

Coláiste Pobail na Mainistreach
Bóthar na Mainistreach, An Port Mór, Portláirge, X91 PC91
Priomhoide: Michelle Ni Sheafraidh
Leas-Phriomhoide: Colm de Ris
Leas-Phriomhoide: Helen Ni Chonchubhair
Leas-Phriomhoide: Laura Ni Ghiolla Phádraig

Abbey Community College
Abbey Road, Ferrybank, Waterford, X91 PC91
Principal: Michelle Jefford
Deputy Principal: Colm Rice
Deputy Principal: Helen O'Connor
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14th June 2024

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We hope that this letter finds you safe and well and that our students are enjoying their summer holidays. We wish to update you on the following items

Assessment Zone 2

Academic reports for Assessment Zone 2 (1st and 2nd Year) will be made available on VSware next week. A text message will be sent to inform you that the reports are ready to be viewed. If you require a reminder, please send an e-mail to info@abbeycommunitycollege.com to request your log-in details.

School Calendar and Provisional Return to School

Our provisional school calendar for 2024-2025 is now available below and by clicking [here](#). Please also see below our *Provisional Return to School Dates for Students for Academic Year 2024-2025*. A copy of this is also available on our website [here](#). Specific return times for all groups will be confirmed in August.

School Uniform

Please see below clarification on our school uniform for 2024-2025. Full official school uniform is required by all students in Abbey Community College. A copy of this is also available on our website [here](#).

Junior Cycle Schoolbooks Scheme

As part of the Department of Education's Junior Cycle Schoolbooks Scheme, all schoolbooks and core classroom resources will be provided for students in Junior Cycle years. These schoolbooks and associated materials remain the property of the school and are on loan to students. Abbey Community College will provide a standard stationery pack for all students. 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. Further details will be communicated in August.**

Please read our *Junior Cycle Schoolbooks Scheme and Stationery Provision Policy* below. It can also be found on our school website [here](#).

Please note that incoming 2nd and 3rd Year students will continue to use the textbooks they have already been supplied with under our current *Book Rental Scheme*.

Booklists for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Year will be published on our website in the coming weeks, for reference only.

Student Support Fee

As the school incurs ongoing costs, a *Student Support Fee* of **€65 per Junior Cycle student** (1st, 2nd and 3rd Year) is required. This fee includes locker rental fee, 24 hour personal accident insurance and school administration costs including VSware and Way2Pay.

Family Contribution

You are asked to pay the voluntary *Family Contribution* fee of **€70 per student** or **€120 per family**. This fee helps to defray the cost to the school of the following:

- Valuable classroom resources and equipment
- School running costs incl. electricity, heating and security
- IT infrastructure
- Co-curricular activities
- Contribution towards cost of buses

How to make payment of Student Support Fee and Family Contribution

- A link to make payment via Way2Pay for the appropriate fee will be sent to your mobile phone (this is the fastest and most convenient way to pay the fee).
- Phone Abbey Community College on 051-832930 to make payment by card.
- Email bursar@abbeycommunitycollege.com to request a call back.
- By cheque/postal order made payable to Kilkenny Carlow ETB and post to Abbey Community College, Abbey Road, Ferrybank, Waterford.

School Self-Evaluation Update

As a member of our school community, we wish to update you on the School Self-Evaluation (SSE) process that is ongoing in Abbey Community College. Please click [here](#) to read our latest School Self-Evaluation(SSE) Update.

Contact Information

In order to continue effective communication with home, please notify the school immediately by email if your contact details (phone number or address) change. We can be contacted at info@abbeycommunitycollege.com.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

If you do not wish for your child to be included in photographic/video material which may be taken during the academic year and subsequently used to promote our school, please contact the school at info@abbeycommunitycollege.com. A copy of Kilkenny Carlow Education and Training Board's Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notice can be found on our website.

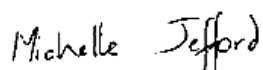
Online Safety Tips for the Summer

Many of our students will now spend more time online during their summer holidays. Webwise.ie is an excellent site that offers free information, advice and resources to help parents/guardians and their children address internet safety issues. These [6 Online Safety Tips for Summer](#) can help your child to have a safe and positive experience online.

As we look back on this academic year and recognise the dedication of our students, parents/guardians and staff, we take great pride in our school community's unwavering commitment to embody and uphold our school ethos as we strive *Together Towards Excellence*.

We look forward to welcoming our students back to Abbey Community College in August.

Yours sincerely,



Michelle Jefford

Principal



In Partnership with the Religious
of the Sacred Heart of Mary

Together Towards Excellence



KCETB Registered Charity No.: 20083434



Provisional Return to School Dates for Students 2024/2025

Tuesday 27th August 2024

1st Year Induction – Day 1

2nd Year Induction

5th Year Induction

Wednesday 28th August 2024

1st Year Induction – Day 2

3rd Year Induction

Transition Year Induction

6th Year Induction

Thursday 29th August 2024

Full school day for all – start time 8.45am

(students must have textbooks and materials for commencement of classes)

Specific return times for all groups to be confirmed in August



Abbey Community College - School Calendar 2024-2025



	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Mon											
Tue			1						1		
Wed			2			1	Bank Holiday		2		
Thurs	1		3			2	Christmas Holidays		3	1	
Fri	2		4	1	Mid-Term	3			4	2	
Sat	3		5	2		4		1	5	3	
Sun	4	1	6	3		5	2	2	6	4	1
Mon	5	2	7	4	2	6	3	NEW Bank Holiday	3	5 th Year P/T	7
Tue	6	3	8	5	3	7	4	T.Y Work Experience	4	6	Bank Holiday
Wed	7	4	9	6	4	6 th Year P/T	5	Pre-Exams	5	7	2
Thurs	8	5	10	7	5		6		6	8	Bank Holiday
Fri	9	6	11	8	6		7		7	9	Bank Holiday
Sat	10	7	12	9	7		8		8	10	Bank Holiday
Sun	11	8	13	10	8		9		9	11	Bank Holiday
Mon	12	9	1st Year Parent Night	14		9	School Closed		10	12	Bank Holiday
Tue	13	10		15		10			11	13	Bank Holiday
Wed	14	11		16	3 rd Year P/T	11			12	14	Bank Holiday
Thurs	15	12		17		12	2 nd Year P/T		13	15	Bank Holiday
Fri	16	13		18		13	School Closed		14	16	Bank Holiday
Sat	17	14		19		14			15	17	Bank Holiday
Sun	18	15		20		15			16	18	Bank Holiday
Mon	19	16		21		16			17	19	Bank Holiday
Tue	20	17		22		17			18	20	Bank Holiday
Wed	21	18		23		18			19	21	Bank Holiday
Thurs	22	19		24		19			20	22	Bank Holiday
Fri	23	20		25		20			21	23	Bank Holiday
Sat	24	21		26		21			22	24	Bank Holiday
Sun	25	22		27		22			23	25	Bank Holiday
Mon	26	23		28		23			24	26	Bank Holiday
Tue	27	24		29		24			25	27	Bank Holiday
Wed	28	25		30		25			26	28	Bank Holiday
Thurs	29	26	Open Night	31		26			27	29	Bank Holiday
Fri	30	27				27			28	30	Bank Holiday
Sat	31	28				28	Pre-Exams	1 st Year P/T	29	31	Bank Holiday
Sun		29				29			30		Bank Holiday
Mon		30				30			31		Bank Holiday
Tue						31					Bank Holiday

SEC Examinations

Assessment Zone 1 Exam Times to be confirmed in September

Abbey Community College

Junior Cycle Schoolbooks Scheme and Stationery Provision Policy

Objective

This policy aims to outline the expectations of parents/guardians regarding the Junior Cycle Schoolbooks Scheme and the provision of stationery packs by Abbey Community College, ensuring the proper care of school property and addressing responsibilities in cases of loss or damage.

Note: Schools are operating the Junior Cycle Schoolbooks Scheme on a predefined and limited budget as determined by the Department of Education.

Note: 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 schoolbooks scheme remain the property of Abbey Community 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 the schools will continue to use books already in circulation under existing book rental schemes. The school 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

- Abbey Community 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.
- Used and/or lost stationery is to be replenished/replaced by parents/guardians.

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.
- Financial constraints should not hinder a student's access to education resources. Parents/guardians facing difficulties in meeting these obligations are encouraged to communicate with the school to explore available support options.

School Support

- Abbey Community 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, schools are operating the School Book Scheme on a predefined and limited budget as determined by the Department of Education.**

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.

Abbey Community 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.

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on 21st May 2024.



Abbey Community College

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY 2024/25

Official School Uniform

Jumper	Official School Crested Jumper (Navy - 50% wool and 50% acrylic)
Skirt	Knee-Length Argyle Tartan with knife pleats front and back Skirts must be a minimum of knee length
Tie	Official School Tie (Navy with red, royal blue and green stripe)

*The items listed above are only available in
K-Sport, Unit 614, Northern Industrial Park, Waterford
Telephone: 051-358700 – Website: www.ksport.ie – email: info@ksport.ie*

Trousers	Boys / Girls – Navy formal trousers with pockets <i>Tracksuit bottoms are not acceptable as main school uniform.</i>
Shirt	White collared buttoned shirt for boys and girls
Shoes	All Black Footwear (no white/beige soles) or Navy Deck Shoes

Official School P.E. Uniform

Our P.E. Uniform is compulsory

¼ Zip Top	Official School Crested ¼ Zip (Navy and red ¼ zip top with crest)
Polo Shirt	Official School Crested Polo Shirt (Navy and red polo shirt with crest)
Tracksuit Bottoms	Straight leg plain navy tracksuit bottoms

*The items listed above are available in
K-Sport, Unit 614, Northern Industrial Park, Waterford
Telephone: 051-358700 – Website: www.ksport.ie – email: info@ksport.ie*

Students are **not** permitted to wear the following for P.E or school activities:

- Leggings
- Striped bottoms
- Sports Jerseys
- Any branding on tracksuit bottoms
- Hoodies
- Sweatshirts

**Only Official Abbey Community College School Uniform
as per this *School Uniform Policy* for 2024/25 is acceptable.**



Abbey Community College

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

OFFICIAL SCHOOL UNIFORM



Navy V-Neck Crested Jumper



Official School Tie



Plain White Collared Shirt



**Knee-Length
Argyle Tartan Skirt**



**Plain Navy Formal
Trousers with Pockets**



Plain All-Black Footwear or Navy Deck Shoes

WHAT DO I DO IF I AM NOT IN FULL UNIFORM?

- Students without full uniform (as outlined in our Uniform List for 2024/45) must present themselves with a note of explanation from their parent/guardian to the Principal, Deputy Principals or their Year Head before 8.40 am.
- Sanctions will follow if students do not have a valid explanation as per our Code of Behaviour.
- Students who persistently breach school uniform rules will not be allowed into class.
- Parents/guardians will be asked to collect them from school.



Abbey Community College

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

OFFICIAL PE SCHOOL UNIFORM

(To be worn on days you are partaking in PE only)



Official School Crested 1/4 Zip



Crested Navy Polo Shirt



Plain Navy Tracksuit Bottoms

WHAT DO I DO IF I AM NOT IN FULL PE UNIFORM?

- Students without full uniform (as outlined in our Uniform List for 2024/45 must present themselves with a note of explanation from their parent/guardian to the Principal, Deputy Principals or their Year Head before 8.40 am.
- Sanctions will follow if students do not have a valid explanation as per our Code of Behaviour.
- Students who persistently breach school uniform rules will not be allowed into class.
- Parents/guardians will be asked to collect them from school.

NOT PERMITTED

- Leggings
- Branding on clothing
- Striped bottoms
- Sports Jerseys
- Hoodies or Sweatshirts