



JUNIOR CYCLE BOOK SCHEME AND STATIONERY POLICY

MARIST COLLEGE ATHLONE

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Introductory Statement

This policy aims to outline the expectations of parents/guardians regarding the Junior Cycle Book Scheme and the provision of Stationery Packs by Marist College, ensuring the proper care of school property and addressing responsibilities in cases of loss or damage.

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 the Government to cover these costs.

Marist College is operating the Junior Cycle Book School Scheme and Stationery provision on a predefined and limited budget as determined by the Department of Education. It is important to note that the budget, as determined by the Department of Education, is subject to change annually and so we cannot guarantee the same provision year on year.

Book Scheme

- The books provided under the book scheme remain the property of Marist College at all times. These books are lent to students for the academic year and must be treated with care and respect.
- It is important to note that schools will continue to use books already in circulation under school book rental schemes. Schools will also re-use the books purchased under this scheme.
- It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to ensure that students handle the books with care to facilitate their reuse by the school in subsequent years.
- Parents/guardians are expected to cover the cost of replacing any lost or damaged books, beyond ordinary wear and tear. This includes damage caused by negligence or mishandling.
- Books will only be replaced in *exceptional* circumstances and only when the budget allows.

Stationery Provision

- Marist College will provide a **standard stationery pack for all students, as outlined in Department of Education guidelines**. This pack is intended to cover basic stationery needs for academic purposes.
- **Parents/guardians should be aware that the provided stationery pack may not fully cover the total stationery and equipment requirements for all subjects.**

- Additional stationery or specialised equipment required for specific subjects may need to be acquired separately by parents/guardians. This requirement will be notified to parents/guardians in advance of the new school year.
- Used and/or lost stationery is to be replenished/replaced by Parents/Guardians.

Distribution of Books and Stationery

Textbooks and core classroom stationery availed of through the Book Scheme will be distributed on commencement of the new school year.

Responsibilities of Parents/Guardians

- Parents/guardians are expected to support their child's education by ensuring they have the necessary materials for learning, including textbooks and stationery. This includes the safeguarding of books/equipment/stationery for the duration of Junior Cycle as per school policy.
- Regularly checking and monitoring the condition of books and stationery items provided to students is encouraged. Any issues should be promptly reported to the school.
- In cases of loss or damage to books or stationery, parents/guardians should notify the school immediately and arrange for replacement or reimbursement as required.

School Support

- Marist College acknowledges that unexpected circumstances may arise, and endeavours to work with parents/guardians to address any challenges related to the book scheme or stationery provision.
- The school will provide assistance and guidance as needed to ensure all students have access to the necessary resources for their education. However, **please note, Marist College is operating the School Book Scheme and Stationery provision on a predefined and limited budget as determined by the Department of Education.**

Return of Books

Books must be returned back into the system when students have finished using them. If books are not returned the Book Scheme Coordinator follows up on same. Any textbooks deemed not re-usable by the school will be the liability of the student/parent/guardian. Failure to comply may result in student/parent/guardian being liable for re-imbursement for un-useable textbooks

The cost of lost/excessively damaged books is borne by the student/parents/guardians.

Third Year students return all textbooks after the State Examinations in June or the school year.

Outgoing First Year and Second Year students do not return their textbooks in May, they must retain all textbooks issued via the Book Scheme, until the completion of their state examination cycle.

Review and Amendments

- This policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure its effectiveness and relevance.
- Amendments may be made to this policy as deemed necessary by the school Board of Management, with consideration for input from relevant stakeholders.

Marist College is committed to fostering a collaborative relationship with parents/guardians to support the educational journey of our students. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in adhering to these guidelines for the benefit of all students and the school community.

Communication and Ratification

This policy will be posted on the school website. Any parent wishing to obtain a copy may collect one from the school office.

Ratified by the Board of Management on 12th of June 2024.

Signed John O'Connell
Chairperson, Board of Management

Date: 12/06/2024

Signed Michael Hession
(Principal /Secretary BOM)

Date: 12/06/2024

Signed: Student _____

Date: ____/____/____

Signed: Parent/Guardian _____

Date: ____/____/____