

Fees Schedule 2024

It is our policy that:

- Freshwater Creek Steiner School is a fee-paying school.
 - Payment of tuition fees is a requisite for enrolment.
 - Accessibility, diversity and inclusiveness are considered when setting fee levels.
 - For families experiencing short-term financial hardship and applying for financial assistance, consideration will be given to the family's payment history, contribution to the School and commitment to Steiner education.
 - Non-payment of fees without a prior arrangement being made with the Business Manager may result in termination of the child/ren's enrolment. Outstanding debts may be referred to a debt collection agency for recovery and all additional charges incurred will be payable by the debtor.
- Fees are invoiced monthly from February through to November on or near the 1st of each month and **fees are due on the 15th of each month**. Each monthly instalment is 1/10th of the total Fees/Tuition invoice amount.
 - Any fees already paid may be deducted from your first instalments.
 - Payments may be made by:
 - a. Direct deposit into the School's account with the Bendigo Bank, via your online banking facility; **BSB 633 000, Account # 130 168 859, Ref: account identifier (from your statement)**
 - b. EFTPOS at the School Administration Office (credit or debit cards accepted); or
 - c. Cash or cheque via any branch of the Bendigo Bank, quoting the School's account number.
 - **Withdrawal Notice Period** - A family must give the School notice of ten (10) school term weeks if they wish to withdraw their child's enrolment. *Failure to give the required Withdrawal Notice Period will result in the full forfeit of the Enrolment Bond.* Notice to withdraw a child is received by the School on the date that a parent/guardian submits a completed Withdrawal Advice, available from the administration office.

Enrolment Fees	
Enrolment Bond Payable on acceptance of enrolment, generally non-refundable, non-transferable. See the FWCSS Fee Policy for more information. Note: families with Kindergarten children identified as 'high priority' (see FWCSS Kinder Enrolment Policy) should contact the school's Business Manager to discuss the applicability of the Enrolment Bond for Kinder enrolments.	\$1000 (3YO and 4YO Kinder) \$2000 (Prep-6)

Playgroup (due and payable at the beginning of each term)	
Playgroup	\$240/term

Tuition Fees (due in 10 equal instalments, Feb-Nov)	
A proportion of funds raised or school tuition fees collected may be used to support the operation of the kindergarten.	
Please note we are an independent, fee-paying Kindergarten. You may be eligible for free or low-cost kindergarten at a government-run service.	
3YO Kindergarten, 2 days per week	\$4,315*
4YO Kindergarten, 3 days per week	\$6,472*
Prep	\$7,416
Junior Primary (Classes 1 and 2)	\$7,523
Middle Primary (Class 3)	\$8,375
Middle Primary (Class 4)	\$8,536
Senior Primary (Classes 5 and 6)	\$8,657

** In 2024, due to the Government's 'Free Kinder' funding, FWCSS is able to offer 3YO Kindergarten for no cost (12 hours per week), and substantially discounted fees for 4YO Kindergarten (\$2,500 per annum for 18 hours per week). Parents may request a 15-hour 4YO program for no cost. Please speak to an Enrolment Officer for further details.*

Discounts (apply to tuition fees only)	
<i>Sibling (available across all year levels) – applies to current enrolments only</i>	
1 st Child enrolled	Full fees
2 nd Child enrolled	30% discount
3 rd Child enrolled	40% discount
4 th and subsequent child/ren enrolled	Free
<i>Kindergarten</i>	
Early Start Kindergarten (ESK) – 3YO Kindergarten only Early Start Kindergarten gives eligible children 15 hours of free or low-cost kindergarten a week, for two years before starting school. To be eligible, your child must be three by 30 April in the year they start kindergarten, and: identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, or your family has had contact with Child Protection (or been referred to Child FIRST).	Free
Early Start Kindergarten (ESK) Extension – 4YO Kindergarten only For children who have used Early Start Kindergarten or are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.	Free
Kindergarten Fee Subsidy Holders of a valid HCC, Pensioner Concession Card, Visa 785, Visa 786, or Dept. of Vet. Affairs Gold Card are eligible for a Victorian Government Fee Subsidy in the 'Funded' Year, which is directly credited against fees. If you become eligible for one of these cards during the year, please advise administration. The subsidy is only valid for the period of validity of your HCC.	\$2,032*
* Prorata for 3yo Kindergarten. Based on 2023 amount – 2024 tbc	
<i>Primary School (P-6)</i>	
Health Care Card holders discount For primary school children approved for CSEF. See the FWCSS Fee Policy for more information.	25% discount
<i>Upfront Payment – for tuition fees paid in full by Friday February 9, 2024</i>	
All children	4.5% discount

Allowances - Primary School Children	
Information and application forms for these allowances are circulated at the beginning of each school year. If you are joining the school community later in the year, please request application forms from the Administration Office.	
Conveyance (Travel) Allowance Families must meet Govt criteria. For more information including payment rates per km, please visit http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/finance/Pages/conveyance.aspx	Paid in 4 instalments, at the end of each term.
Camps, Sports, and Excursions (CSEF) Fund Available for Primary students whose parents hold a valid means tested Concession Card and meet eligibility criteria. See www.education.vic.gov.au/csef for more details.	\$125 per child pa

Other Fees and Charges	
Building Fund Levy (all families) Voluntary contribution per family (tax deductible). The Building Fund provides vital resources for growing the School and maintaining a high standard of infrastructure to support a quality education. It has Deductible Gift Recipient status with the Australian Taxation Office and contributions towards the fund are fully tax deductible.	Suggest \$100 pa
Site Maintenance Contribution (P-6 only) Billed per family, fully refundable via attendance to at least 4 full working bees over a year.	\$672 pa
Instrument Hire (class 3-6) Violin Cello Note: Students may provide their own instrument in consultation with their music teacher. Instrument Hire charges cannot be refunded, should a child be withdrawn from school part way through the year. * Indicative rate. 2024 hire charge has not yet been advised by our provider.	\$197* pa \$345* pa