Mercy Secondary School Kilbeggan Junior Cycle Free Schoolbooks Scheme Information Note 2024-2025



From the start of the **2024-2025 Academic Year** all Junior Cycle students at MSSK – 1st Year, 2nd Year & 3rd Year –will receive the resources that are listed below free of charge. The textbooks will be **on loan** from the school, whilst all other items will remain in the ownership of the students. However, if any of the items listed below are lost, it will be the responsibility of the students to replace them – not the school. We are delighted to be able to facilitate this money saving scheme. **Please note that this is for 1st Year, 2nd Year & 3rd Year only – Transition Year, 5th Year and 6th Year will continue as before.**

| Resource Supplied Free by School | 1st Year | 2 nd Year | 3 rd Year |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Textbooks, Workbooks and Novels | As required | As required | As required |
| Examination Papers | | | As required |
| Small Softback Copies | As required | As required | As required |
| A4 Softback Copies | As required | As required | As required |
| Maths Softback Copies | As required | As required | As required |
| A4 Plastic Zip Mesh Folders | One per subject | As required | As required |
| A4 Refill Pad | One | One | One |
| Scientific Calculator | One | One | One |
| Pack of 12 Colouring Pencils | One | One | One |
| Maths Set | One | One | One |
| A4 Ringbinder Folder | One | | |
| Science Hardback | One | | |
| Set of 2 Blue Pens, 1 Red Pen & 2 Pencils | One | One | One |
| Highlighter | One | One | One |
| Eraser & Pencil Sharpener | One | One | One |
| Music Manuscript Copy | As required | As required | As required |
| Graphics Set | As required | As required | As required |
| Visual Art Set & Sketchbook | As required | As required | As required |

Please note -

- Junior Cycle students must supply their own pencil case and school bag for the academic year.
- Dictionaries and log tables will be available as class sets but will be kept in school.
- It is important to note that any resources which have been provided by the school will be done so on a one-off basis. Any supplies which are lost or damaged will not be replaced by the school.
- It is the responsibility of each student to maintain their books and stationery in good condition as textbooks will be returned at the end of the academic year and re-used as part of our school's book rental scheme.

New Government scheme for 2024/25 school year

Free schoolbooks for all post-primary Junior Cycle students Information for parents/guardians

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 will receive funding from Government to cover these costs. Guidance has issued to schools on the scheme and is available at gov.ie/schoolbookschemes.

- Schoolbooks will be provided free to every student on loan at the start of the school year.
 Core classroom resources will also be provided free to students by the school.
- Schools must communicate with parents and guardians about this new scheme and identify any additional classroom resources that are <u>not</u> provided to students under the scheme and the reason for this. The communication from the school will inform parents if need to buy these items or pay a fee to the school for supply of the item.
- Funding under this scheme will not include the purchase of digital devices.
- The schoolbooks will be on loan to the students and 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.
- It is important that schoolbooks are kept in good condition so they can be reused. Please help make sure that your children keep the schoolbooks safe and in good condition so that they can be used again by another child.

In Budget 2024 the Government provided over €68 million to extend the free schoolbooks scheme to eliminate the cost of schoolbooks for students in Junior Cycle years in post-primary schools in the Free Education Scheme.

gov.ie/SchoolBookSchemes

