

Dear Parents

We are delighted to inform you of the launch of a new online version of our school library catalogue. The new system allows students, staff and parents to view our school library catalogue online, and students are encouraged to use this to help with research, to write reviews about books they have read, and search for new books that they may like to read.

New Library System

The library catalogue, now searchable online, includes over 6,000 books and audio-visual resources as well as many thousands of approved websites. You can access the system via the school website at: www.sionhillcollege.ie. The first time you access the system it may ask you to install Microsoft Silverlight; please allow this to be downloaded and installed on your computer as the system cannot run without it. There is also an App called 'iMLS', available for iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch, Android & Windows Phone 7. This App can be freely downloaded by going to your App provider and searching 'iMLS'.

Library and Study Space



Furthermore, we are pleased to announce the opening of our new school library, a much larger and better equipped space for study, research and reading. The library can accommodate up to 100 students for after school supervised study. Each student will have access to their own study desk unit which comprises of ample space for storage of books and other study materials, a desk light and a power source. If parents are interested in finding out more about supervised study times and fees then they should contact: admin@sionhillcollege.ie. This new state of the art library will be accessible to all students throughout the day and will be used for book club, study groups, research and recreational reading sessions. Having the library accessible in this way and having parents engaged with reading will help to support our commitment to improving our students' literacy standards. Your child will soon receive their login details for the new system. If you would like to know what these are so that you can track their borrowing history, we encourage you to ask your daughter and perhaps help them to choose their next read.

Literacy

The school is strongly committed to promoting reading for pleasure and improving students' overall literacy skills, both digital and verbal. Our website is updated regularly with recommended reading lists for both junior and senior students. Data from the 1970 British Cohort Study provides strong evidence for the link between teenagers who read for pleasure and success in later life. We encourage all students and parents to get involved in this initiative and take full advantage of this fantastic new facility.

Yours faithfully

