



**WILD
CHERRY
SCHOOL**

For Waldorf/Steiner Education

FEE ASSISTANCE POLICY

Wild Cherry School has a commitment to providing Steiner Education which is accessible to children in all socio-economic situations. We must also, however, take into consideration that the school must be able to meet its own financial commitments. Although we receive Commonwealth and State Government funding, this does not cover all of our financial needs. For the school to be viable and prosper, the balance must be recovered from parents in the form of fees.

We are aware that meeting our fees can become difficult for some families at particular times and we therefore make allocations in our budget for fee relief. This amount is limited, so we may not be able to offer as much as we would like. Given this conflicting situation, we endeavour to meet the genuine needs of each family.

The Fee Assistance Policy has been established to support families experiencing genuine financial hardship. Two forms of Fee Assistance are available: Multiple Child Discounts and Bursary Scholarships.

The first form of fee assistance is the Multiple Child Discounts which are set at 10% for the second child, 25% for the third child, 50% for the fourth child and the fifth child is free.

The second form of fee assistance is the Bursary Scholarships. The Bursary Scholarship funds allocate a maximum of \$500 per class, each year. If more than one application is received Wild Cherry will endeavour to distribute the scholarship funds equally between students.

The guidelines for receiving Bursary Scholarship are that the applicant must fit into at least three of the following categories:

- Low income, must be on a health care card
- High expenses, including debt and other specific financial pressures
- Changes in employment status or family situation, including parent separation etc.
- Family health issues
- Strong commitment in being involved in school activities, fundraising etc.
- More than one child at the school

All families wishing to apply for the Bursary Scholarship must complete a Bursary Scholarship Application Form and return to the Finance Manager by the 30th October for the following year. The Finance Committee will process the application in confidence and inform the applicant of the outcome in November.