

# Macquarie

## 2025 Fee Policy

The annual fees for each student at Macquarie College are structured as an all-in-one package that includes Tuition, Excursions, Camps, all Student Services Fees, Levies and Charges. Some personal discretionary items are excluded. Family discounts and convenient fee payment plans are available. Fees and fee structures are subject to annual review.

### Fee Payment

It is a requirement of ongoing enrolment that a payment plan is in place and that fees are paid in line with agreed schedules and deadlines. Fee statements are issued mid-January along with appropriate information and forms.

There are three options available for the payment of fees:

1. Annual – Fees are paid annually by the due date listed in the fee schedule. The prompt payment discount will be applied where annual fees are paid in full by the due date.
2. Term – Fee payments are due each term in advance according to the published due dates listed on the fee schedule, or an alternative plan approved by Macquarie College.
3. Instalments - Macquarie College has partnered with Edstart, a specialist provider of flexible payment terms to make managing school fee payments easier. Through Edstart Plus, the school provides flexible payment options to all families for the payment of school fees. Payments can be made weekly, fortnightly or monthly on the preferred date for the family. Payments can be spread over a full school year and include additional charges. The option to pay via direct debit, debit/credit card or BPay is given, along with adjustments to repayments being available at any time. There are no credit checks or additional costs to families. Families wishing to pay their fees in instalments can set up an Edstart Plus account by visiting [edstart.com.au/macquariecollege](https://edstart.com.au/macquariecollege).

Payment by annual or term options requires that the fees are paid by 30 November of the billing year, unless otherwise agreed. An approved payment plan by Direct Debit or Credit Card Payment Authority will be required if the prior year's fees are not paid in full by 30 November.

### Overdue Fees and Dishonoured Payments

Once a student is enrolled and attending, school fees must be paid in a timely manner. The College encourages families who may be experiencing payment difficulties to contact the Business Manager to negotiate arrangements suitable to the College.

1. Fee accounts are reviewed on a regular basis and parents are alerted where fee payments are in arrears of the agreed schedule.
2. The College reserves the right to review the enrolment of students where defaults occur on payments according to the agreed payment schedule.
3. Where fees are carried forward from a previous year, students will not be permitted to attend classes until all overdue fees have been paid or a written pre-approved payment plan is in place.
4. All overdue fees at the end of each term or dishonoured payments will attract a Late Payment Fee.
5. Payment of Tuition Fees has priority over extra-curricular events. Participation in non-compulsory extra-curricular excursions or events not covered by the Tuition Fee may be refused if fee payments are not up-to-date.
6. Accounts overdue at year end may incur a charge based on a percentage of the outstanding fee. This amount will be applied at the end of each term that the fees remain outstanding beyond two terms overdue.
7. The College has a Debt Collection Policy which applies in cases of non-payment. In addition, the Principal can withdraw a students' enrolment if fees are not paid as agreed.

### Subsidies and Fee Assistance (Conditions apply)

It is acknowledged that some families may experience short term financial hardship over the period of enrolment at the College. We do not want this to be the primary reason for students being unable to remain at Macquarie College. For this reason, the College has a limited budget to help with fees to support those in need. This assistance is reviewed annually. Financial Assistance forms are available on request and are treated as strictly confidential and reviewed by the Executive Committee.

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### **Prolonged Absence**

Where a student has a prolonged absence through illness, the following shall apply:

- Up to 4 weeks – normal term fees apply
- More than 4 weeks – pro-rata based on time spent at school plus 10% of fees due during absence. Wherever possible, every endeavour will be made to support the student with schoolwork whilst absent through sickness.

Where a student has a prolonged absence for reasons other than illness e.g. overseas travel etc. the following shall apply:

- Up to one term – normal fees
- More than a term – whilst the student remains enrolled he/she is charged 20% of normal term fees.

### **Refunds – Camps/Excursions**

Camps, excursions and other prepaid events included within the gross fee structure are not refundable.

### **New Enrolments**

A non-refundable Enrolment Holding Fee (EHF) is payable by the parent/guardian on receipt of a Letter of Offer as confirmation of acceptance of a position at Macquarie College. It is required that the EHF be paid in full before enrolment at the College can be confirmed.

If parents/guardians cancel a confirmed enrolment place, notification must be provided in writing as soon as possible before the child's commencement. In the case of a cancellation, parents/carers must apply in writing for a refund based on extenuating circumstances. Parents need to provide evidence and sufficient detail to show that extenuating circumstances are at play. Requests of this nature are assessed by the Executive Team on a case-by-case basis.

### **Enrolled Students Withdrawal**

Parents must notify the College Registrar in writing regarding the withdrawal of a student. The recorded date of notification is the date that notice in writing is received by the College Registrar. On occasions where there is evidence that the withdrawal was discussed at an earlier date, a revised notification date may be applied.

For enrolled students, one term's (or 10 'in term' weeks) notice of withdrawal must be given or one term's fees must be paid in lieu of such notice. Less than one term's notice (10 weeks) will incur fees in lieu of notice to the extent that notice falls short of the 10-week period.

Parents/guardians may apply to the College in writing to have the 10-week period waived on the grounds of extenuating circumstances. Parents/guardians must provide evidence and sufficient detail to show that extenuating circumstances are at play. The Executive will assess requests on a case by case basis, based on (but not limited to) the following:

- If the College is immediately able to replace the student;
- If all fees and charges are paid up to date at the time of the withdrawal;
- If the child is leaving to attend a competitor school;
- If the extenuating circumstances have prevented earlier notice.

Students who are asked to leave the College will be considered as a withdrawing student with the 10- week notification period automatically applied.

### **Property Fee**

Macquarie College reserves the right to charge an additional fee for recovery of the cost of any College property held by students which is not returned in good condition at the end of the loan period, or College property lost or damaged by wilful or negligent acts of the student. Such charges will be based on the value of the item/s in question.

### **Building and Maintenance Contribution – Tax Deductible**

Voluntary donations to the Macquarie College Building and Maintenance Program are tax deductible. Receipts are forwarded out by June 30.