

RE: ASSISTANCE UNDER THE D.E. GRANT SCHEME FOR SCHOOL BOOKS

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Each year the Department of Education allocates a grant to this school to enable us to give assistance *towards the purchase of school textbooks for students in need*.

It is important to **complete** and **return** the **application slip** below to the office if you feel you are eligible under the School Book Grant Scheme for Needy Pupils as outlined by the Department of Education guidelines below. **Decisions will be communicated in early August**

2 Eligibility of Pupils

- **2.1** The scheme applies to needy pupils in schools in the free education scheme.
- **2.2** A needy pupil is defined as a pupil from a family where there is genuine hardship.

Such families may be grouped into the following three categories:

- Families who are **mainly dependent on social welfare** payments;
- Families on **low incomes from employment**.

 (Such families are likely to be in receipt of the 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 under the Back-to School Clothing and Footwear Scheme);
- Families who are experiencing **financial hardship because of particular circumstances** in the home. (It is expected that only a small proportion will fall within this category.)

Please note that for **audit purposes** I am required to see <u>evidence of qualification</u> for this grant. Also note that a Medical Card does <u>NOT</u> grant an exemption <u>and that all qualifying families are still required to make a contribution toward the cost of book rentals.</u>

Yours sincerely, Complete and return this form to the school by 31st July 2021 Shane McClearn (Principal) ×-----I wish to apply for assistance under the Department of Education Grant Scheme for School Books for Needy Pupils 2021/2022 as outlined above. NB. Please include evidence corresponding to the relevant box ticked below Please tick which of the following circumstances apply: **a.** Prolonged illness of parent **d.** Large dependant family b. Unemployment **e.** Other circumstances Please specify c. Single parent Signed: _____(Parent/Guardian) Date: Child(ren)'s Name(s): ____

Note: Applications without relevant evidence will NOT be considered