

# St. Nessian's National School

*St. Nessian's National School*  
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Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

St. Nessian's National School is delighted to introduce the New Free School Books Scheme as announced by the Department of Education from next September. The school will now have responsibility for providing textbooks, workbooks and copies to all of our pupils at the start of the school year. This scheme will eliminate the cost to parent and guardians of providing these resources.

## How will the Free School Books Scheme work?

Funding has been provided directly to the school to implement the scheme. Every pupil will receive all the textbooks, workbooks and copies they will need for the duration of the 2023/24 school year. Textbooks will remain the property of the school, and will be reused in future years, so they must be returned to school at the end of the school year. Parents/Guardians are asked to remind their children to take care of their books and keep them in good condition during the year. It is not permitted to write on textbooks.

We are in a very fortunate position as we already had a substantial stock of textbooks due to our very successful Book Rental Scheme, which was in place since 2015. So we only needed to replace a small number of textbooks due to natural wear and tear. Therefore, this year, we had funds remaining from the Free School Books Scheme Grant, which we were able to invest in classroom resources. As per the recommendations from the Department of Education, once we had acquired replacement textbooks, workbooks and copies, we proceeded to purchase the stationery requirements for all pupils who will attend St. Nessian's National School next September.

It is necessary to point out, however, that although the school is in a position to provide stationery for the coming school year, there is no guarantee that the funds will be available to do this in future years. So you may and can be asked to provide stationery for your child in years to come.

## When will I get my Book Rental Deposit back?

You will receive a request for payment of School Expenses as usual, with a breakdown of the costs included. If you have paid a Book Rental Deposit of €15, and your payment of Book Rental Fees is up to date, then €15 will be deducted from your payment request.

You may still have questions to ask about the new Free School Books Scheme, and what it means for you and your child at St. Nessian's National School. Please visit our Free School Books page on our website at the link below, where you will get more information about the Scheme, as well as a link to a Frequently Asked Questions document which, we hope, will answer any query you might have.

Link to the Free Books Scheme page on our website:

<https://www.stnessans.ie/new-free-school-books-scheme-2023-2024/>

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