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19th June 2025

Dear Parents & Guardians,

The School Book Scheme introduced by the Government Budget 2024 was extended to include Senior Cycle students in Budget 2025 with the aim of eliminating the cost of schoolbooks for parents of all students in post-primary schools in the Free Education Scheme.

Under this scheme, 'Schoolbooks' includes:

- all relevant school books
- workbooks in use
- novels and plays for English
- books of past exam papers

Funding for the scheme has been provided directly to the school and the school now has responsibility for providing school books and classroom resources to both Junior and Senior Cycle students for September 2025.

In addition to schoolbooks, the scheme also covers classroom resources. Each 1st and 5th year student will receive a full set of books appropriate to their subject choice for the school year. They will also be provided with a standard stationery pack. This pack is intended to cover basic stationery needs for academic purposes. Used and/or lost stationery is to be replenished/replaced by parents/guardians.

Students commencing 2nd, 3rd & 6th year will already have a significant amount of their books and stationery. They will receive the additional books required, and their existing stationery will be supplemented.

All 3rd, 5th & 6th year students will receive access to Studyclix Plus, with no charge to parents. Studyclix codes will be distributed to students in September.

All textbooks will be covered and/or labelled prior to being supplied to students. All individually assigned activity/workbooks will be labelled. Textbooks and equipment issued by the school remain the property of the school and will be recalled on an annual basis for audit. Textbooks must not be written on, highlighted, or defaced in any way. Additional labels will be provided and it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all book, stationery, equipment & folder labels are updated for 2025/2026.

Full details of all books, stationery and equipment that will be provided for students, free of charge, under the School Book Scheme can be found in the School Book & Stationery lists on the school website www.fcjbunclody.ie

Transition Year students will be provided with the necessary journal, stationery and book requirements. Other costs associated with transition year eg. Trips, workshops etc are not covered.

Current 1st, 2nd & 5th year students are asked to keep all of their existing books, workbooks, equipment, copies, notes, folders and stationery for use next year. Where mesh folders are no longer fit for purpose, these must be replaced.

It is essential that all students provide their own pencil case and that it is labelled clearly with their name and class.

<u>Not covered under the Junior Cycle School Book Scheme</u> Students <u>must purchase</u> the following – payable through VSware.					
Subject	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	5th Year	6th Year
Locker Rental	€25	€25	€25	€25	€25
PPADE & CAT4 (Assessments)	€20	-	-	-	-
Mock Exam Fees	-	-	€140	-	€80

Schools are operating the school book scheme on a predefined and limited budget as determined by the Department of Education. It is important to note that this budget, is subject to change annually and so we cannot guarantee the same provision year on year.

Students will be provided with their full set of books, stationery pack and equipment in August. Parents will be contacted in advance regarding arrangements for collection of same from the school.

If any parent does not wish to avail of the School Book Scheme, please contact us at jcschoolbooks@fcjbunclody.ie to opt out.

All parents who avail of the scheme must read the School Book Scheme Policy which outlines the operation of the scheme and the expectations of students and parents/guardians in ensuring the proper care of the books and equipment and the responsibility in cases of loss or damage. A copy of the terms & conditions document will be provided to parents & students, when collecting the books in August, which must be signed and returned to the school. A copy of the School Book Scheme Policy can be accessed through the school website www.fcjbunclody.ie

All queries, concerns or issues regarding any aspect of the School Book Scheme should be submitted via jcschoolbooks@fcjbunclody.ie or by contacting the school office.

We appreciate your cooperation and support as we work together to support your child's learning and ensure that they receive the best educational experience.

Yours sincerely,
Brendan Daly
Principal

Yours sincerely,
Úna Osborne
Deputy Principal
School Book Scheme Coordinator

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

Companionship Justice Excellence Hope Dignity Gentleness