

25 November 2025

Kia ora koutou Parents and Caregivers,

Changes to the Collection of Attendance Dues and Special Character Contributions

We hope this letter finds you well as we approach the end of the year and the Christmas season. We are writing to inform you of an important update regarding the collection of Attendance Dues and Special Character Contributions.

Starting in 2025, the collection of attendance dues will be managed directly by the Diocese through a new system called CathConnect, rather than through your parish or school. Bishop Michael has requested this change to free up resources in the parishes and schools so they can focus on their core activities rather than the collection of these costs.

Key Changes:

- 1. **New Collection System:** The collection of Attendance Dues and Special Character Contributions will transition from your local parish or school to the Diocese, using a new system, CathConnect. Invoices and statements will be issued direct to parents/caregivers from CathConnect.
- 2. **Parent Portal** CathConnect will have an online portal that you will be able to access to see the status of your account and make payments.
- New Bank Account: The diocese will have a new bank account for payments. We will advise these
 details in the new year once we know the required referencing to ensure your payments are matched to
 your invoices.
- 4. **No change until next year:** If you are currently making regular payments please continue to do so, we are working closely with our schools and parishes and will ensure that all payments are correctly recorded. This is a good opportunity to settle any overdue amounts, ensuring a smooth transition to the new system in 2025.
- 5. **Invoices:** Starting in Term 1, 2025, you will receive invoices directly from the Diocese (CathConnect) which will have detail of the new bank account and referencing required.

We understand that this is a significant change, and we are committed to supporting you through this transition. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the Attendance Dues Team Leader, Petro Klopper, or me at the Diocesan office – dues@cdoc.nz or phone 366 9869.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we navigate this transition. I wish you all a happy and blessed Christmas.

Ngā mihi nui

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Janice Rennell

Manager Finance & Support Services

