

2026 FEE SCHEDULE – KINDERGARTEN AND EARLY LEARNING

Based on the release of the Queensland Government's Free Kindy Initiative rolled out in late 2023, we have adjusted our fees for Kindergarten programs accordingly. Please use our **Free Kindy Calculator** on the CELC website to estimate your costs.

Free Kindy is provided for 600 hours per year. That is 15 hours per week, for forty weeks. In some cases, therefore, there will be an additional cost to parents.

At Catholic Early Learning and Care (CELC), we provide high quality care and value for money for the children who attend our services and their families. The collection of fees and management of debts is performed in an ethical and efficient manner to ensure the quality of care provided is not affected by non-payment of fees.

It is our policy to:

- Collect fees weekly via Direct Debit Authority for the prior week's care.
- Send weekly statements prior to the Direct Debit Authority deduction.
- Provide significant savings to families by not charging fees on public holidays or during Centre closure periods.

MACKILLOP EARLY LEARNING & CARE

CARE TYPE	FULL-TIME	DAILY CASUAL	INCLUSIONS
Babies & Junior Rooms (0 – 3 years)	\$138.30	\$144.80	Nappies, morning tea, lunch & afternoon tea
Seniors Room	\$138.30	\$144.80	Morning tea, lunch & afternoon tea

KINDERGARTEN	DAILY	INCLUSIONS
Kindy Program Day 6 Hours Per Day (9am – 3pm) for 5 days a fortnight, Term Time Week 1: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Week 2: Monday & Tuesday	\$138.30 *Your CCS percentage will be applied first, then the Free Kindy funding will off-set the 6 hours of the Kindy Program. The remaining hours outside of the Kindy Program will be the Parent GAP Payment.	Morning tea, lunch & afternoon tea
Kindy Additional Day Outside the above Kindy Program days	\$138.30 *Your CCS will be applied	Morning tea, lunch & afternoon tea

- All fees are effective from Wednesday 28th January 2026.
- A \$100 **enrolment fee**, per child, is payable at the acceptance of your enrolment. This is a non-refundable fee.
- A \$20.00 upfront **FOB fee** per family, will be charged and refunded when FOB is returned.
- An additional charge for incursions or excursions may apply
- Kindergarten children turning 4 years old by 30 June in the current year are required to attend a minimum of five days in each fortnight. All other children must attend a minimum of two sessions each week. Please refer to the [Queensland Government website](#) for more information about Kindy Subsidies.
- Government withholds 5% of all CCS given

NOTICE PERIODS FOR CHANGES TO/CANCELLATION OF A BOOKING

EARLY LEARNING & CARE AND KINDY ONLY

We ask that you provide as much notice as possible to the Nominated Supervisor/Director when **changing or cancelling your permanent booking** to allow us time to change staff rosters. As a minimum we require **14 days** written notice.

Fees are charged regardless of days of non-attendance.

Casual bookings can only be made **7 days** in advance, based on availability.

EARLY LEARNING HOLIDAY RATE

We require 14 days written notice for you to be able to access a maximum of 10 days Holiday Leave per year. You will receive a discount of 50% on your out-of-pocket fees.

NON-ATTENDANCE ON FIRST AND LAST DAYS OF CARE

If a child is booked in to start on a particular date, and does not start on that day, no Child Care Subsidy will be paid until the child physically attends care. Similarly, a childcare service is taken to have permanently ceased providing care for a child on the day the child last physically attends care. Child Care Subsidy will not be paid for absences submitted after a child last physically attends a session of care.

If a family has confirmed their child's last day at a service, but that child does not attend their last booked sessions of care, no Child Care Subsidy will be paid for any days after the child's last physical attendance at the service. Any additional gap will be payable and deducted via Direct Debit Authority after an eight-week non-attendance period. We request that you advise us as soon as possible if your child will not be returning to the service.

If absences are reported after the child's last physical attendance and Child Care Subsidy is incorrectly paid, these amounts will be recovered from the service.

LATE FEES

Children collected after the 6pm closing time will incur a late fee of \$10 per child for every 5 minutes until collected. (e.g. pick up at 6:10pm for two children will incur a late fee of \$40. Two children at 6:15pm will incur a \$60 late charge). This fee is to cover additional staffing costs.

RECOVERY OF OUTSTANDING FEES

Failure to pay fees within agreed timeframes is a breach of the conditions of your child's enrolment and may result in withdrawal of childcare until payment is received in full or a payment plan is negotiated. Failure to adhere to the negotiated agreement may result in termination of care and account referral to a debt collection agency. All debts collection costs will be added to your account.

GENUINE HARDSHIP CASES

The Diocese will make every effort to assist families to deal with exceptional circumstances they may be experiencing. Pastoral care support, professional counselling and/or financial assistance from within the Diocese may be offered to families in need. Families may apply to the Director Catholic Early Learning & Care to discuss your needs. Please see our "[Contact Us](#)" page for details.

MERCHANT FEES

OWNA has advised of updated merchant fees as from 01.01.2024:

Credit Card	1.75 %	Amex	2.65 %	Dishonour Fees	\$2.50
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