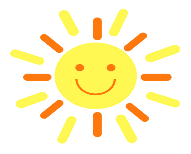
**Killeen National School **

**Killeen, Louisburgh, Co. Mayo**

**Tel: 098 68651**

**Email:** [**killeenns2@gmail.com**](mailto:killeenns2@gmail.com)

**Website: www.killeenns.com**



Dear Parents / Guardians,

A very warm welcome to Killeen N.S. We hope that your child will be extremely happy here with us. Our school is a busy, dynamic, happy, inclusive and safe place where every child matters. We recognise, develop and celebrate the unique character and abilities of each child. We encourage them to have fun, be creative, be confident and enjoy their learning. We also help them to take pride in their work and value their achievements.

We have a wonderful, talented staff and you can be assured of our commitment and our dedication to our pupils and wider school community. We are blessed to work with a hugely supportive parent body and we very much value the partnership between home and school. Working closely with parents helps us to ensure that your child achieves their full potential. A fantastic Parents’ Association works tirelessly with us to ensure we have the very best opportunities for every child in our school. School fundraising is done through Killeen School & Community Lotto. We encourage you to get involved with the Parents’ Association and the lotto as it’s a great way to get to know the school community and it’s also very enjoyable.

Starting school will be the first big change in the life of your child. Up to this s/he has felt safe and secure with you in the home and family, but now s/he is facing the wider world of classroom and school. This may seem a big step for someone so small but most children manage it without any great fuss or stress, and in fact take to it like ducks to water.

However, it is also a time when parents and teachers should take special care to ensure that the transition from home to school is as smooth as possible. If the child’s first experience of school is one of happy involvement, a very good foundation will have been laid for fruitful school years ahead.

We use Aladdin Connect (school administration system) in Killeen N.S. You will discover it’s a superb form of communication and you also have secure access to your child’s school reports and information related to your child’s educational progress in one easy-to-use app.

We will send you all the school information you will for a smooth transition for your child in advance of September, e.g. school times, calendar, lunches, books and uniforms. Our school policies are accessible on [www.killeenns.com](http://www.killeenns.com). By completing the school application for admission of new pupils, you are consenting to accept our school policies.

**In order to enrol your child, we ask you to return the enclosed application form together with your child’s birth certificate (original or copy) by Friday 23rd February. In line with our admissions notice, you will be notified of the decision of your application by Friday 15th March.**

We look forward to welcoming you all to our school in late August / September.

Yours sincerely,

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Bríd Grady

Dear Parents,

I am writing to tell you a little about the Education Welfare Act, 2000 (amended by the Child and family Agency Act 2013) and about some of the responsibilities we share under the Act.

As you know, a good education gives your child the best possible start in life. A good education helps young people to obtain secure employment and develop into mature and responsible citizens. The purpose of the Education (Welfare) Act 2000 is to encourage regular school attendance and participation in education and training for as long as possible. It is desirable that every child stays in school and completes the Leaving Certificate.

Under the law, every child must attend school regularly up to sixteen years of age or complete at least three years education in a post primary school whichever comes later.

*As a parent, you must let the school know if your child is absent and the reason why. It is school policy that reasons must be given in writing (via Aladdin Connect). The school will notify Tusla – Child and Family Agency if a child is absent for 20 days or more or where the absence gives rise to concern.*

*If your child is sick or is absent for other good reasons, no action will be taken by Tusla - Child and Family Agency. However, if there is concern about your child’s attendance at school or about the reasons given, you may be visited by an Educational Welfare Officer who will discuss your child’s education with you. The Officer will work with you and take full account of the circumstances of the child and the family before deciding what further action is necessary to ensure that the child receives his/her entitlement to an education.*

*Further information concerning the new service and about school attendance matters generally can be obtained from the national Lo-Call Education Helpline -*

*1890 36 36 66.*

Yours sincerely,

Bríd Grady