



Chairo Christian School

2025 Annual Fee Schedule Pakenham Campus

Enrolment Fee (includes GST)

\$100 per family – non refundable

Annual Tuition Fees - Prep to Year 12

These fees are inclusive of the core cost of tuition, stationery, excursions and camps for your child, and many materials, texts and other costs including a personal learning device rental fee in the higher year levels. Some other charges may apply to optional activities and specific classes of choice such as VCE classes, and some supplementary resources. Note: a proportion of Prep to Year 12 fees collected (and other non-government funds raised by the school) may be used to support the operation of our kindergartens.

Year Level	1 st (oldest) child attending	2 nd child attending	3 rd child attending	4 th & subsequent children attending (P-12)
Prep	\$5170	\$4633	\$2323	\$1020
1/2	\$5949	\$4653	\$2343	\$1020
3/4	\$6676	\$5314	\$2880	\$1020
5/6	\$7342	\$5878	\$3268	\$1020
7/8	\$8318	\$6742	\$3881	\$1020
9/10	\$8635	\$6921	\$3926	\$1020
11/12	\$9520	\$7675	\$4388	\$1020

Early Payment Discount

(applies to tuition fees only)

Payment of the **complete** whole-year fees on or before 7 March 2025:

3% Discount

(Tuition fees are an annual fee and charged on an annual basis)

Tuition Fees – Kindergarten

		Per Year
Kinder (Four-Year-Old)	15 hours	\$3140
Pre-Kinder (Three-Year-Old)	5 hours	\$1047

Please note, Chairo has opted into the Victorian Government's Free Kinder Program in 2025. More details available via: schoolfees@chairo.vic.edu.au

A state government four-year-old kindergarten fee subsidy is available on application through the school for holders of Health Care and Pensioner Concession cards. For information regarding this, please contact the Finance Department.

Capital Levy

The capital levy assists in the development of school facilities.

	Per Year
Capital Levy (per family with children in Prep – Year 12)	\$330

Bus Fees

Bus fees apply to the first two children in a family only. The following fees are based on parents agreeing to the school retaining the conveyance allowance, if applicable. Parents should contact the Finance Department if more information is required. General bus service queries should be directed to buses@chairo.vic.edu.au.

Bus routes may change after enrolment changes are known later in the year. Accordingly, fees shown are a general guide only and routes are subject to change. Fees are applied on an individual basis, dependent upon distance travelled. Note: where students require regular transport on more than one bus (i.e. to and from two separate homes), the cost of the furthest bus is applied.

Bus Route	Area Guide	Fee Guide
Pakenham North	Lakeside - Pakenham	\$1526
Pakenham North	Nar Nar Goon	\$1455
Pakenham	Pakenham	\$1455
Berwick to Pakenham	Berwick	\$1581
Berwick to Pakenham	Officer/Beaconsfield	\$1526
Koo Wee Rup	Koo Wee Rup	\$1581
Koo Wee Rup	Bayles, Garfield, Bunyip	\$1526
Koo Wee Rup	Tynong	\$1455
Gembrook	Emerald, Avonsleigh, Gembrook	\$1581
Gembrook	Pakenham Upper	\$1526
Casual bus passes are now available, please contact the Bus Coordinator at Central Administration for further information		\$11/\$17 return

Car Conveyance

Families who live more than 4.8 kilometres from their attending campus, and who choose to drive their students to school, may be eligible to receive a car conveyance allowance. More information regarding this is also available from the Finance Department. Note: those using buses are expected to claim the government bus conveyance (see 'Bus Fee' section).

Withdrawal of Students from School

If a student is withdrawn from the School prior to the completion of Year 12, the parent/s or guardian/s are required to give **one full term's prior notice in writing** to the Enrolment Department, such notice to be given prior to the commencement of the next school term (including for the first term of the next school year). In the event that such notice is not given and in lieu of such notice, the fees for the next term will be payable in full.

Early Payment Discount

If your Parent Fee Account is paid in full (less any unapplied credits still to go onto the account), by **7 March 2025**, you will receive a **3% Discount** off your tuition fees. This does not apply to accounts with only Kinder Tuition Fees.

Late Payment

Tuition fees and charges are due and payable on the due date as determined by the frequency of the payment plan selected, or otherwise within 14 days of the School's account, or earlier if specified in the account. All amounts payable to the School must be paid in full on or before exit from the School, unless prior arrangements are made.

The School reserves the right to charge interest on any amount outstanding after the due date for payment, from the date the student exits the School, or from the date on which there is a breach of any mutually agreed payment date. Such interest will accrue on the amount outstanding until it is paid in full at the rate for the time being fixed under section 2 of the Penalty Interest rate Act 1983 (Vic). Any expenses incurred by the School in seeking to recover payment of any outstanding amounts, including debt collection agency fees and legal fees and expenses (on an indemnity basis) may be claimed from and are payable by the parents/guardians.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)/ School Saving Bonus:

Important Notice for Low Income Earners

The CSEF is a Victorian government allowance provided to assist low-income families, particularly those with Health Care Cards (HCC) or Pension Cards (including students 16+ with their own HCC), with the costs of camps, sports and excursions. The allowance is applied to your account as a credit. The allowance is \$150 per primary student or \$250 per secondary student.

In 2025 the Victorian government is also paying a further \$400 per student to families in independent schools for the School Saving Bonus if they are CSEF eligible. More details will be provided to all families when we have been given the final details on the program.

Applications need to be made by parents through the school. For further information regarding eligibility, closing dates and application forms, contact the Finance Department. The school urges parents to apply for this promptly, early in the year, to maximise benefits and to ensure that deadlines are not missed.

General Bursary Fund

The school maintains a General Bursary Fund and offers assistance in the provision of Christian schooling to families with an identifiable financial need. More information and application forms are available from the Finance Department.

Methods of Payment

Tuition fees will be charged annually in February to each parent account. However, a variety of payment frequencies are available including yearly, quarterly, monthly, weekly and fortnightly. Other payment arrangements require prior agreement with the school and an appointment can be made with the Finance Department to discuss these options. Fee accounts will be altered during the year if there are changes in circumstances that impact fees payable.

Families are asked at enrolment to nominate the method of payment they intend to use by filling out a 'School Account Payment Commitment Form'. To change your chosen payment commitment to another option during the year requires notification to the Finance Department one week prior to the due date of the next relevant payment and another form is required. If there is no notification of change then the option selected in the previous year will continue until all children have exited and the account balance has been finalised.

Direct debit is a very effective method of encompassing school fees within the household budget and is the expected method of payment. Such payment plans can be based on: four (4) quarterly, ten (10) monthly, twenty-one (21) fortnightly or forty-two (42) weekly payments. Direct Debit Authority Forms are available from the Finance Office.

Tuition Fee Apportionment

Tuition fees are billed annually with options to pay in instalments. The fee is an annual fee for completing a course, not a fee that relates exactly to attendance time in any one term. If a full year's course is not

completed, the proportion of attendance time and percentage of the course completed will be considered in assessing the final fees payable along with other variables such as prior notice. If students do not attend for a limited time during the year but complete the course, tuition fees adjustments are not usually applied.

Building Fund - Voluntary Donations

The Building Fund provides a means of assisting the school's development in a tax-deductible form. We encourage all who are in a position to do so to provide a donation as a very valuable way of supporting the furtherance of providing quality resources for Christian schooling.

Subject Costs

A number of costs for VCE subjects are not included in the general tuition fees due to their specific nature. All texts need to be purchased as required by each subject. Additional subject fees also apply for some subjects to cover camping components (e.g. Outdoor Education, Geography), excursions and materials where these are greater than for general subjects.

These fees are generally outlined in the VCE Subject Selection Booklet available from Senior School. For 2025, VCE Outdoor Ed charges will be \$680 per child.

Some small public transport costs may also be incurred for excursions where personal MYKI cards are required. There is also a charge for some subjects that are supported by resources from EDROLO. These subjects will result in a \$52.50 surcharge. All these charges will be added to your school fees account if applicable.

Distance Education

A levy is set by the Victorian Education Department for subjects undertaken by Distance Education. The levy for 2025 is approximately \$850, which is added to the family fee statement. The school may bear the cost of the levy if the subject is a prerequisite for the student's desired course pathway. This decision will be made by the Business Manager prior to commitment to a subject upon request by parents.

Vocational Educational Training Delivered to Secondary Schools and VCE-Vocational Major

VET courses receive only limited government support toward the external cost of provision. Any relevant funding received is used to reduce per student costs, but additional course or materials costs have to be met by parents and will be added to the family fee statement. Most course costs do not exceed \$3,350 and are generally subsidised by the school to a maximum cost to parents of around \$2,300. Higher fees will apply for courses in excess of \$3,350. Parents should seek school confirmation of fee levels before enrolling.

A VET charge also applies to VCE-VM students as the course includes a VET component. The fee for VCE-VM students however is further subsidised to a maximum of \$1,125 due to differing program costs.

Note, due to the refund policies of external providers, unless withdrawal of a VET course occurs before the end of Week 2 of Term 1, the full VET course fees will be charged.

Camps and Excursions

School camps and excursions are generally compulsory curriculum activities. Costs of camps and excursions are not refundable except if, for camps, a relevant medical certificate is produced prior to finalisation of booking commitment numbers, clearly stating that attendance is not possible. An administration fee of \$40 applies to any refund provided. The majority of the costs of camps and excursions are included in tuition fees. Extra charges may apply for non-compulsory excursions or camps, or for those related to specific classes of choice.