

Solas Chríost National School

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Principal: Edward Kelly

Roll No: 19541P

July 2023

Re: New Free School Books Scheme

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Solas Chríost National School is delighted to introduce the **New Free School Books Scheme** as announced by the Department of Education from next September 2023. The school will now have responsibility for providing textbooks, workbooks and copies to all of our pupils at the start of the school year. This scheme will eliminate the cost to parent and guardians of providing these resources.

How will the Free School Books Scheme work?

Funding has been provided directly to the school to implement the scheme. Every pupil will receive all the textbooks, workbooks and copies they will need for the duration of the 2023/24 school year. Textbooks will remain the property of the school, and will be reused in future years, so they must be returned to school at the end of the school year. Parents/Guardians are asked 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 designated textbooks. Children will be allowed to write on designated workbooks and copies.

We are in a very fortunate position as we already had a stock of textbooks due to our very successful Book Rental Scheme, which was in place since 2015. So we only needed to replace a small number of textbooks due to natural wear and tear. **Stationery for the children must be provided by parents and is not included in the scheme for Solas Chríost NS. Please see book list.**

Other School Expenses: (Miscellaneous Fees)

Other school expenses include (Miscellaneous Fee): Art/Crafts, Photocopying, Zip lock A4 Homework Folder, Journal, Extra Readers, text a parent facility, Interactive Software etc. is not included and must be paid for every to meet this expense in the school. This will be €40 per child and must be paid for through Aladdin.

$\mathbf{1}^{st}$ and $\mathbf{2}^{nd}$ Class Book Buy Back

The following books that were purchased by parents for September 2022. They will be bought back by the school and X amount which will be taken off your child's school expenses fee for September 2023. If any parents do not wish for these book to be bought back, please email the school and books will be returned to you at the end of August 2023.

		Price (New)	Miscellaneous Bill Reduction
1 st Class	Over the Moon – 1 st Class Readers	€20	€10
1 st Class	Over the Moon – 2nd Class Reader	€13.95	€7

You may still have questions to ask about the new Free School Books Scheme and what it means for you and your child at Solas Chríost National School, please visit our Free School Books page on our website at the link below, where you will get more information about the Scheme, as well as a link to a Frequently Asked Questions document which, we hope, will answer any query you might have. Link to the Free Books Scheme page on our website: http://www.solaschriost.ie/school-books.html

Sincerely,

Edward Kelly Principal