

October 2024

Dear Parents,

## NEW & SECOND HAND TEXTBOOK PURCHASING for 2025

The book lists reflecting the textbook and stationery requirements for your son/daughter for 2025 have been placed on the school website <http://escs.org.za/info/#Text-Books>.

As you will be aware, the school does not have an onsite bookshop for either new or second hand books. All textbook requirements may be purchased through one of the following mechanisms:

### NEW TEXTBOOK PURCHASES: HARD COPIES

- Books 24/7, an online book retailer, has agreed to stock our textbook needs from Gr0 to Gr12 (no textbooks in Gr00). Please navigate to [www.books247.co.za](http://www.books247.co.za) where you will find El Shaddai Christian School listed under the “Schools” drop down menu. Obviously, it is a free market, and you are welcome to buy your books anywhere. However, Books 24/7 will stock some of our textbooks that are not freely available e.g. Jolly Phonics, THRASS, Purposeful Design Bible workbooks etc.
- It is very important to remember that textbooks are purchased using the 13 ISBN number that appears at the bottom of the back cover on every book. ISBN numbers are listed on the textbook lists – please be sure to check that you are buying the correct textbook and the correct edition. Books 24/7 have ensured that they have listed the correct new textbooks on their website.
- **Most online textbook suppliers hold little or no stock. This is especially so in the case of our International textbooks. Once you have placed an order, the textbooks need to be procured. If the book comes from overseas it can take up to 10 weeks to arrive. It is for this reason that we highly recommend that textbook needs for next year are ordered before the end of this year. Unfortunately, students who failed to do this last year were without a textbook for the first few months of term 1.**
- The school is very aware of the costs to parents and in choosing textbooks. There has been careful consideration of the cost versus the quality offered by the textbooks. Unfortunately, textbooks that come from overseas are subject to our poor exchange rate and are expensive.

### NEW TEXTBOOK PURCHASES: eBooks

The students may use ebooks should they prefer. I have not recorded the availability of eBooks on the textbook lists because their availability is very dynamic, changing from month to month. Books 24/7 also offer an ebook facility.

## SECOND-HAND SALES:

- Under the textbook tab on the school website, you will find a portal labelled “Second hand books” whereby you can advertise any second-hand textbooks that you wish to sell. You can also look to see if anyone is selling a book you want. You will need to register and then there are clear instructions on the portal as to how it works.
- As a guideline, the following pricing for second-hand books is suggested:
  - A book in good condition (can last for another 2 – 3 years)  
= 60% to 70% of the cost of a new book;
  - A book in average condition (can last for another 1 – 2 years)  
= 50% of the cost of a new book;
  - A book in poor condition (e.g. damaged spine, written in or torn pages)  
= 25% to 30% of the cost of a new book.

Please use the new book prices on the website to price your old books.

- Again, it is very important to remember that **textbooks are purchased using the 13 ISBN number** that appears at the bottom of the back cover on every book. ISBN numbers are listed on the textbook lists – please be sure to check that you are buying the correct textbook.
- To prevent the second hand portal from becoming cumbersome, please will you remove textbooks that you have advertised once they have been sold.
- If a book is marked “**NEW**”/ “**NUUT**” on the booklist, there will not be any second hand books available on the second hand market and a new book will need to be purchased. This applies to all textbooks that are used for the first time and workbooks/modules that students write in. **High School modules are updated annually and those used in 2024 cannot be used in 2025.**

## MODULES

Many teachers have written modules that will replace a textbook for their subject. Not only is this a cost saving, as the modules are considerably cheaper than textbooks, but in many cases, the modules help with the transition to the Cambridge International syllabus. The modules will be issued to the students in the classroom at the start of the school year in Jan 2025. The cost will be charged to the school account.

## STATIONERY

Please purchase the required stationery as specified on your son/daughter’s booklist at any retail outlet.

It is important that your children have textbooks on day one of the first term so that effective teaching can begin right away. Please do not hesitate to contact me in connection with textbook queries that you may have.

Kind regards,

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