

RE: Junior Cycle Book Scheme

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you may already be aware, the Government has introduced a new scheme from the start of the new school year 2024/25. Under this scheme all schoolbooks and core classroom resources for students in Junior Cycle years in post-primary schools will be provided to students directly by their school. There is no charge to parents/guardians for this, as schools have received funding from Government to cover these costs. Please note that the scheme does not cover books or stationery for Senior Cycle students.

Junior Cycle Schoolbooks:

All schoolbooks will be provided free to every student **on loan** at the start of the school year.

The books provided under the book scheme remain the property of Scoil Mhuire at all times.

As the schoolbooks will be **on loan** to the students, they must be returned at the end of the school year or at the end of Junior Cycle (as decided by the school) or if the student leaves the school.

Therefore, **it is essential that schoolbooks are kept in good condition so they can be reused.**

Please help to make sure that your children keep the schoolbooks safe and in good condition so that they can be used again by another child.

Parents/guardians are expected to cover the cost of replacing any lost or damaged books, beyond ordinary wear and tear. This includes damage caused by negligence or mishandling.

Books will only be replaced in exceptional circumstances and only when the budget allows.

Core Classroom Stationery provided under the scheme:

Scoil Mhuire will provide a standard stationery pack for all students, as outlined in Department of Education guidelines. This pack is intended to cover basic stationery needs for academic purposes. This pack includes the following:

- A Scoil Mhuire journal
- 11 hardback copies
- 1 hardback Maths copy
- 1 display A4 plastic folder
- 1 plastic zip A4 carrycase
- 1 Science copy
- 1 scientific calculator
- 1 Maths formulae and tables/logbook
- 1 Music copy (if necessary)
- 1 Art sketchbook (if required and in place of one of the 11 hardback copies supplied)

Note: Used and/or lost stationery is to be replenished/replaced by Parents/Guardians.

Additional Stationery not provided under the scheme:

The stationery pack provided under the Free Book Scheme will not fully cover the total stationery and equipment requirements for all subjects. Additional stationery or specialised equipment required for specific subjects will need to be acquired separately by parents/guardians.

The following are examples of stationery that are not provided under the scheme (this list is not exhaustive):

- Pens, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, rulers, tipp-ex etc.
- Mathematical sets
- Materials for Art, Wood Technology, Graphics, Engineering, Home Economics etc.
- Additional display folders, ringbinders, refill pads that may be required for certain subjects.
- Please see below for additional stationery costs to be paid by Parents/Guardians on our return to school:

FIRST YEAR		
Home Economics	Graphics	Art
Colouring pencils and a glue stick (purchased by the parents). €15 textiles fee payable through the school app in September.	A drawing kit to be purchased from their teacher, costing €14 An A3 portfolio to be purchased from their teacher costing €1.50	Art Pack payable through the school app in September, costing €36
SECOND YEAR		
Home Economics		
€10 textiles fee payable through the school app in September		

Note: Schools are operating the School Book Scheme on a predefined and limited budget as determined by the Department of Education.

Note: It is important to note that the budget, as determined by the Department of Education, is subject to change annually and so we cannot guarantee the same provision year on year.

All textbooks and stationery packs will be distributed to students on their return to school at the end of August.