



St. Mary's
C.B.S.
ENNISCORTHY

Mill Park Road, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, Y21YK35 Ireland.

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16 June 2026 – Fifth Years 2026/27

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Firstly, I hope that you and your family have a nice summer. The start day for 5th year is Monday the 31st of August 2026.

Return to School Dates – 2026/27

Return to School Dates 2026 / 2027			
Day	Date	Year Group	Time
Friday	28-Aug-26	Only 1st Year Students	09.00 - 14.55
Monday	31-Aug-26	Only 1st, TY, 5th Year & LCA 1 Students	09.00 - 15.55
Tuesday	01-Sept-26	All Students in School	09.00 - 15.55
School Closure Dates 2026 / 2027			
Monday	29-Sept-26	Discretionary Day	
Thursday	22-Oct-26	Teacher Professional Learning - Oide	
Tuesday	19-Jan-27	Teacher Professional Learning - Oide	
Friday	30-Apr-27	Discretionary Day	

Free Books

All Senior Cycle students in our school receive free schoolbooks and certain classroom materials under the Free Schoolbooks Scheme. These items will be provided to your son at the beginning of the 2026/27 academic year.

While copies, calculators, and folders are supplied under the scheme, students are expected to provide their own schoolbag, pencil case, and basic stationery (such as pens and pencils).



Iontaobhas Scoileanna Éamainn Rís
Edmund Rice Schools Trust

Principal: Mr. Brendan O'Sullivan M.A., B.Tech. Ed.

Deputy Principal: Mr. Ger Coleman B.Tech. Ed.

Deputy Principal: Mrs. Ann Marie Breen B.Rel.Sc.

We Care | We Prepare

A deposit of €50 applies under the scheme and can be paid via Vsware. This deposit is fully refundable, provided that all books are returned in good condition at the end of sixth year.

It is the responsibility of your son to take proper care of the textbooks and materials issued to him and to ensure they are maintained in good condition for the duration of the scheme. The books remain the property of the school and must be returned at the end of sixth year.

Administration Fees - Senior Cycle Students - €60

The fee provides for the following for the 2026/27 academic year

- Student Locker

The use of a school locker and lock for the academic year. (Locker codes will be available on Vsware)

- 24hr Insurance cover

Pupil Protection insurance cover, for further details click on the link:

[fe21-1885487368_Pupil_Protector_IPID.pdf \(stmmaryscbs.ie\)](https://stmmaryscbs.ie/fe21-1885487368_Pupil_Protector_IPID.pdf)

Claim Form

[vg82-Pupil_Protection_Claim_Form_Jan_2024.pdf](https://stmmaryscbs.ie/vg82-Pupil_Protection_Claim_Form_Jan_2024.pdf)

- Vsware Parental Access

Parental access to Vsware, as you are aware this allows parents to view student reports, attendance, behaviour and student timetables. **Going forward notifications in relation to school events and activities will be sent via VSmile. It is important to download the Vsware App to your phone if possible.** Link to help [Guides for Parents - Help Centre \(vsware.ie\)](https://vsware.ie/Guides%20for%20Parents%20-%20Help%20Centre)

What is VSmile?

[fe20-What_is_VSmile.pdf](https://stmmaryscbs.ie/fe20-What_is_VSmile.pdf)



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Activities Fee €50

This fee helps the school to run extra-curricular activities for our students. It includes expenses like transport when representing the school, affiliation fees to various organisations, breakfast club etc. This contribution enables us to provide opportunities for students outside the classroom in many different areas to help the student experience. Initiatives like the Meitheal Programme, where our 5th years support incoming first years are supported by this fund.

Uniform

While the school uniform is currently under review, any proposed changes will not come into effect until September 2027. In the meantime, from this September we will continue to emphasise the importance of all students wearing the full school uniform each day. This includes the school jacket and appropriate black footwear; hoodies are not permitted as part of the uniform. The uniform plays an important role in fostering a sense of togetherness, inclusion, and pride in being part of our school community. All uniform items can be purchased from Matt Mernagh's in Enniscorthy.

Food Provision

Senior Cycle students are permitted to leave the school grounds during lunchtime only. The school canteen offers food at breaks as well as lunchtime and operates a cashless system. All students have received a card to purchase items in the canteen. The card can be credited online by parents, and a guide will be available on the school's website to help parents with the setting up of the card.

Mobile Phone Use – Senior Cycle Students

In line with Circular 0045/2025, schools are required to implement policies that restrict the use of personal mobile phones during the school day, including at break and lunchtime, in order to support students' wellbeing and engagement in learning.

Following consultation with the Board of Management and the Parents' Council, the school has agreed the following arrangements for Senior Cycle students:

- Senior Cycle students may bring their mobile phones to school.



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- However, phones must be switched off and kept out of sight while on the school campus during the school day.
- Mobile phones may only be used as a learning support when explicitly permitted by the teacher in a particular lesson.
- At all other times, including during breaks and lunchtime, the use of mobile phones is not permitted on the school grounds.

This approach is designed to support a calm, focused learning environment, promote positive social interaction, and minimise distractions. We appreciate the cooperation of all students in adhering to these expectations.

Finally, I hope that everybody has had an enjoyable summer.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan O'Sullivan
Principal



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