



SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE

Louisburgh Co. Mayo



Policy on Book Loan Scheme application forms

The Department of Education and Science give grants to the school towards the cost of providing textbooks for needy pupils. The amount of the grant to the school depends on the Department.

A needy pupil is defined as a pupil from a family where there is genuine hardship because of unemployment; prolonged illness of a parent; large family size with inadequate means; single parenthood or other family circumstances (such as substance abuse), which would indicate a similar degree of financial hardship.

These families are divided into three categories:

- Families, which are dependent mainly on social welfare payments;
- Families on low incomes from employment – such families are likely to be in receipt of family Income Supplement, which is a weekly cash payment by the Department of Social and Family Affairs to help families at work on low pay, or to be beneficiaries of the Back-to-School Clothing and Footwear Scheme.
- Families which are experiencing financial hardship because of particular circumstances in the home.

Entitlement to a medical card is not necessarily an indicator of eligibility.

Participants in PLC are ineligible to this grant scheme. Pupils who are in the care of foster families under arrangements made by Health Board are also ineligible. Support for such pupils a matter for the Health Board.

A pupil who transfers to Sancta Maria after commencement of the school year is ineligible unless the Principal is satisfied that assistance has not already been given under this scheme or that any books already supplied in the current year have been returned.

Sancta Maria College operates a book loan scheme for first years.

To participate in this scheme families apply for the Book Loan scheme at Enrolment. The category being applied under must be stated and supporting documentation may be requested.

Successful applicants for the book loan scheme will be notified before 20th August and arrangements made to facilitate the scheme and get receipt from parents before school opens.

Books supplied on the loan scheme are the property of Sancta Maria College and must be returned in good condition. Lost or damaged books must be paid for and books will be inspected from time to time to check condition.

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