



Please note the following information



Calendar 2023/2024 is available on our school website. School will re-open on Thursday Aug 24th which allows for 3 discretionary days off during the year- Mon October 2nd, Fri Dec 8th and Tues May 7th. Click on the link to view calendar for the **return to school of the different Year Groups**.

<https://mercyballymahon.ie/s/Calendar-2023-2024.pdf>



Zero tolerance on Vaping:

Again I want to highlight the issue of vaping. Any student found **Vaping** or in possession of **Vaping materials** on school grounds will be suspended. The Board of Management fully supports this rule and has ratified it. Students who are vaping in the toilets are showing huge disrespect towards their peers who want to use the toilets. Toilets will be randomly supervised and if there is a group of students standing around with even one student vaping, all students in the group will be suspended. If there are two students in a cubicle, both students will be suspended.



Students must be signed out through vsware app by parent/guardian and must wait at reception to be collected. If a student leaves the school without signing out at the office, this is recorded as missing school



Mobile Phone Policy During the school day from 8am to 4pm (while on school grounds) and during Evening Study, mobile phones must be powered off and out of sight. An exception may be made where a student uses their mobile phone to monitor a pre-existing medical condition. We must be informed of this in advance. In the case of an emergency, parent/guardian may contact the school office to speak to their child, you should not phone your child directly as their phone must be powered off. This policy was adopted as mobile phones are a major distraction and a disruptive influence for our students during class. If a student breaks this rule, their phone will be kept at the office for two days and two nights.



If a student is feeling unwell they must report to the office first with their teacher's permission and knowledge (Health & Safety reasons) and the office will contact home if necessary.



Booklists are available on the school website. <https://mercyballymahon.ie/booklists> . All books can be bought new from any book shop, but for your convenience Cormicans- Athlone/Roscommon shop have set up an online shop for Mercy Secondary School. You will find the link listed under each year booklist on our website. Books can be ordered online and delivered to your home for your convenience.



Footwear navy or black leather or leather-look shoes/runners only. This will be checked on return to school.



The School office will re-open on Wednesday , August 9th.