which is characterised by the good, the true and the beautiful.

As a community of hope investing in the future, we embrace Christianity as the way of humanity.

Desiring our students to experience they are loved and cherished, we **VALUE:**

- Catholic culture as foundational and formative
- Community which is family-like and inclusive
- Curriculum that innovates and energises
- Pedagogy which individuates and engages
- Staff who love their students and love their own learning
- Leadership that is visionary and at service
- Facilitates that are contemporary and enable.

St Mary MacKillop's Story

1842 - 1909



On January 15, 1842 Mary MacKillop was born of Scottish parents, Alexander MacKillop and Flora MacDonald in Fitzroy, Victoria. This was less than seven years after Fawkner sailed up the Yarra, when Elizabeth Street was a deep gully and Lonsdale Street was still virgin bush. A plaque in the footpath now marks the place of her birth in Brunswick Street, Fitzroy.

Mary, the eldest of eight children, was well educated by her father who spent some years studying for the priesthood in Rome but through ill health had returned to his native Scotland until 1835 when he migrated to Australia with his parents. Unfortunately, he lacked financial awareness, so the family was often without a home of their own, depending on friends and relatives and frequently separated from one another.

From the age of sixteen, Mary earned her living and greatly supported her family, as a governess, as a clerk for Sands and Kenny (now Sands and MacDougall), and as a teacher at the Portland school. While acting as a governess to her uncle's children at Penola, Mary met Father Julian Tenison Woods who, with a parish of 22,000 square miles/56,000 square kilometres, needed help in the religious education of children in the outback. At the time Mary's family depended on her income so she was not free to follow her dream. However, in 1866, greatly inspired and encouraged by Father Woods, Mary opened the first Saint Joseph's School in a disused stable in Penola.

Young women came to join Mary, and so the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph was begun. In 1867, Mary was asked by Bishop Shiel to come to Adelaide to start a school. From there, the Sisters spread, in groups to small outback settlements and large cities around Australia, New Zealand, and now in Peru, Brazil and refugee camps of Uganda and Thailand. Mary and these early Sisters, together with other Religious Orders and lay teachers of the time, had a profound influence on the forming of Catholic Education as we have come to know and experience it today. She also opened orphanages, providences to care for the homeless and destitute both young and old, and refuges for ex-prisoners and ex-prostitutes who wished to make a fresh start in life.

Throughout her life, Mary met with opposition from people outside the Church and even from some of those within it. In the most difficult of times she consistently refused to attack those who wrongly accused her and undermined her work, but continued in the way she believed God was calling her and was always ready to forgive those who wronged her.

Throughout her life Mary suffered ill health. She died on 8th August, 1909 in the convent in Mount Street, North Sydney where her tomb is now enshrined. Since then the Congregation has grown and now numbers about 900, working mainly in Australia and New Zealand but also scattered singly or in small groups around the world. The "Brown Joeys" may be seen in big city schools, on dusty bush tracks, in modern hospitals, in caravans, working with the "little ones" of God - the homeless, the new migrant, the Aborigine, the lonely and the unwanted, in direct care and in advocacy, in standing with and in speaking with. In their endeavours to reverence the human dignity of others and to change unjust structures, the Sisters and those many others who also share the Mary MacKillop spirit continue the work which she began.

This great Australian woman inspired great dedication to God's work in the then new colonies. In today's world, she stands as an example of great courage and trust in her living out of God's loving and compassionate care of those in need. More information about Mary's Story can be found at:



Source: www.sosj.org.au/who-we-are/index.cfm?loadref=105

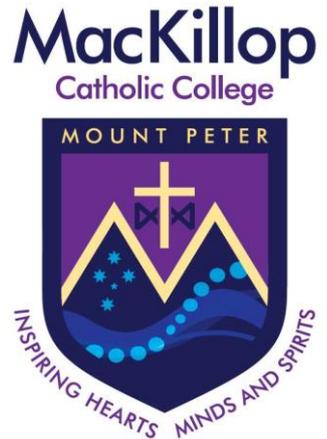


Our College Logo and Motto

Logo

Our College logo incorporates elements that reflect our mission, our location and our patron, St Mary MacKillop.

- The **Cross** identifies us as a Christian community drawing our ethos and energies from Jesus Christ and his Gospel. Our Patron, St Mary MacKillop, took the religious name '*Mary of the Cross*'. The Cross is rendered in gold and is placed in the superior position above the stylised 'M' and twin peaks below.
- Behind the Cross is the symbol associated with the religious order founded by Mary MacKillop, *The Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart*. 
- The '**twin peaks**' reference important geographic landmarks surrounding the school site in the Mount Peter valley: Mount Peter itself which rises from a location 5km to the south; and in the near distance a little further south, the striking façade of Walsh's Pyramid.
- The stylised gold '**M**' capping the mountains motif clearly references **MacKillop**.
- The **Southern Cross** references our location and St Mary MacKillop as Australian and the work of her Sisters in both Australia and New Zealand - *under the Southern Cross*
- The swirling '**journey**' motif with its energetic curves and 'stones' fills the lower portion of the design. It references the spiritual journey as a key motif of the Gospel and Catholic tradition. The Good News revealed in Jesus Christ finds its fullest expression in the Easter events and is carried to all places and in all times through the community of Jesus' disciples. *Journey through Country* is a foundational experience in the spirituality of the first people and enduring owners of this land, the *Gimuy Walubara Yidinji nation*. The College site also adjoins *Stoney Creek* which sees tropical flows from the nearby mountains across the plain and out to the sea.
- The College **motto** wraps around the base of the logo.



Motto:

Inspiring Hearts, Minds and Spirits

Our College motto, in the first instance, references the presence and work of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God has been active since the beginning of creation, forming and shaping all things according to the Divine will. The pinnacle of creation is humankind; women and men created in God's own image and likeness.

God's Holy Spirit has been ever present in human history, speaking God's word of love and redemption in human hearts, minds and spirits. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God's Word became flesh in the person of Jesus Christ. Christ's presence and mission endures in every place and age through the community of disciples, the Church.

MacKillop Catholic College shares in the Church's mission to make real God's love for all. The Spirit of God is active through our work in Catholic education in shaping hearts, minds and spirits. We do so in the belief and knowledge that our holistic education shapes and forms such that our students, their families and our staff evermore grow into the people God created us to become.

We draw inspiration and courage from the example of St Mary MacKillop. Her deep personal experience of God's love and providence led her to reach out in service of young Australians who had little or no access to education. Her legacy is testament to the power of education to *inspire hearts, minds and spirits*.

The Catholic School Context

Virtually from the outset, the provision of education has been inextricably linked with the Australian Catholic Church's mission and pastoral strategy. While both political and practical factors influenced the scope of its provision through the decades, quality schooling has nevertheless been an enduring hallmark of the Catholic Church's profile in this county.



Schools exist for the sake of students. Catholic schools have demonstrable positive outcomes for their students, underpinned with the conviction that the network of the school community is impelled by the Gospel mandate *to love and to serve*. In *MacKillop Catholic College* the Gospel is proclaimed explicitly through the curriculum and in the articulation of the school's mission and ethos, but also implicitly through the quality of relationships and the manner in which the school's activities are undertaken.

The school's nature as a *faith community* ought not to be seen as an added extra, but rather as the 'yeast' which gives rise to all that occurs here and the manner in which it happens. Relationships within and beyond the school community are essentially pastoral in nature; they are at the service of the well-being and common good of all and should be pointers to God's presence among us.

Notwithstanding the primacy of the Catholic cultural context, it is vital that student learning and development and students' individual needs remain a constant and central focus of the College's endeavours. This focus, coupled by attentiveness to the emerging learning about learning (meta-learning) – including our understanding of the capacities of the growing young brain – guides and drives strategic innovations in learning and teaching. This is greatly enhanced by the judicious use of meaningful data to inform decision making around curriculum structure and pedagogic methodologies, as well as evaluation of ongoing progress of groups and individuals. We are committed to ensuring that our educational program authentically reflects the social context and the individual requirements of our learners.

Families who seek to enrol their children in Catholic schools do so out of motivation to seek the very best for them. We honour that. The College's commitment to overall excellence, which fosters the development of its students and staff, is an integral part of our mission. However, participation in the life of the school is an experience – not merely the reception of a service offered. From this perspective, we invite and welcome the contribution and involvement of parents and supporters who form an integral part of our College community.



Curriculum

“21st century education integrates technologies, engaging students in ways not previously possible, creating new learning and teaching possibilities, enhancing achievement and extending interactions with local and global communities.”

(Contemporary Learning, Learning in an Online World MCEETYA 2005)

Learning and Teaching – is the core activity of our school. Quality learning and teaching in Catholic schools is informed by:

- The educational vision, mission, policies and strategic priorities of the Diocese of Cairns
- Contemporary educational research and practices
- The needs and the aspirations of students, their families and the local community
- The knowledge and skills of teachers and support staff
- The requirements of Government educational policies and directions

MacKillop Catholic College is committed to preparing young people for tomorrow’s world by providing an education which is congruent with the values of the gospels and the teachings of the Catholic Church. To realise such a system of education we hold firmly a vision for the kinds of adults our young people need to become and this is clearly articulated in our **Diocesan Learning Framework**. This document can be accessed on the Catholic Education website at www.cns.catholic.edu.au/index.php/your-education/curriculum/

As a member of the network of Catholic schools across Far North Queensland and supported by Cairns *Catholic Education Services*, *MacKillop Catholic College* will draw from and contribute to our shared educational resources. With the *Diocesan Learning Framework* as the foundation document, our College will continually refine our delivery of learning programs and continue to develop school-based curriculum plans designed to meet the needs of our student community, whilst taking into account and being informed by the *Australian Curriculum* and the requirements of the *Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority*.



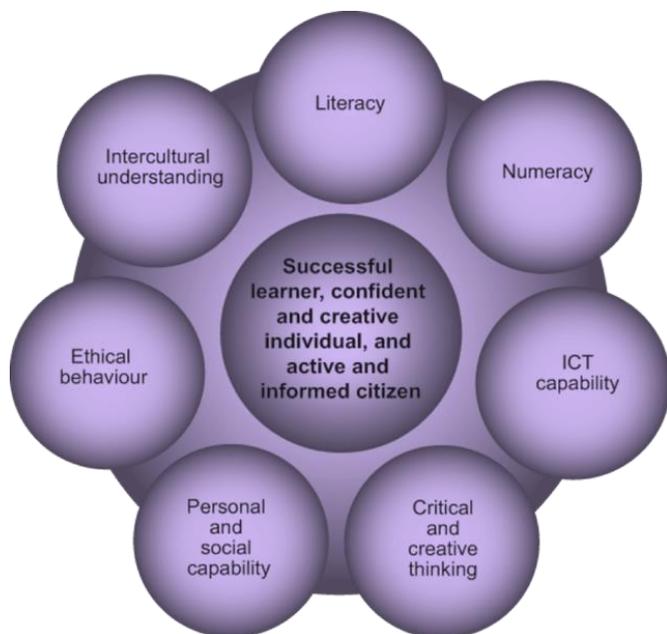
In proposing minimum curriculum requirements for Learning Areas within Catholic schools, it is critical to note that every curriculum area has a religious and a social emotional dimension; a capacity to assist students to examine the world of human culture and the world of religion, providing knowledge and skills through an active process, and fostering attitudes and values that are life-giving and that assist young people to search for meaning and truth.

“...school should be able to offer young people the means to acquire the knowledge they need to find a place in a society, which is strongly characterised by technical and scientific skill. But, at the same time, it should be a place, above all, to impart a solid Christian formation.”

*The Catholic School
on the Threshold of the Third Millennium*

The shape of the Australian Curriculum

The Australian Curriculum sets out what all young Australians are to be taught, and the expected quality of that learning as they progress through schooling. At the same time, it provides flexibility for teachers and schools to build on student learning and interest.



Every ten years, contemporary views on educational needs for the future are sought and documented. The most recent being the 2008 Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians, which commits to '**supporting all young Australians to become successful learners, confident and creative individuals and active and informed citizens**', and promotes equity and excellence in education.

The Australian Curriculum means that greater attention can be devoted to equipping young Australians with the skills, knowledge, understandings and capabilities necessary to enable them to effectively engage with and prosper in society, compete in a globalised world and thrive in the information-rich workplaces of the future.

The Australian Curriculum has been developed in three phases, with English, Mathematics, Science and

History already available for several years. Geography, the Arts and Languages are currently being implemented and the remaining areas - Economics and Business, Civics and Citizenship, Health and Physical Education and Technologies are in the process of implementation over the next twelve months.

The Australian Curriculum focuses on an entitlement for all students while acknowledging that the needs and interests of students may vary. The curriculum provides the content, and a set of achievement standards which state the expected quality of learning, in year levels from Prep to Year 10. What makes this Curriculum so rich and contemporary is that at each year level and throughout the subjects, there is an explicit focus not only on the content, but on **general capabilities** (or twenty-first century skills), and **cross-curriculum priorities**.

The **general capabilities** include:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Information Communication Capability
- Critical and Creative Thinking
- Ethical Behaviour
- Personal and Social Capability
- Intercultural Understanding

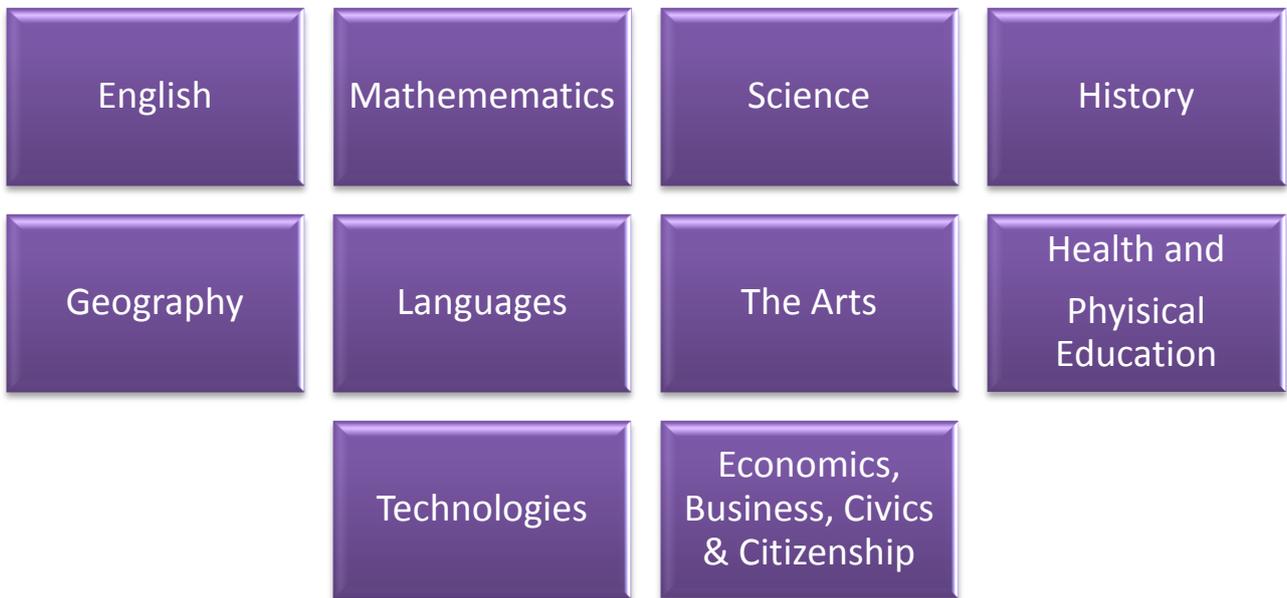
There are three **cross-curriculum priorities**:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures
- Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia
- Sustainability

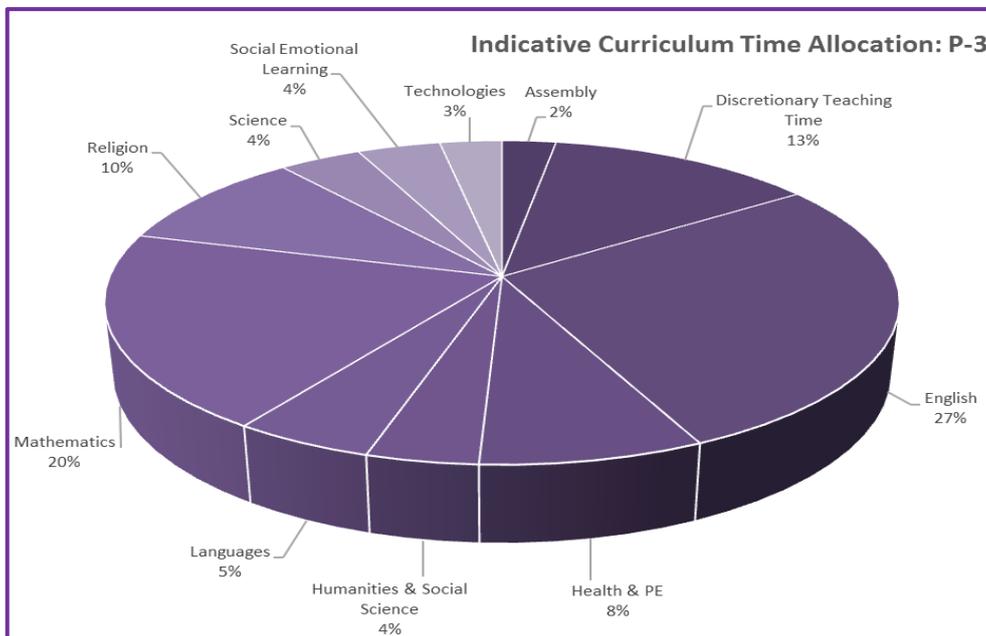
Catholic teachers and CES curriculum leaders have been actively involved in the development of the Australian Curriculum since its inception in 2009. We are confident that the **Australian Curriculum** enables teachers to take into account our Catholic culture, our families and our community and that it values the professionalism of our teachers and the local context in which we work and live.

For all Catholic schools '**Christian Faith and Catholic Ethos**' ought be considered our own **Cross Curriculum Priority**, just as are the Australian Curriculum's '**Sustainability**', '**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures**' and '**Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia**'. Religious Education will continue to be central to our curriculum and teachers are encouraged to integrate the key understandings across all subjects. The general capabilities '**critical and creative thinking**', '**ethical behaviour**' and '**personal and social capability**', and the cross-curriculum priority - **Sustainability** - are complementary and integral to our **Religious Education curriculum** and its practical expression in the **Religious Life of our School**.

Subject Areas in the Australian Curriculum P-10



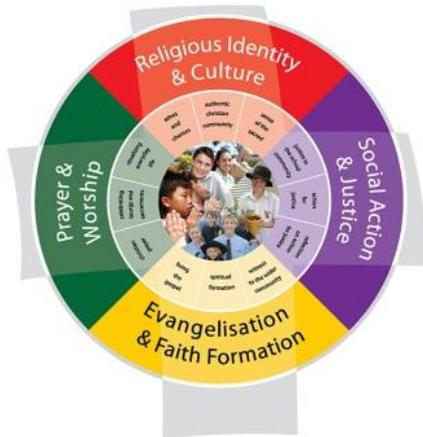
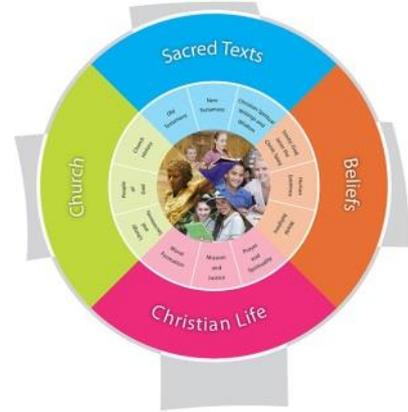
NOTE: **Religious Education** has an integral place in the curriculum of Catholic schools.



Religious Education

Education in Catholic schools focuses on the development of the whole human person: intellectually, physically, socially, emotionally and of course, spiritually. The distinctive religious dimension of the Catholic school is manifest in many ways, one of which is the school's Religious Education programme. This is an integral part of the school's curriculum and takes a number of forms.

Religious Education in the classroom setting is approached with the same educational methodology and seriousness as any other Key Learning Area within the school's curriculum. Teachers develop and tailor for their students a Religious Education program from the curriculum documents endorsed by the Bishop; they collaboratively plan and teach Religious Education lessons using a variety of engaging and practical strategies, many of which are also used in other learning areas; they assess the content and skills which have been taught; and report regularly to parents.



Teaching Religious Education requires more than just the delivery of knowledge, however and Religious Education teachers are also witnesses to the faith for their students. This sharing of faith is an ongoing and mutual process in which teachers and students learn from each other and grow together in faith.

A distinct but complementary aspect of the school's religious dimension is the liturgical and prayer life of the school community. Together students, staff, parents and other members of the community pray regularly in a variety of settings, celebrate sacraments and feasts in both small and whole school groups and reach out to the wider community in action for justice, including care for the poor, which stems from this active spiritual life.

Religious Education within the Catholic school is of course not confined to 'official' Religious Education classes or liturgical occasions. Christ is at the centre of all endeavours in Catholic education. As believers faithful to the Gospel and attempting to live out Christ's mission in the world, the members of the Catholic school community express this Christ-centred vision in all aspects of school life. Actions in the playground, conduct at sports, positive behaviour programme, enrolment policies, pastoral care, relationships between staff, students and parents and classroom teaching, all reflect this core belief. The religious dimension of the Catholic school is therefore present and underpins all the activities of the College community.



Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

There is no doubt that if our children are to be successful in school and life, they must have excellent teachers and high-quality instruction. But scientifically-based research now supports what parents and teachers have long known: Social and emotional factors also have a huge impact on academic performance.



Educational settings have the potential to engage young people in ways that help them define who they are, how and why they are important, how they should act and what they can become.

Cairns Catholic Education believes it has an obligation to help children acquire the skills they need to become productive and contributing members of our society. As part of this responsibility, schools must ensure that children are well trained in academic subjects and also given the social-emotional skills that build character and lay the foundation of good citizenship.

Scholastic achievement must go hand-in-hand with the acquisition of traits such as honesty, cooperation, fairness, respect for others, kindness, trustworthiness, the ability to resolve conflict, and the insight to understand why such character traits are important.

MacKillop Catholic College recognises the importance of integrating social, emotional, and academic factors for effective learning.

Inclusivity, Specialist & Support Services

MacKillop Catholic College is committed to fostering a culture of inclusion that responds to the educational needs of students regardless of their abilities, backgrounds and aspirations. The uniqueness and individuality of students and families is recognised and welcomed. Our school community strives to be characterised by belonging, caring, understanding, involvement, respect, sharing and enrichment. This commitment to inclusive practices is supportive of both church teaching and legislative requirements.

Inclusive practices value the diversity of students, recognise their rights, provide equitable access and work towards meeting their educational needs within a supportive Christian community. Our inclusive school community supports students with diverse needs by working together with families and school community members, creating unique pathways and options for students, and team planning to help achieve goals.

MacKillop Catholic College has access to Catholic Education's advisory teachers, speech language pathologists, psychologists, occupational therapists, learning support teachers, student counsellors and Indigenous education officers. School communities also collaborate with a range of external agencies to enhance support of the individual needs of students.



Contemporary Learning in a Digital Context

The vision for contemporary learning across the Cairns Diocese is for Information Communication Technology (ICT) to be integral to learning and teaching in our schools to “empower those in our community to engage with and enrich our ever changing world”.

(Learning and Teaching Policy Diocese of Cairns – CES)



The Cairns Diocese is part of *CEnet* which is a collection of Catholic education networks connecting school communities across metropolitan, regional and rural New South Wales, Queensland, NT and the ACT. *CEnet*'s member dioceses share a common vision for a network and learning architecture suitable for the support of education and evangelisation in the digital age.

An education portal for connected schools lies at the core of the Diocese's approach to enhancing learning and teaching in the 21st century, empowering both teachers and students, and facilitating communication, publication, sharing and collaboration – all key elements of any successful learning and teaching environment. This learning and internet management system provides schools with the capacity to access educational content in a safe manner and interact with other schools across dioceses and indeed, the world.

For students, this means:

- anytime, anywhere access to their own e-learning environment
- personalised user experience enhancing interest and ownership
- collaborative online programs aimed at building learning communities
- delivery of targeted learning content
- activities to foster independent learning
- opportunities for parental involvement in children's learning programs (by having access to their children's personal portal, from home)
- access to resources that best suit their learning styles and abilities by choosing from the wide range of resources available

The Cairns Diocese is truly a Connected Learning Community, and *MacKillop Catholic College* is linked in!

Student Wellbeing and Protection

In Catholic education, protection for children and young people is based upon the belief that each person is made in the image of God, and that the inherent dignity of all should be recognised and fostered within community.

A commitment to the protection of children and young people and upholding of their right to a safe and secure environment is critical to educational experience.

Protecting children is everyone's business

Catholic Education actively recognises the importance of Child Protection and the role every adult has in ensuring children in our communities, families and schools are safe, nurtured and protected. School staff are often early identifiers of family difficulties or concerns for children.

We continue to engage a child protection framework which is child focused and adheres to relevant legislation.

We look to the future with enduring hope that all children fulfil their human potential in safe and caring environments.

Catholic Education
Diocese of Cairns
Learning with Faith and Vision

Those in positions of responsibility in Catholic schools acknowledge their obligation to have in place proactive and interventionary policies and procedures which will provide students with a safe school environment, ensure that school personnel have the knowledge and skills they need to promote such a safe environment, and provide a prompt and supportive response to an allegation of harm of any kind.

The Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2001 and the Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Regulation 2001 provide the overarching legal requirements for student protection in all Catholic schools in Queensland. The fundamental obligation is for each school to develop and maintain a Risk Management Strategy which seeks to

reduce the risk of harm to students. It also includes documentation of policies and procedures which demonstrate the school's compliance with all other forms of child protection legislation in this state and implementation of best practice procedures for the protection of children and young people from harm.

The consequences of failing to act in accord with legislation and regulation are serious because of the potential impact on the lives of students, the well-being of families, school staff and the reputation of the school itself. In addition, failure to comply will attract considerable penalties in the form of fines, convictions and can place the accreditation status of the school in jeopardy.

To support Catholic schools' efforts to create student safety in communities of care, Catholic Education has published a Student Protection Reporting Processes manual.

Starting Prep at MacKillop Catholic College

What is Prep?

The Preparatory Year of full-time schooling (Prep) was introduced into all Queensland schools in 2007. The non-compulsory program is for children who turn five by June 30 in the year they start school. Queensland children start compulsory schooling (Year 1) at about the same age as children in other states of Australia.

About Prep

All Queensland children are eligible to attend full-time Prep from the beginning of the school year in which they will reach the age of 5 years by 30 June. Children whose birthday is in July through to December commence Prep at the beginning of the school year after their 5th birthday.

Prep is the first year of school and provides the foundation for your child's education. It is a full-time program held in primary schools. Children attend Monday-Friday for the full school day.

Prep teachers use the Foundation Year of the Australian Curriculum—to guide children's learning. The Foundation Year in the Australian Curriculum refers to the year before Year 1. In Queensland this is called Prep. For further information visit the Australian Curriculum Website at www.australiancurriculum.edu.au

When children start Prep they move to a more structured learning environment, but they continue to learn through play. During play children make decisions, solve problems, develop thinking and teamwork skills, communicate, and develop a positive sense of themselves.

Developing the whole child

Families starting their child's schooling in the Catholic tradition know that Catholic schools are committed to the growth of the whole child by offering developmentally appropriate programs which address children's needs – spiritual, intellectual, physical, cultural, social and emotional. Faith, spiritual and values development is integrated into the Prep curriculum in keeping with the ethos and values of Catholic education.



The Prep program promotes the development of independence and acknowledges that children arrive at school as competent and capable learners who have been learning since birth. The year builds on your child's learning at home and in other places like kindergarten and child care.

Facilities

MacKillop Catholic College provides quality, specialised learning areas and equipment to accommodate Prep classes. Flexible learning environments are designed to complement Prep's play based program and encourages an active investigative approach.

A safe and caring environment

Catholic schools aim to provide special care and attention to all students, staff and families in the school community.

Each child's unique beauty and gifts are fostered. Child protection matters are taken seriously, and practices and protocols are in place to ensure Catholic schools are safe places that not only comply with regulations but move beyond mere compliance to prevention.

Prep classrooms in Catholic schools nurture right relationships. Through social emotional learning, children are supported in the development of life skills of confidence, getting along, persistence, organisation and emotional resilience.

In close partnership

Our schools see education as a partnership between schools and families. Parents are welcomed as members of the school community and opportunities are provided to share in the school experience. Close communication between school and home is a priority. Prep teachers value partnerships with families, carers, communities and professional colleagues in order to develop supportive learning environments for students.

What will children learn?

In Prep children learn in many different ways including play, organised games, and investigation. They develop important life skills by working with other children and adults. Prep makes connections between school and what your child learns at home and in early childhood education and care.



Prep helps your child develop:

- a positive approach to learning
- independence and confidence
- thinking and problem-solving skills
- language skills
- early literacy and numeracy
- physical abilities

What will they do?

- investigate interests and plan with their teacher about the things they might do
- make choices while designing and making things
- sing, dance and paint
- listen to stories
- play games indoors and outdoors
- use computers to draw pictures, make signs
- take part in everyday experiences like gardening, cooking and tidying up
- write and copy signs during their play
- learn about size, shape, weight and measurement as they construct things indoors and outdoors

How can I get involved?

- share information about your child with the teacher (always treated confidentially)
- chat with your child about what they're doing at school
- visit the classroom for a brief chat or to take part in daily activities or special events
- read together and talk about story books, factual books and rhymes as well as about everyday items such as signs, notices, letters, catalogues, magazines, TV guides, food packaging and bills
- involve your child in family activities that investigate mathematical ideas, e.g. cooking, setting the table, matching socks, sharing a meal
- encourage your child to use 'junk' materials for drawing, making patterns, and building things

When is my child eligible for Prep?

Birth date	Eligible for Prep Year in
Child born 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011	2016
Child born 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012	2017
Child born 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013	2018
Child born 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014	2019

Early entry to Prep

An amendment to the Education Act has allowed for the possibility of early entry for some students who will turn five by July 31st in the year they are in Prep, however that entry is conditional on the Principal also being satisfied that they are ready for schooling in terms of:

- aptitude and ability; and
- social and emotional competence; and
- physical development; and
- level of knowledge and understanding.

This is not a mandatory change for all children born in July and it is certainly not compulsory to send your child to Prep if he or she turns five during July.

Delayed entry to Prep

Delayed entry to Prep is an option which may be considered in specific circumstances and where it is in a child's best educational interests.

Parents may delay their child's entry to Prep (and subsequently Year 1) if they feel that the child is not ready to start school. For example, the child is not ready to cope with the social and emotional demands of schooling, or has delayed development.

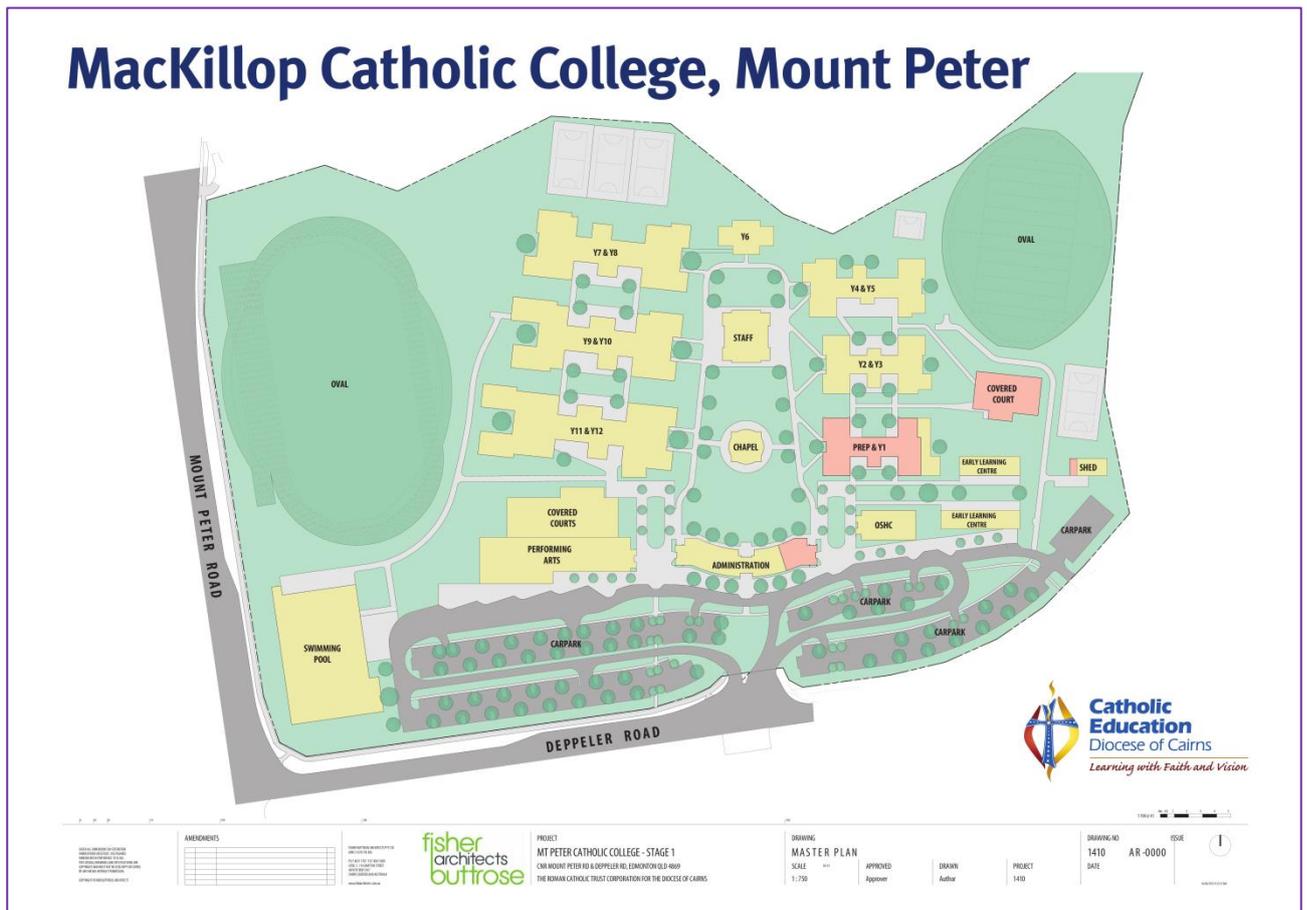
No formal documentation or approval is required for delayed entry to Prep. If you have questions or concerns about your child's readiness for Prep you can speak with your child's Kindergarten teacher or the Principal of the school where you plan to enrol your child for Prep.

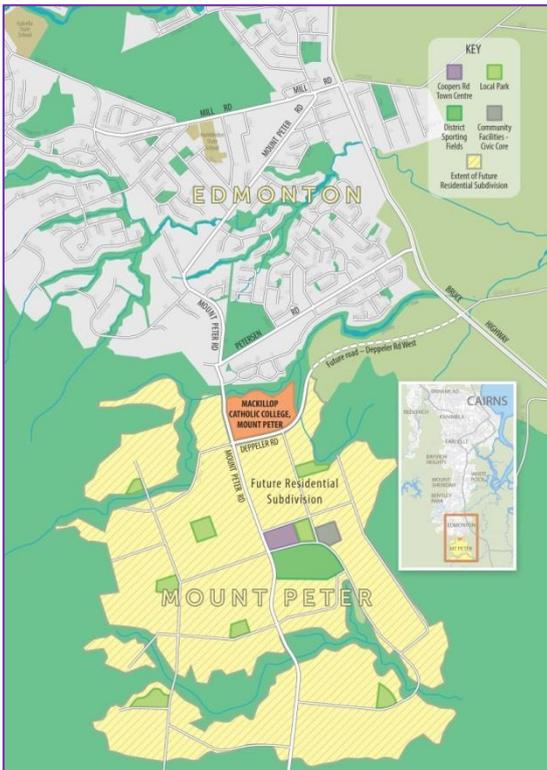


MacKillop Catholic College – Schedule of Development

Our campus is master planned as a Prep to Year 12 College, encompassing four streams in the primary years and six streams in secondary. The College will develop in stages, opening with Stage 1: Prep to Year 3. The following table outlines the College’s development schedule.

	Primary							Secondary					
2016	Prep	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2017	Prep	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2018	Prep	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2019	Prep	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2020	Prep	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2021	Prep	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2022	Prep	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2023	Prep	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2024	Prep	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2025	Prep	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12





The parcel of land on which the school will grow is beautifully framed by the adjacent mountains with their rich tropical foliage and the backdrop of Stoney Creek with its fresh, crystal clear waters. Mount Peter itself rises to the south, with the striking facade of Walsh's Pyramid a little further away.

Construction of Stage I is now complete. Future stages will be developed at two year intervals to provide the necessary facilities for a contemporary innovative educational experience from Prep through to Year 12.



Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) Services

Supporting Families

Outside School Hours Care services for Catholic schools in the Diocese of Cairns are provided by the Diocese's **Catholic Early Learning and Care** ministry (CELC). CELC is constructing a facility on our Mount Peter site to provide OSHC services for our students and their families. School-aged care programmes offer safe and productive activities during the hours outside of the school day. Recreational programs of general supervision and individual attention are provided by CELC staff.



Initially, **After School Care** will be provided by the service at MacKillop Catholic College.

Before School Care and **Vacation Care** will be introduced at Mount Peter as the demand for these services warrant. Nevertheless, in the interim, our families are able to access these services for their children at nearby CELC centres.

CELC staff provide programs to assist all elements of each child's development and provide a setting where children:

- Experience recreational activities within a setting designed specifically for school-aged children
- Socialise with their peers in a relaxed environment, with staff on hand to facilitate social skills and self-confidence
- Engage with staff and peers in quality programs developed collaboratively by the children and staff

CELC services are founded upon the love of Jesus Christ, the values of the Gospels, the significance of relationships, developmental excellence and quality learning. It is fundamental that educational and care service provision be authentic, developmentally sensitive, community centred, relevant and responsive.

CELC caregivers support families in raising their children by:

- Helping parents to balance family activities and workplace responsibilities
- Responding to each child's needs with care that is sensitive and relevant
- Maintaining collaborative relationships with families
- Providing best practice education that is also creative and challenging.



The Legal/corporate entity that is the sponsor for our Early Learning Services is the Roman Catholic Trust Corporation for the Diocese of Cairns (RCTC) trading as Catholic Early Learning and Care **Provider Approval Number: PR00006556**.

More information on **MacKillop Catholic College OSHC** can be accessed at <http://ccelc.catholic.org.au/mtpeter/index.php>

Tel: (07) 4046 5679
Email: osch.mtpeter@ccelc.catholic.org.au

All are welcome; come join us!

Although historically Catholic were established to educate children from Catholic families, recent Church documents including *'The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium'* (1998) have advocated a more inclusive approach to Catholic education, and specifically, a more welcoming attitude toward those with special educational needs, those who are socio-economically disadvantaged, from Indigenous or multicultural backgrounds and those of Christian traditions and faiths other than Catholic.

This growing ecumenical and inclusive outlook has prompted Catholic schools to be more open in their enrolment policies and practices. Contemporary Catholic schools are places which welcome all who genuinely seek to be part of the life of the school and wish to share in a vibrant, well-resourced learning environment, based on Catholic faith and values.

Enrolment policy strives to ensure schools engage in the essence of what it is to be Catholic, whilst, at the same time, are inclusive in nature and develop an evangelising role in addition to the catechetical role they have traditionally played as educators of Catholic children.

Keeping in mind that Catholic schools share in the evangelising mission of the Church, discernment of acceptance of enrolment application displays a variety of factors, including:

- Catholics who participate regularly in the celebration of the Eucharist
- Catholics who commit to the values of the Catholic Church
- Siblings of existing students
- Participating members of other Christian churches
- Christians who support the values of the Catholic Church, and
- Those not affiliated with any Christian church, who support the values of the Catholic Church.

Catholic schools have always maintained an outreaching focus, with a traditional and often expressed preferential option for the poor.

In keeping with Gospel values, no child will be refused a Catholic education due to genuine financial hardship. New or existing parents who find themselves in this situation are encouraged to discuss fee concessions with the school principal who will treat the situation with understanding and sensitivity that respects the dignity and privacy of families.

This inclusivity extends to responding to the educational needs of students regardless of their abilities, backgrounds and aspirations. Catholic school communities are places where the uniqueness and individuality of students and families is recognised and welcomed and the human dignity of each student is promoted.

In Far North Queensland, almost one in every four students is educated in a Catholic school. Just over half of those are Catholic and three quarters are of a Christian religion. Some don't identify with any religion.

Research shows that families in Catholic schools place importance on the broad range of values associated with Catholic schools – social and emotional development, Christian values framework, safety and discipline, partnerships and a sense of belonging. Parents and guardians choose to entrust their children's future to Catholic schools because of their explicit goals and acknowledged educational quality.



Catholic education is continuing to thrive, with enrolments in the Cairns Diocese increasing every year. Such growth is an indication of the strong commitment to providing for the needs of all students in an inclusive, life-giving and supportive school community environment.

Enrolling at MacKillop Catholic College

What constitutes Enrolment?

Enrolment refers to the formal agreement by the Principal on behalf of the school community to place a student's name on the school's enrolment register, thereby conferring on that student and his/her family all the rights and responsibilities that normally pertain to any enrolment. *Enrolment* refers to a *full enrolment*, not subject to special conditions.

An application for enrolment is simply that. Acceptance by the school of an application does not mean that an offer of enrolment will automatically follow. To lodge an application for enrolment at MacKillop Catholic College, parents are required to pay a \$50 non-refundable fee.

Once an interview has occurred, a position offered, and a Confirmation of Enrolment completed including all documentation required, a student is then considered enrolled.

A student enrolment from another Catholic primary school can only be accepted if fees have been fully paid at the school. This is also the case for students attending Catholic secondary colleges in the Cairns Diocese.

Once a student has been enrolled, any consideration of enrolment cancellation is subject to the considerations and regulations applying to suspension and exclusion as outlined by Catholic Education Services.

Enrolment Procedure

Enrolment enquiries and applications are welcome at any time throughout the year. Applications for Prep enrolments are accepted up to two years prior to starting. Prep interviews are conducted in Term 1 of the year preceding and confirmation of enrolment by the end of Term 2. (As 2016 is the foundation year of the College, Prep applications are being processed throughout 2015). Applications for other year levels are welcome throughout the year.



Enrolment Steps

Step 1:	<p>Submit an ‘Application for Enrolment Form’ and other documents as listed on the <i>Parent Checklist</i> on the form ie Birth Certificate and Baptismal Certificate if applicable for each child.</p> <p>For Year 1-6 enrolments include a copy of the most recent school report.</p> <p>All new Families to <i>MacKillop Catholic College</i> are required to pay a non-refundable Application Fee of \$50 at the time of lodgement.</p> <p>** For 2015, if an Application Fee has been previously paid to another Cairns Catholic Primary School, and you accept an enrolment offer to <i>MacKillop Catholic College</i>, the <i>MacKillop</i> enrolment fee will be deducted from your 2016 Term 1 Fee Account.</p>
Step 2:	<p>The College responds</p> <p>The School will acknowledge receipt of your application and advise you of anything else that is required to assist in considering the application.</p>
Step 3:	<p>An interview is arranged</p> <p>All enrolment applicants to <i>MacKillop Catholic College</i> must have an enrolment interview with the Principal or Assistant Principal. Students and parents are required to attend the interview. An <i>Application for Enrolment Form</i> must be completed by the parents or the legal guardians and all other forms as required are to be submitted prior to the interview.</p>
Step 4:	<p>Being Offered and Accepting a place</p> <p>If your application progresses, the Principal will make you an offer of enrolment.</p> <p>Parents accept the offer by completing a ‘<i>Confirmation of Enrolment Form</i>’</p> <p>All new Families will be required to pay a \$100 Enrolment deposit per child within four weeks of the date of the acceptance letter. This will ensure that we hold a place for your child/children for the following year. This Enrolment deposit is then deducted from your first term fees.</p>

Enrolment Forms

Application for Enrolment forms and Confirmation of Enrolment forms are available as printed documents from the school office, or alternatively they may be downloaded from the links below, then completed electronically, saved as a PDF document and printed for signing and return to the school.

The enrolment process is in two parts – Enrolment Application (EA), followed by Enrolment Confirmation (EC).

Enrolment forms can be accessed via links on the webpage at:
www.cns.catholic.edu.au/index.php/new-college-for-mt-peter/

Alternatively, we can mail you the documents. Please phone our Office (4045 5262) and we will send them to you in the post.

The screenshot shows the 'APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT' form from MacKillop Catholic College. It includes a header with the school's name and logo. Below the title, there are instructions and a dropdown menu for 'Please Indicate the Year Level and indicate the Year for which the enrolment is required'. The form is divided into two main sections: 'Section 1: Student Personal Details' and 'Section 2: Student Cultural Background'. Section 1 includes fields for Legal Name, Preferred Name, Date of Birth, and Gender. Section 2 includes checkboxes for Country of Birth, Indigenous Status, and Main Language Spoken at Home.

School fees at MacKillop Catholic College

Catholic School Funding

Parents should be free to choose the type of education they want for their children. Catholic schools fulfil parents' rights in a democratic, free society to choose the schooling for their children which reflects their own values, beliefs and hopes as Australians.

Catholic schools are funded by Federal and State Governments, as well as parent contributions (fees). On average, Catholic school students currently receive 20 per cent less government funding than if they attended government schools, making it necessary for Catholic schools to operate more efficiently than government schools and charge fees to maintain the high quality of education that Catholic Education is known for and our families rightly expect.

Even when parent contributions are taken into account, on average, Catholic schools operate at a resourcing level of 90% of that of government schools.

The Federal Government has recently been reviewing school funding. The Catholic sector urged the closing of the gap between the level of government funding received by Catholic schools and government schools.

Catholic schools strive to keep fees as low as possible so that more families can choose a Catholic school for their children. If Catholic school funding is frozen, reduced, or fails to keep pace with government school funding, Catholic schools may be forced to increase their school fees. If fees go up, the extra cost may lead to parents taking their children out of Catholic schools, and in turn put further pressure on government schools, and cost government more money. To make sure this does not happen, it is vital that governments fund Catholic schools equitably into the future.

One in five Australian students attends a Catholic school and in Far North Queensland that figure is even greater; one in four. Parents are urged to stay informed. For further information on Catholic school funding visit www.fundinginfo.catholic.edu.au



Source: www.cns.catholic.edu.au/index.php/enrolling/catholic-school-funding/

Why School Fees?

The shortfall between the basic costs of running a school and the amount funded by governments means a reasonable fee structure is essential for Catholic schools to operate.

Schools strive to keep fees as low as possible and family discounts apply for families with more than one child attending Catholic schools in the Diocese of Cairns, so that more families can choose a Catholic school for their children.

School fees comprise two components; a **Tuition component**, which applies in all Diocesan schools and colleges (full details of the Diocesan Tuition Fee structure is available at www.cns.catholic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Tuition-Fees-2015.pdf); and a **Levy component**. Levies vary from school to school, and may include items such as a Building Levy, Subject Levies and General Purpose Levy.

In keeping with Gospel values, no child will be refused a Catholic education due to financial inability or difficulty. New or existing parents who find themselves in this situation are encouraged discuss fee concessions directly with the school principal who will treat the situation with understanding, sensitivity and confidentiality.

It is the experience of our schools that families who are struggling financially are faithful in paying a contribution to their local school to whatever extent they can afford. It is the expectation that all families contribute according to their capacity to do so.

Fee Schedule

Mackillop Catholic College - Mount Peter

2016 Schedule of School Fees and Levies

This Schedule assumes all children are attending *Mackillop Catholic College*. If some of the family attend other Catholic Schools or Colleges, additional fees may be payable at that school. The CES tuition fee for Years 7 – 12 will also vary from the Prep-Year 6.

	Fees Payable for 1 child			Fees Payable for 2 children			Fees Payable for 3 children			Fees Payable for 4 children			Fees Payable for 5 children			Fees Payable for 6 children		
<i>CES Tuition Fee Schedule for Prep to Year 6 (2015) ⇄</i>	\$1500 <i>per child, per year</i>			\$1186 <i>per child per year</i>			\$931 <i>per child per year</i>			\$699 <i>per child per year</i>			\$558 <i>per child per year</i>			\$465 <i>per child per year</i>		
	Per week (40)	Term Fee	Annual Fee	Per week (40)	Term Fee	Annual Fee	Per week (40)	Term Fee	Annual Fee	Per week (40)	Term Fee	Annual Fee	Per week (40)	Term Fee	Annual Fee	Per week (40)	Term Fee	Annual Fee
CES Tuition Fee (Prep to Year 6) - total for family ¹	\$37.50	\$375.00	\$1,500.00	\$59.30	\$593.00	\$2,372.00	\$69.83	\$698.25	\$2,793.00	\$69.90	\$699.00	\$2,796.00	\$69.75	\$697.50	\$2,790.00	\$69.75	\$697.50	\$2,790.00
MCC Building Fee (per family) ²	\$11.25	\$112.50	\$450.00	\$11.25	\$112.50	\$450.00	\$11.25	\$112.50	\$450.00	\$11.25	\$112.50	\$450.00	\$11.25	\$112.50	\$450.00	\$11.25	\$112.50	\$450.00
MCC Grounds and Facilities Development Fee (per family) ³	\$1.75	\$17.50	\$70.00	\$1.75	\$17.50	\$70.00	\$1.75	\$17.50	\$70.00	\$1.75	\$17.50	\$70.00	\$1.75	\$17.50	\$70.00	\$1.75	\$17.50	\$70.00
Proposed MCC P&F Fee (per family) ⁴	\$1.25	\$12.50	\$50.00	\$1.25	\$12.50	\$50.00	\$1.25	\$12.50	\$50.00	\$1.25	\$12.50	\$50.00	\$1.25	\$12.50	\$50.00	\$1.25	\$12.50	\$50.00
MCC General Purpose Fee (per student) ⁵	\$13.63	\$136.25	\$545.00	\$27.25	\$272.50	\$1,090.00	\$40.88	\$408.75	\$1,635.00	\$54.50	\$545.00	\$2,180.00	\$68.13	\$681.25	\$2,725.00	\$81.75	\$817.50	\$3,270.00
TOTAL FEES PAYABLE to MCC	\$65.38	\$653.75	\$2,615.00	\$100.80	\$1,008.00	\$4,032.00	\$124.95	\$1,249.50	\$4,998.00	\$138.65	\$1,386.50	\$5,546.00	\$152.13	\$1,521.25	\$6,085.00	\$165.75	\$1,657.50	\$6,630.00

Enrolment Application Fee <i>(non-refundable)</i>	\$50
Enrolment Deposit Fee <i>(will be returned to you as a credit on the first Fee Statement issued after enrolment)</i>	\$100

NOTES

- Supplements funding for ongoing school operating expenses, including wages and utilities. This rate is reviewed annually by the Diocese.
- Contributes to loan repayments for College capital development works. (per Family fee)
- Subsidises the provision of facilities and equipment not included in government funding. (per Family fee)
- Assists the work of the Parents & Friends Association on behalf of the College. (per Family fee)
- Supports the provision of curriculum related material and activities. (per Student fee)

[N.B. With the exception of the CES determined Tuition Fee; Levies, Fees and Charges may vary from school to school.]

Catholic School Fee Discounts

For families with more than one child in primary and/or secondary Catholic schools in the Cairns Diocese or hold a Health Care or Pensioner Concession card.

Why do Catholic schools have fees?

To provide quality learning environments, Catholic schools have fees to help meet the shortfall in Government funding. Catholic schools strive to keep fees as low as possible. The term 'school fees' includes tuition fees and levies. Each school assesses the school levies necessary to meet their individual school and community operation requirements. In doing this they are firstly guided by the diocesan tuition fee set by Catholic Education Services.

Multi-student/school family discount

Families with more than one child in the same or other primary or secondary Catholic schools in the Cairns Diocese receive fee discounts for the second, third and subsequent children. This information is collected by the school at the time of enrolment and the discount is automatically applied. Country area discount Schools in more remote, country areas also qualify for a further Country discount. This discount automatically applies at the time of enrolment. Country schools are listed on the Cairns Catholic Education schedule of fees.

Pensioner and health care card holder fee discount

In addition to the family discounts that have historically been offered, Cairns Catholic Education has introduced means-tested concession card discounts. Parents/carers with a means-tested Australian government health care or pensioner concession card are automatically eligible to receive a 70% discount to tuition fees (does not apply to school levies). Card holders are required to advise the school of their concession card at enrolment or when the card is gained. Once the card is sighted by the school's administration, tuition fees will be adjusted.

Special consideration

Families without a means-tested concession card who are experiencing genuine financial hardship in paying fees should speak with their school Principal or Parish Priest to apply for special consideration. No child will be denied enrolment due to genuine financial difficulty which has been verified by the school.

For more information please access <http://www.cns.catholic.edu.au/index.php/enrolling/fees/>

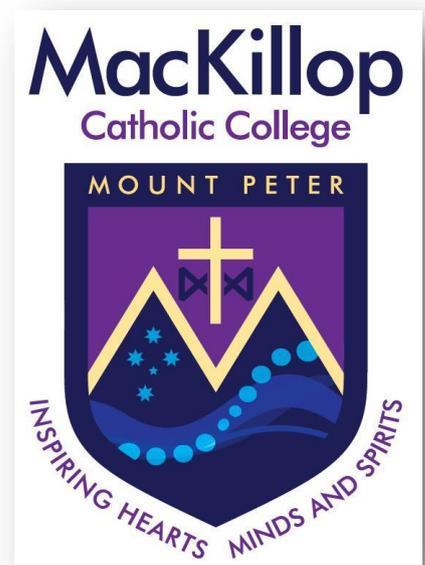
Contact us:

MacKillop Catholic College, Mount Peter

- **I MacKillop Rd (Cnr Mt Peter Rd), Mount Peter Q 4869**
- **m: PO Box 1027, Edmonton QLD 4869**
- **p: 07 4045 5262**
- **e: office.mountpeter@cns.catholic.edu.au**
- **w: www.mackillopcatholiccollege.qld.edu.au/**

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Mackillop

Mackillop
Catholic College



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