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Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

For:	Killygordon National School
At:	Main Street, Killygordon, Lifford, Co Donegal F93A0CP

This school is a: (tick appropriate) ☒ primary ☐ post-primary ☐ special school

In accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, the Addendum to Children First (2019) and 2025, Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024), the board of management has adopted the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment set out in this document.

The board of management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the department's Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

Name of the Designated Liaison Person (DLP):

Diana Keatley-Robb

Name of the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP/DDLP):

Charlotte McClean

In the absence of the DLP, the Deputy DLP shall assume responsibilities of the DLP

Name of Relevant Person

Diana Keatley-Robb

(In schools this person is the DLP)

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

0749149052	killygordonns64@gmail.com
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Under the Children First Act 2015 Relevant Person means a person who is appointed by a provider of a relevant service to be the first point of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement. This person is nominated by the board of management to manage and provide oversight of child protection concerns/allegations of child abuse.

Name of Chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the Chief Executive or their delegate:

Kenneth Witherow

In the event that both DLP and DDLP are absent and unavailable, and where there is no staff member formally acting in their role, the chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the chief executive or their delegate, assumes the role of DLP.

The board of management recognises that child protection and safeguarding permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In all of these, the school will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare. The school will:

- ☐ Recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations.
- ☐ Fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children.
- ☐ Fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters.
- ☐ Adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm happening to children and protect members of school personnel from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of child abuse.
- ☐ Develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children.
- ☐ Fully respect confidentiality requirements as set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 in dealing with child protection matters.
- ☐ Adhere to the above principles in relation to any vulnerable adult.

Procedures and Measures in Place

Our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance 2017*, and *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024)*, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

> Procedure for the Management of Allegations of Abuse or Misconduct against School Personnel Relating to a Child Availing of Our Service

~ Where any member of school personnel is the subject of any investigation in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in relation to a child attending the school, the school is required to adhere to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website.

> Procedure for the Safe Recruitment and Selection of School Personnel to Work with Children

~ The school is required to adhere to the requirements of the Vetting Act. The selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, requires the school to adhere to the statutory vetting requirements of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016, and to the wider duty of care

guidance set out in relevant Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and Youth and available on the gov.ie website and as outlined in Chapter 10 of the procedures.

~ A written protocol is in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons.

> Procedure for Provision of and Access to Child Safeguarding Training and Information, Including the Identification of the Occurrence of Harm

~ The school provides information and training to members of school personnel in relation to the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) as follows:

- ~ The school has provided each member of school personnel, including any new members of school personnel, (employees and volunteers, board of management members, student teachers and those on work experience) with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.
- ~ The school ensures that members of school personnel have availed of relevant training and completed child protection training.
- ~ The school encourages board of management members to avail of any relevant training and complete child protection training.
- ~ The board of management ensures that records of all staff and board member child protection training are maintained.

> Procedure for the Reporting of Child Protection or Welfare Concerns to Tusla

~ All members of school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, in relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla. Mandated reporting applies to all registered teachers and any other mandated person who may be employed by the school, for example a chaplain or nurse. A full list of those people who are mandated persons is set out in Appendix 1 procedures.

> Procedure for Maintaining a List of the Persons (if any) in the Relevant Service Who Are Mandated Persons

~ There is a procedure in place to maintain a list of mandated persons. Schools may on occasion employ additional staff who are mandated by virtue of their profession. This list will include all registered teachers and identify additional employees that are not registered teachers.

> Procedure for Appointing a Relevant Person (In schools this person is the DLP)

~ There is a procedure in place for appointing a relevant person.

The various procedures referred to in this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment can be accessed via the school's website, the gov.ie website or will be made available on request by the school.

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, the board of management carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the school's procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement.

This statement has been published on the school's website and will be made available on request by the school. It has been provided to all members of school personnel, the parents' association (if any), the patron and parents. A copy of this statement and risk assessment will be made available to Tusla and the department if requested.

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
1. Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; inappropriate relationship/communications; harm by another child, staff member, volunteer or visitor.	Supervision arrangements are in place for arrival and dismissal; staff supervise designated areas; visitors are managed appropriately; Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment and Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are available to staff; concerns are reported promptly.
2. Recreation breaks for pupils	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; bullying; racism; inappropriate relationships/communications between pupils or between a pupil and an adult.	Yard/playground supervision policy and appropriate staff supervision are in place; staff monitor specific areas including toilet areas; the school's Code of Behaviour and anti-bullying policy are implemented; concerns are reported and dealt with promptly.
3. Classroom teaching	Risk of harm not being recognised or reported; inadequate supervision; inappropriate relationship/communications; inappropriate use of digital devices or online resources.	Staff follow the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and the school's Code of Conduct; appropriate supervision is maintained; the school implements SPHE/Stay Safe and has an Acceptable Use Policy covering ICT and remote learning; staff receive relevant child-protection training.
4. One-to-one learning support	Risk of harm in one-to-one situations; inappropriate relationship/communications; harm caused by inadequate supervision or failure to recognise/report concerns.	The school has clear procedures for one-to-one teaching/learning support; staff follow the Code of Conduct and Child Protection Procedures; arrangements provide appropriate transparency and accountability; concerns are recorded and reported promptly.
5. Outdoor teaching activities	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; harm by staff, another child, volunteer or visitor; risk during activities	Appropriate supervision is planned for outdoor activities; school health and safety arrangements are followed;

	away from the normal classroom setting.	staff use the school's procedures for activities outside the classroom; visitors/external personnel are appropriately managed; concerns are reported promptly.
6. Sporting activities	Risk of harm during activities due to inadequate supervision; inappropriate conduct or communications by staff, coaches or other adults; harm by another child.	The school has procedures for sporting activities and external sports coaches; Garda vetting requirements are followed; appropriate supervision is maintained; staff/coaches follow the Code of Behaviour and Child Protection Procedures; concerns are reported promptly.
7. School outings	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision while attending out-of-school activities; harm by staff, another organisation, volunteer, visitor or other person.	The school has a policy and clear procedures for school outings; adequate supervision is arranged; external personnel are appropriately managed; staff follow child-protection procedures; relevant information and emergency arrangements are considered before outings.
8. Use of toilet areas in schools	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; inappropriate behaviour or communications; risk to children requiring intimate care.	The yard/playground supervision policy covers specific areas such as toilets; appropriate boundaries and supervision arrangements are maintained; the school has an intimate care policy/plan where required; concerns are reported promptly.
9. Annual Sports Day	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; harm by staff, volunteers, visitors or other children; inappropriate relationships/communications during a large school event.	A supervision plan is in place; staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities; external personnel are managed appropriately; the Code of Behaviour and Child Safeguarding procedures apply throughout the event; concerns are reported promptly.
10. Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision while off-site; harm by staff of another organisation, volunteers or other persons; inappropriate relationships/communications.	The school uses clear procedures for off-site activities; appropriate supervision is arranged; facilities and external personnel are considered before use; staff follow the

		Child Protection Procedures and report concerns promptly.
11. Administration of medicine	Risk of harm to children with medical vulnerabilities; inappropriate administration or failure to recognise/report a safeguarding concern.	The school has a policy and procedures for administration of medication to pupils; relevant staff are informed of children's needs; records and agreed procedures are followed; concerns are reported through the school's child-protection procedures.
12. Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed	Risk of harm to children with particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities; risk of harm while receiving intimate care.	The school has a special educational needs policy and, where required, an intimate care policy/plan; staff follow agreed procedures and professional boundaries; appropriate staff are identified; concerns are reported promptly.
13. Administration of First Aid	Risk of harm to a child receiving first aid; risk associated with children's medical vulnerabilities; risk of concerns not being recognised or reported.	The school has a policy and procedures for administration of First Aid; staff follow agreed procedures; appropriate records are maintained; children with particular medical needs are supported in line with school procedures; safeguarding concerns are reported promptly.
14. Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	Risk of harm not being recognised or reported; inappropriate content or discussion; risk that pupils do not receive appropriate protective education.	The school implements the Stay Safe Programme and SPHE curriculum; relevant RSE provision is delivered appropriately; staff follow child-protection procedures; pupils are supported to recognise, resist and report concerns.
15. Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Risk of harm due to bullying, racism, inappropriate relationships or communications between pupils.	The school has a Code of Behaviour and anti-bullying policy in accordance with the Bí Cineálta procedures and Circular 55/2024; concerns are taken seriously, recorded and addressed; anti-racism awareness initiatives are undertaken.
16. Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs	Risk of harm to pupils with particular vulnerabilities, including pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants, members of the Traveller community,	The school identifies and responds appropriately to individual vulnerabilities and safeguarding needs; relevant staff follow the Child Protection

	LGBT pupils or pupils perceived to be LGBT, pupils of minority religious faiths, children in care, and children on Tusla's CPNS.	Procedures; the school promotes inclusion and anti-racism; appropriate liaison and reporting arrangements are used where safeguarding concerns arise.
17. Online teaching and learning remotely	Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning platforms, including an uninvited person accessing a lesson link or pupils being left unsupervised in breakout rooms; inappropriate digital communication or material.	The school's Acceptable Use Policy covers online and remote learning and is communicated to parents; staff maintain safe and ethical internet use; appropriate controls and supervision are used for online lessons; staff follow the Code of Conduct and Child Protection Procedures.
18. School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision during transport; inappropriate relationship/communications; harm by a driver, escort, another pupil or other person.	Transport arrangements include appropriate supervision and clearly defined responsibilities; relevant personnel are appropriately vetted; staff/escorts follow school child-protection requirements; concerns are reported promptly.
19. Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required	Risk of harm due to inappropriate management of challenging behaviour; inappropriate use of restraint; harm caused to or by a pupil; failure to respond appropriately to crisis situations.	The school has a Code of Behaviour and follows agreed procedures for managing behaviour; the school complies with the Department of Education and Youth guidance on Understanding Behaviours of Concern and Responding to Crisis Situations; staff are encouraged to undertake relevant training; incidents and safeguarding concerns are appropriately recorded and reported.
20. Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school, including social media	Risk of harm due to inappropriate access/use of computers, social media, phones and other devices; inappropriate communication or circulation of material; online bullying.	The school has an Acceptable Use Policy and a policy governing smartphones/tablet devices in line with relevant Department guidance; pupils are supervised appropriately; safe and ethical internet use is promoted; the Code of Behaviour and anti-bullying procedures apply to online conduct; concerns are reported promptly.
21. Fundraising events involving pupils	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; harm by	Appropriate supervision is arranged for pupils; volunteers

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	volunteers, visitors or other persons; inappropriate relationships/communications during events involving members of the public.	and visitors are appropriately managed; the Code of Behaviour and Child Safeguarding procedures apply; concerns are reported promptly.
22. Management of provision of food and drink	Risk of harm to children with medical or particular vulnerabilities; inadequate supervision; inappropriate conduct or communication during provision of food and drink.	Appropriate supervision is maintained; relevant medical and individual needs are identified and managed in accordance with school procedures; staff follow child safeguarding and health and safety procedures; concerns are reported promptly.
23. Training of school personnel in child protection matters	Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly; risk where school personnel have not received appropriate training.	The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to personnel; relevant training is encouraged and training records are maintained; staff receive the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.
24. Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Risk of harm to children by external personnel; inappropriate relationships/communications; inadequate supervision; risk of harm not being recognised or reported.	The school has a policy and procedures for use of external persons to supplement curriculum delivery; appropriate vetting and supervision arrangements apply; external personnel are made aware of safeguarding expectations; concerns are reported promptly.
25. Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities	Risk of harm by external coaches/personnel; inappropriate relationships/communications; inadequate supervision.	The school has a policy and procedures for external sports coaches; relevant vetting requirements are followed; appropriate supervision is maintained; the Code of Conduct and Child Protection Procedures apply.
26. Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants	Risk of harm due to racism, bullying, discrimination or exclusion; inappropriate relationships/communications; risk of harm not being recognised or reported.	The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives; its anti-bullying policy and Code of Behaviour are implemented; staff monitor pupil welfare and respond to concerns in accordance with child-protection procedures.
27. Members of the Traveller community	Risk of harm due to racism, bullying, discrimination or exclusion; inappropriate	The school promotes inclusion and anti-racism; the Code of Behaviour and anti-bullying

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	relationships/communications; risk of harm not being recognised or reported.	procedures are implemented; concerns are addressed and reported in accordance with the Child Protection Procedures.
28. Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children	Risk of harm due to bullying, discrimination, inappropriate relationships/communications or online bullying; risk of harm not being recognised or reported.	The school implements its Code of Behaviour and anti-bullying procedures; SPHE/RSE and wellbeing provision supports pupil welfare; staff follow child-protection procedures and respond promptly to concerns.
29. Pupils perceived to be LGBT	Risk of harm due to bullying, discrimination, inappropriate relationships/communications or online bullying; risk of harm not being recognised or reported.	The school's Code of Behaviour and anti-bullying procedures apply; inclusive wellbeing and SPHE/RSE provision supports pupils; staff monitor concerns and follow child-protection reporting procedures.
30. Pupils of minority religious faiths	Risk of harm due to bullying, racism, discrimination or exclusion; inappropriate relationships/communications.	The school promotes inclusion and respect; anti-racism and anti-bullying procedures are implemented; staff follow the Code of Behaviour and Child Protection Procedures.
31. Children in care	Risk of harm due to particular vulnerabilities; inadequate supervision or support; inappropriate relationships/communications; risk where children are living away from home.	The school identifies individual safeguarding needs and follows relevant child-protection procedures; appropriate liaison and support arrangements are maintained; concerns are reported promptly.
32. Children on Tusla's Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)	Risk of harm to children with identified child-protection vulnerabilities; risk of concerns not being recognised, recorded or reported promptly.	Relevant staff are aware of the child's safeguarding needs on a need-to-know basis; the school follows the Child Protection Procedures; concerns are reported through the appropriate designated safeguarding arrangements.
33. Children with medical needs	Risk of harm to children with medical vulnerabilities; risk associated with inadequate care, supervision or administration of medicine.	The school has procedures for administration of medication and First Aid; relevant medical needs are identified and communicated appropriately; staff follow agreed care arrangements and report safeguarding concerns promptly.

34. Recruitment of school personnel including teachers/SNAs, caretakers/secretaries/cleaners and sport coaches	Risk of harm to a child by a member of school personnel; risk of unsuitable personnel being appointed.	The school adheres to Garda vetting legislation and relevant Department of Education and Youth recruitment circulars; staff follow the Code of Conduct and Child Protection Procedures; safeguarding documentation is provided to personnel.
35. Volunteers/Parents in school activities	Risk of harm by a volunteer or visitor; inappropriate relationships/communications; inadequate supervision.	Volunteers and parents participating in activities are appropriately managed; supervision arrangements are maintained; safeguarding expectations are communicated; relevant vetting requirements are applied where required.
36. Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours	Risk of harm by a visitor or contractor; inadequate supervision; inappropriate relationships/communications.	Visitors and contractors are managed in accordance with school procedures; access and supervision arrangements are maintained; child safeguarding requirements apply while they are on school premises.
37. Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school	Risk of harm while children participate in out-of-school activities; inadequate supervision; harm by personnel or other persons; inappropriate relationships/communications.	Appropriate arrangements and supervision are put in place for external participation; school safeguarding procedures apply; responsibility for supervision is clearly established; concerns are reported promptly.
38. Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	Risk of harm due to inadequate or inappropriate application of the Code of Behaviour; inappropriate relationships/communications; risk arising from sanctions being applied without appropriate safeguards.	The school has a Code of Behaviour; staff follow agreed disciplinary and child-protection procedures; sanctions are applied consistently and appropriately; concerns about pupil welfare are reported promptly.
39. Students participating in work experience in the school	Risk of harm by or to students participating in work experience; inappropriate relationships/communications; inadequate supervision.	The school has a policy and procedures for pupils undertaking work experience in the school; appropriate supervision and boundaries are maintained; relevant safeguarding requirements are communicated and followed.
40. Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Risk of harm caused by inappropriate use or circulation of images/media; inappropriate access to or sharing of	The school applies its Acceptable Use Policy and relevant procedures for recording and sharing school

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	material; inappropriate online communication.	events; access and use of media are managed appropriately; concerns are reported promptly.
41. After-school use of school premises by other organisations	Risk of harm by external personnel or visitors; inadequate supervision; inappropriate relationships/communications.	Use of premises by other organisations is managed through agreed arrangements; responsibility for supervision and safeguarding is established; external personnel are appropriately managed.

In accordance with Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 9 of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025, the following is the written Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

In undertaking this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment, the board of management has endeavoured to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to this school and to ensure that adequate procedures are in place to manage all risks identified. While it is not possible to foresee and remove all risk of harm, the school has in place the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was reviewed by the board of management on 5th October 2026 (*most recent review date*).

Signed:*		Date: 5 Oct 26
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Chairperson of the board of management

Signed:*		Date: 5/10/2026
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Principal/Secretary to the board of management

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again on **5th October 2027** (*expected review date*).

** Document to be printed and signed with original signatures*

Appendix - Location of copies of the Child Protection Procedures and Children First Guidance

- ☐ The **Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2025** are available to all school personnel on the **Department of Education and Youth website**: www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools
- ☐ A hard copy of the **Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2025** is available in the school office and the staff room.
- ☐ The **Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017** is available on the **Tusla website**: [Children First: National Guidance 2017](http://www.tusla.ie/children-first)
- ☐ A hard copy of the **Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017** is available in the **staff room**.
- ☐ School personnel may access these documents at any time for reference and guidance in relation to child safeguarding and child protection.
- ☐ The school will ensure that relevant child protection and safeguarding procedures are kept up to date and accessible to all school personnel.