



Scoil Náisiúnta Tobar Mhairéide

## **School Book Purchase Scheme and School Book Rental Scheme Policy**

### **School Book Purchase Scheme**

Book Purchase Scheme is in place for children from Junior Infants – 2<sup>nd</sup> Class. With this scheme, the parents pay the cost of the books and the school orders and buys the books for the children. The Book Purchase Scheme differs from the Book Rental Scheme in that the children write into their workbooks in the junior classes (Infants – 2<sup>nd</sup> Class). The fee also includes pupil's use of class readers. This is a huge saving for parents.

The benefit of the Book Purchase Scheme is that parents do not need to source the correct workbooks for their child and it alleviates the burden on parents.

### **School Book Rental Scheme**

SBRS's are the most effective method of keeping the costs of school books to a minimum for parents and pupils. SBRS's address the cost of purchasing school books up front and pooling resources.

The book rental scheme for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class will include all readers and workbooks. The scheme allows parents to pay an annual rental fee in return for the use of school books. Any book that is damaged or lost during the course of the school year will have to be paid for by parents. Terms and conditions of participating in the scheme apply (see policy attached). The annual fee for participating in the scheme will be collected before returning to school in September and is separate from the cost of extras that is collected at the beginning of the school year. Purchase of disposable materials – copies, stationary, geometry sets – are outside the scope of the scheme and remain the responsibility of parents.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### **How will it work?**

The school will source, cover, label and catalogue the books required for each pupil each year. In return for an annual fee each child will receive the required books in September in time for the academic year.

#### **What will it cost me? Is this an annual fee or a once off fee?**

The cost will be calculated for each class. It is an annual fee. Booklists have been confirmed and will be reviewed towards the end of each year. When this is completed and any additional books that are needed are purchased the fee will be calculated.

**How/when do I pay?**

Payment for each pupil will be collected in June prior to the new school year beginning. Information re- collection dates will be sent out to all parents prior to confirmed dates. **Payments can be made via the Aladdin Connect App.** Payment in June will ensure that the book rental scheme is up and running prior to the new school year and all books can be distributed to pupils in the first days of school.

**When will all school books be available?**

All school books will be ready for each pupil in their class with their teacher on the first day back at school in September.

**Can I hold onto books if I have a child in Fourth class and another child due to go into third class – do I keep the books?**

No, all books need to be returned as normal at the end of the book rental scheme year.

**What if during the year a book gets damaged or ‘eaten by the dog’?**

All books are the property of the SBRS and all books should be returned in the condition they were received. However, if a book is lost or damaged it must be replaced by the parent.

**Is participation in the scheme optional?**

No. It is **compulsory** for all students to participate in the scheme. The Department of Education and Skills has advised that **all** schools must have a book rental scheme in operation.

**What if I don't pay the book rental fee?**

**No payment** means **no books** in September for your child.

**Will the books be covered?**

The cost of covering the books is included in the book rental scheme fee.

**Will I own the books?**

No, the books will be the property of the SBRS and all books must be returned to the scheme in June each year.

**Will I still get a booklist in June?**

In the event of no payment for the School Book Rental/Purchase Scheme, a booklist will be issued for your child before the summer holidays and parents must buy their own books.

**What books are included in the fee?**

For the 2021/22 school year all readers and workbooks will be provided for pupils from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class. In the School Book Rental Scheme, workbooks will not be written on. Purchase of disposable materials –stationary, geometry sets – are outside the scope of the scheme and remain the responsibility of parents.

**How is it being funded?**

The scheme should be self-funding, with the annual fees being able to cover the cost of replacing any new books which may be needed due to a change in the book or due to wear and tear.

**Who is administering the Book Rental Scheme?**

The SBRS is organised by the school.

**What can I do to assist in the successful setup of the scheme?**

- Participate
- Pay the rental fee on time.
- Keep the rented books in good condition.
- Return the books at the end of the year on time and in good condition.

**What are the advantages of the SBRS for me?**

- Cost-saving: The annual fee covers all readers and workbooks and the cost of covering the books. All books will be purchased in bulk providing a discount on price.
- Convenience: The SBRS makes returning to school easier – no books to order or cover. All books will be ready for your child in September when they return to school.
- Fair system: standardisation of books for all.
- Green School: reduce and reuse the school books each year.

**How do the teachers feel about the SBRS?**

A SBRS eliminates the normal confusion that can lead to several weeks of lost time for teachers – if a child has the incorrect book due to confusion over publishers, difficulty obtaining a particular book or waiting for a reprint, etc. This scheme should ensure a smooth and hassle free transition back to school for our children and teachers allowing the school year to start on time.

**Will I label my child's books?**

No, when your child receives their books in September they will be labelled already.

**What happens to books at the end of the year?**

All books will be retained in the school for the following year.

ST MARGARET'S N.S.
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I will participate in the School Book Rental Scheme being provided by St. Margaret's National School for all pupils from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>. I have read the policy and am aware of the terms and conditions. I will replace any book from the book rental scheme that is damaged or lost during the course of the school year.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_