



St Thomas More School

A Catholic school in the Mercy Tradition R-6

Fee Structure and Financial Information for Families 2026

All parents and caregivers are expected to honour their financial commitment made at enrolment in paying school fees.

Income from school fees complements funding received from the state and federal government for your child's education.

The private income is essential to provide the best education for your child and to the operation of St Thomas More School, as Government funding does not fully cover the costs of educating children in South Australian Catholic Schools or maintaining our school resources, facilities, and infrastructure.

What are the school fees for 2026?

We are pleased to confirm that St Thomas More School's fees will not be increasing again this year. This decision is part of the ongoing Catholic Education South Australia (CESA) commitment to a fee freeze, which has been in place since 2023.

We understand the financial pressures many families face, and we are proud to continue offering a high-quality, faith-based education without adding extra cost.

2026 Fees Structure per student		
	Full Fee	School Card Fee
Mid-Year Reception 2026	\$0	\$0
Reception – Year 6	\$990	\$800

What your school fees cover

- Textbooks and workbooks
- School provided technology, software and ICT support services
- Learning Facilities
- Family and community days
- Maintenance of our school grounds

When will I be billed?

The full year's fee is billed in February 2026 and a statement showing the annual fee will be forwarded to families during February with additional statements issued as required.



What options are available to pay my school fees?

Our preferred payment is by regular direct debit or credit card.

- Option 1: **Regular direct debit** (weekly, fortnightly, monthly) to cover annual fees starting no later than **23 February 2026**
- Option 2: **Annual payment**, paid in full by **28 February 2026**
- Option 3: Request a specific payment plan with the Business Manager.

If you are unable to finalise the arrangements for your account by **21 February 2026** or have difficulty making payments, you are expected to contact our Business Manager to discuss a confidential payment plan on 7285 1500 or accounts@sttmore.catholic.edu.au

How do I set up my payments?

Option 1: **Regular Direct Debit Payments (from your Bank or Credit Card Account)**

Please complete our **Direct Debit Form** to set up this payment.

Option 2: **Annual Payment (one off payment by 28 February 2026)**

Pay the full fee amount to St Thomas More School by 28 February 2026 in one of the following ways:

- o **Direct Debit / BPAY**
Set up the Direct Debit or BPAY Payment from your personal banking to St Thomas More School (our bank account details / Biller Code will be on your statement)
- o **Cash/EFTPOS/Credit Card Payment (Visa/MasterCard Only)**
Available at our Front Office. Please note we do not support cash withdrawals.
- o **Qkr! Smart Phone App**
How to guide is available on our website, or you can contact our Front Office for assistance.

Option 3: **Payment Plan Request**

Complete the Payment Plan Request Form on our website and return to our Business Manager by 21 February 2026.

If no payment is received by **28 February 2026**, the Business Manager will contact you. Please contact our Business Manager for assistance in setting up your preferred payment method.

What other costs may I expect to be charged in 2026?

The 2026 Fee Structure **excludes** a range of other costs that will be depended on the year level of your child and their co-curricular activity. St Thomas More School's Fee Structure excludes and charges separately:

- Damage to school loaned devices (iPads) will be charged and repaid for each occasion
- Camps, retreats, sporting events
- Uniforms



Do you offer split accounts?

No. Enrolling parents/caregivers are jointly liable for all school fees as per the Acceptance of Offer (Enrolment contract) and therefore family fee accounts are billed to the enrolling parent/caregiver.

As per The South Australian Commission for Catholic School Fee policy, St Thomas More School expects families to make their own arrangements to pay school fees. St Thomas More School will not separately invoice accounts unless there is an active Court Order specifying how charges are to be separately billed to each parent/caregiver. A copy of the relevant section of the Court Order must be provided to the Business Manager before accounts are billed separately. Please contact the Business Manager if you wish to further discuss your family arrangements.

What if our financial situation makes payment of fees difficult or if your financial situation changes?

Families having trouble in meeting the Fee requirements of St Thomas More School can request assistance by completing an *Application for Fee Remission Form*. An assessment will be made as to eligibility and an interview and/or supporting documents requested to enable a confidential and considerate assessment of your circumstances.

The *Application for Fee Remission Form* is available upon request from St Thomas More School Front Office and if assistance is required in completing this form, please contact the Business Manager no later than 28 February 2026. All discussions and arrangements are strictly confidential.

Fee Remissions

As a Catholic School, St Thomas More School adheres to The South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools Fee Policy & associated guidelines. *"A family's financial circumstances should not be a barrier to a student accessing a Catholic education"*.

St Thomas More School has committed to a low tuition Fee, therefore does not offer discounts on Fees generally, such as sibling discounts. However, Families having trouble in meeting the Fee requirements of St Thomas More School can request assistance in two different ways.

School Card

School Card is a government scheme for families who meet the income threshold stipulated as part of the application. Eligibility is approved by the Department for Education and Child Development. Applications can be completed and submitted online, alternatively forms are also available from the Schools Front Office.

The School Card will not be applied until approval from DECD has been received. Eligibility can be confirmed at sa.gov.au or by contacting the Schools Front Office. School Card must be reapplied for each year.

Families who have been approved for the School Card are not required to pay the full Fee amount. A discount of \$190.00 will be automatically granted against the School Fees.



Should families feel that circumstances make them unable to pay the discounted amount, they can then make an application for a further discount as detailed below.

Additional Remissions

Families who continue to have trouble in meeting the Fee requirements of St Thomas More School can request assistance by completing an *Application for Fee Remission Form*. An assessment will be made as to eligibility and an interview and/or supporting documents requested to enable a confidential and considerate assessment of your circumstances.

The *Application for Fee Remission Form* is available upon request from St Thomas More School Front Office and if assistance is required in completing this form, please contact the Business Manager no later than 28 February 2026. All discussions and arrangements are strictly confidential.

What if I fail to pay my school fees on time?

It is the responsibility of parents/caregivers to pay school fees on time. St Thomas More School offers many ways to pay fees and, if you are unable to pay by the due date, you must contact our Business Manager to discuss a payment plan.

Any family which has not made payment or arrangements for school fees by 21 February 2026 will be charged with a late payment administration Fee of \$50. In addition, a charge of \$20 per month will apply for every month an agreed arrangement is not in place, or an agreed arrangement is in default during the year.

Any family with a Payment Plan that is not in default will not be subject to the late payment administration charge.

What if my child leaves prior to the end of term, or is absent from school?

Student Absences

Payment of fees is still required when your child is absent from school for any period of time (i.e.: holidays, or illness)

Student Leaving

Parents/caregivers whose wishes their child to leave St Thomas More School during a term or at the end of the school year must provide at least one term's written notice to the Principal. Failure to provide this notice may result in the following terms fees being charged – this is due to the St Thomas More's commitment to employ teachers based on the enrolment numbers from one term to the next.

For more information regarding School Fees, payment plans, or Financial Hardship please contact our Business Manager directly on 7285 1500 info@sttmore.catholic.edu.au

All our financial forms and our Fees Policy can be found on our [website](#).
