

Principal
Mr. Brendan Daly

Deputy Principals
Mr. Tomás Earls,
Ms. Samantha Hughes &
Ms. Una Osborne



F.C.J. Secondary School
Bunclody
Enniscorthy
Co. Wexford

Tel: 053 9377308
School App: FCJ Bunclody
Email: office@fcjbunclody.ie
Web site: www.fcjbunclody.ie

June 2025

Dear Parents & Guardians,

School Uniform 25/26

As you know our girls have the option to wear trousers. The trousers must be dark grey with straight legs. Our main suppliers (Rothwells in Bunclody, Mernaghs in Enniscorthy & Rathbawn Embroidery, Tullow) will have trousers in stock. The girls' uniform skirt must be midcalf in length. This will be insisted upon as we made a decision some years ago to move away from short skirts and parents and suppliers were informed re same. If skirts in the older year groups are now above mid-calf length, new ones will need to be purchased before September. I would ask parents not to waste money buying skirts that are not midcalf in length as a new one of the correct length will have to be purchased in September.

Our PE uniform can be purchased directly from the Bodibro, Rathbawn Embroidery and O' Reilly Sports. This year we are introducing a **compulsory sports t-shirt** for all students. The PE uniform is a crew neck/half zip, sports t-shirt and tracksuit bottoms which will be worn on the days students have PE classes and matches. Please note it is not acceptable to wear a combination of the standard uniform and the PE uniform. To sum up;

Girls

Green round-necked jumper with crest
Plain white shirt.
Pleated **Mid-Calf Length Skirt** in Bottle Green
Dark Grey pants /straight leg
White knee-length socks or black tights

Boys

Green round-necked jumper with crest.
White shirt, dark grey pants

All Black shoes or black runners. Navy Dubarry shoes are acceptable.

ALL Students

PE Uniform

Crewneck/Half Zip, sports t-shirt and Tracksuit Bottoms
Runners worn in the Gym must have a non-marking rubber sole.

Phone Pouches

Phone pouches are in operation in the school again next year. The pouch securely stores students' phones and prevents them from accessing the device when it is sealed inside. Students will still have access to their phones if it is being used for educational purposes in the classroom, and only under the instruction of the teacher. Students must store their phone in the locked pouch on entry into the school each morning. Students will be able to unlock their pouches as they leave school each evening. Incoming 1st year students will be supplied with a phone pouch. All other students will continue to use their phone pouch that they received last year. Please note the cost of replacing a phone pouch is 25 euro and can be paid through VSware. We have a number of second hand pouches available for students that have lost their pouch on sale for 15 euro on a first come first serve basis. These can be purchased from the accounts office from 11th August.

School Locker Rental

Lockers will be refurbished and secured with a combination lock to store phone pouches and free books safely. Alternatively, phone pouches can be brought with students to class. Combination locks are part of a managed system run by Locker Fix It, so no individual student locks are required. The cost of the locker rental is €25 for all students except for Transition year students (included in the TY fee).

School Fees Summarised by Year Group - all fees to be paid via VSware

| | Locker Rental | Incoming Assessments/Mock Fees | Total |
|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1st Year | €25 | €20 | €45 |
| 2nd Year | €25 | €0 | €25 |
| 3rd Year | €25 | €140 | €165 |
| TY | Inc. in TY fees | Inc. in TY fees | €0 |
| 5th Year | €25 | €0 | €25 |
| 6th Year | €25 | €80 | €105 |

School Insurance

School insurance (Allianz pupil personal accident 24 hour cover) is available for **€15**. This is optional, however, we strongly recommend that all students take out this insurance. A large number of parents find themselves needing this cover each year. The fee can be paid through VSware.

Student Support Fee

Please note we are not charging any subject or practical fees this year. While the school receives some funding from the Government each year to support student learning, this payment falls far short of the actual costs incurred. To ensure that we can continue to provide the highest standard of education possible for your son(s)/daughter(s) we ask parents/guardians to pay a family fee of **€200**. This can be paid in installments.

This fee pays for the following:

- Photocopying/printing of class materials, in-house exams, CBAs and project briefs/portfolios.
- Communication costs – postage, telephone, SMS texting service, school app.
- VSware Student Management Information System – Online access for parents to reports, attendance records and payment facility.
- Educational equipment and resources to support student learning.
- Wellbeing supports.
- Extra-curricular events and lunchtime clubs and activities.
- Awards and Graduation events etc

School Book Scheme

Schools have been provided with funding to buy school books and classroom resources for all students up to and including Senior Cycle from September 2025. We ask all parents to access the full details of the scheme through the school website www.fcjbunclody.ie where we have posted the following:

- Letter to parents re: School Book Scheme
- School Book Scheme Policy
- Junior & Senior Cycle book & stationery lists (details of all items covered under the scheme)

It is essential that all current 1st, 2nd & 5th year students keep their existing books, workbooks, copies, notes, folders and stationery for use next year. These students will be provided with supplementary materials. Replacement of books, workbooks etc will incur a cost.

School App

Could I ask that all parents download our school app. It is our main means of communicating with parents throughout the school year and it is essential that you have access to the app to stay up to date with all school news and events. Incoming new 1st Year Parents will be able to access the school app from late August, we will notify you when this is available.

You can keep up to date with all school events on our social media platforms - FCJ Secondary School Bunclody Facebook and @fcjbunclody on Instagram.

School Information

The school office will close on Wednesday, 25th June & will reopen on Monday, 11th August.

TYs will return on Monday 25th August (TBC)

1st Years on Tuesday 26th August (Staggered arrival times - details to follow in August)

5th Years on Wednesday 27th August along with 1st year bonding day

Whole school returns on Thursday 28th of August 2025.

Please see the school calendar attached, which is also available on the school website for future reference. We are asking that parents make a special effort to **not book** holidays during school time. The calendar year is 365 days. We are in school days for 166 days which leaves 199 days to book your holidays, surely this can be done!

Please note that there will be traffic restrictions around the school in the coming academic year due to the continuation of building works until March 2026. All students must park on Brady's Hill.

Thank you for all your support, especially over the last year. Have a great summer and we will see you all in late August.

Kind regards,

Brendan Daly
Principal

Founded by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus, in 1861

Companionship

Justice

Excellence

Hope

Dignity

Gentleness

CALENDAR 2025-2026

| | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| AUGUST | Friday 22 nd | Staff return to school: <i>Staff meeting / Subject meetings</i> |
| | Monday 25 th | TY Induction – To be confirmed. <i>Staff/Subject meetings</i> |
| | Tuesday 26 th | 1 st Years & Meitheal Leaders. <i>Staff /Subject meetings</i> |
| | Wednesday 27 th | 5 th Years (Class). 1 st Years (Bonding Day) & Meitheal Leaders, Mo Chara training. <i>Subject meetings</i> |
| | Thursday 28 th | Full School for all |
| SEPTEMBER | Tuesday 16 th | Meeting - parents re: Junior & Senior Cycle |
| | Monday 22 nd | Parent / Teacher Meeting 6 th Year |
| | Tuesday 23 rd | 1 st Year Parents' Meeting 7.30 p.m. (Online) |
| | Thursday 25 th | School Mass |
| | Sunday 28 th | School Open Day |
| OCTOBER | Tuesday 7 th | Parent/Teacher Meeting 3 rd Year |
| | Monday 13 th | <i>Planning Meeting after school</i> |
| | Tuesday 21 st | Whole Staff Planning Day - In-service – School Closed |
| | Friday 24 th | 3.50 p.m. Begin Mid-term Break |
| NOVEMBER | Monday 3 rd | 8.50 a.m. Return to school after break |
| | Thursday 6 th | <i>Staff Meeting after school</i> |
| | Mon. 10 th – Mon. 17 th | 5 th & 6 th year exams |
| | Tuesday 11 th | C.A.O. Meeting for 6 th Year Parents |
| | Tues. 11 th – Fri. 14 th | 3 rd year exams |
| | Mon 17 th – Fri. 21 st | 1 st & 2 nd year exams |
| | Thursday 20 th | Whole Staff Planning Day - In-service – School Closed |
| DECEMBER | Monday 8 th | School closed |
| | Thursday 18 th | School Mass |
| | Friday 19 th | Christmas Holidays – close at 12 noon |
| JANUARY | Monday 5 th | 8.50 a.m. Return to school |
| | Tuesday 6 th | 3 rd Year Parents meeting re: Transition Year 7.30p.m. |
| | Monday 12 th | <i>Staff Meeting after school</i> |
| | Tuesday 20 th | Parent / Teacher Meeting 5 th Year |
| | Thursday 29 th | Parent / Teacher Meeting 1 st Year |
| | Thurs 29 th – Fri 6 th Feb | 3 rd year Mock Exams |
| | Thurs 29 th – Fri 13 th Feb | 6 th year Mock Exams |
| FEBRUARY | Monday 2 nd | National Holiday – School Closed |
| | Monday 9 th | Whole Staff Planning Day - In-service – School Closed |
| | Friday 13 th | Begin Mid-Term Break 3.50 pm |
| | Monday 23 rd | 8.50 a.m. Return to school |
| | Thursday 26 th | Parent / Teacher Meeting 2 nd Year |
| | Thursday 26 th | Subject Choice - 5 th Year: 3 rd & 4 th Yr Parents at 7.30 p.m. |
| MARCH | Monday 16 th | School Closed |
| | Tuesday 17 th | <i>National Holiday School closed</i> |
| | Friday 27 th | 3.50 p.m. Begin Easter Holidays |
| APRIL | Monday 13 th | 8.50 a.m. Return to school |
| | Wednesday 15 th | TY meeting: 3 rd year parents re: Work Experience |
| | Tuesday 21 st | <i>Staff meeting after school</i> |
| | Thursday 30 th | <i>Planning Meeting after school</i> |
| MAY | Monday 4 th | National Holiday – School Closed |
| | Fri. 22 nd – Fri. 29 th | Summer Exams for 1 st , 2 nd & 5 th year students |
| | Friday 29 th | 3.50 p.m. Holidays: non-examinees |
| JUNE | Wednesday 3 rd | State Examinations begin |

Calendar may be subject to change