

Scoil Mhuire na nGrást,
Béal Guala,
Co. Chorcaí.



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Dear Parents/Guardians,

In March 2023, Minister for Education Norma Foley T.D. announced funding to provide free schoolbooks, including workbooks and copybooks, from September 2023. This scheme is aimed at assisting families with the cost of providing such resources. Funding is provided directly to primary schools and special schools by the Department to implement the scheme and schools will make provision for schoolbooks, workbooks and copybooks for all children at the start of the upcoming school year (2026/2027).

The school wishes to acknowledge the practical support provided by the Parents' Association and 'Friends' of the P.A. with the many practical arrangements associated with operating the school's successful *Book Rental Scheme (BRS)* in previous years and the new *Free School Book Scheme (FSBS)* these past three years (i.e. 2023/2024, 2024/2025 & 2025/2026). Similarly, such support will be necessary with related logistical arrangements pertaining to the scheme for School Year 2026/2027. In addition, the school is also very grateful to pupils, families and staff for the care and consideration taken with the many schoolbook materials provided by the school and looks forward to everyone's continued cooperation in this regard.

Regarding the *FSBS*, just to note some related details:

- All schoolbooks will remain the property of the school so that books can be reused in future years
- Schoolbooks will be provided on loan to the pupils for the duration of the 2026/2027 school year and must be returned to school at the end of the school year
- Parents/Guardians are requested to remind their children to take care of their books and keep them in good condition during the year. It is not permitted to write on textbooks
- There will be some classroom resources and requisites (i.e. pens, pencils, mathematical sets, tin whistle etc..) that are not covered by the scheme. In this regard, all families will receive a *Requisites List 2026/2027* for their child's respective class in June 2026

The Department of Education's *Free Schoolbooks for all Primary School Pupils – Information for Parents/Guardians* (attached) provides further information.

Is sinne, le meas

Cathaoirleach, An Bhóird Bainistíochta

Príomhoide