



4th March 2025

Schoolbooks for students in Post-Primary Schools 2025/26

Dear Parent/Guardian,

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that Government has approved the extension of the Junior Cycle Schoolbooks Scheme to all students in post-primary schools. The Post-primary Schoolbooks Scheme now includes all students in Senior Cycle years, including Transition Year, in post-primary schools in the Free Education Scheme from September 2025.

Funding is being made available from the Department of Education to every school to enable this to happen.

- Schoolbooks and core classroom resources will be provided to all children and young people enrolled in Junior and Senior Cycle years, including Transition Year students, in post-primary schools in the Free Education Scheme.
- This means that the cost of schoolbooks and core classroom resources will be eliminated for their families and will ease the financial burden facing families at back-to-school time.

Through this measure, we are enhancing equity of access, where all children and young people enrolled in Junior and Senior Cycle years in post-primary schools in the Free Education Scheme can commence the new school year in 2025/26 with the same schoolbooks as other children and young people in their class.

It is important to note that schools have been advised to provide all schoolbooks and core classroom resources from the funding available. Parents/guardians may now only be asked, by schools, to provide some additional classroom resources or to pay a fee towards the cost of these items. Schools will communicate with you in relation to the scheme.

My department has published an information leaflet for parents/guardians on how the new scheme will operate. The scheme guidance and parents' leaflet are published at www.gov.ie/schoolbookschemes

By implementing measures like the Schoolbooks Scheme my department will continue our work to tackle all forms of disadvantage in education and promote inclusivity. Should you have any query in relation to this new scheme please email: postprimaryschoolbooks@education.gov.ie

Helen McEntee TD
Minister for Education