



**KILLICOMAINE
JUNIOR
HIGH SCHOOL
PROSPECTUS
2010/2011**

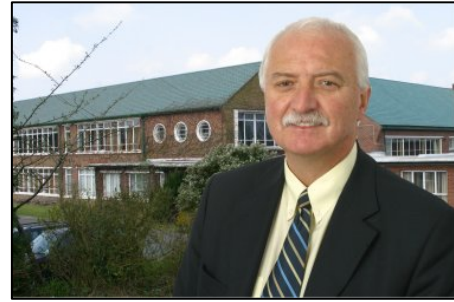




LETTER OF INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents,

Welcome to
Killicomaine....



Killicomaine is part of the two-tier arrangement generally known as the Dickson Plan operating in the Craigavon area. Pupils follow courses as required by the Northern Ireland Curriculum to the end of Key Stage 3 (at 14) after which they transfer to Portadown College (or selected Grammar School) or Craigavon Senior High School (or selected Secondary School).

The system:

- removed the trauma of selection at 11.
- reduces the damaging blow to self-esteem many children feel when they fail the 11+
- delays transfer selection until 14, an age when pupils and parents are more aware of their abilities and aptitudes and are therefore better placed to a decision on their future education.
- allows clear progression routes at 16.
- makes available more Grammar School places.

Killicomaine provides:

- high quality teaching
- a full sports programme including Saturday morning fixtures across the province.
- a top class choir and full orchestra
- a high quality dramatic production.
- a commitment to serving the community through community service and charity work.
- several national and continental educational visits.

Killicomaine has a deservedly high reputation for delivering high quality education in a caring atmosphere. One in which each pupil is treated as an individual with individual abilities, aptitudes and needs.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh McCarthy



SCHOOL AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Killicomaine Junior High School
Upper Church Lane
Portadown
BT63 5JE
Telephone: 028 3833 2021
Fax: 028 3835 0823

E-mail: info@killicomaine.portadown.ni.sch.uk
Web: www.killicomaine.co.uk

Principal Mr H E McCarthy, MSc, BA, BSc.

Chairman of Board of Governors
Mr D Thompson
16 Lynden Gate, Portadown

Killicomaine Junior High School is part of the Craigavon two-tier system which was initiated in 1969. We now cater for the full ability range of the first three years of secondary education (11-14).

We are a controlled, co-educational day school under the control of the Southern Education and Library Board.

Enrolment numbers 2010 – 460

Admissions 2010 – 2011

Number of applications for admission – 143

Number of pupils admitted – 143

Attendance

2009 – 2010 attendance rate – 95%





CURRICULUM

All pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum which goes beyond the demands of the Northern Ireland curriculum.

The school believes in differentiated teaching and a system of class streaming/organisations which enables teaching to be targeted in relation to the abilities of the children. We have successfully developed techniques for stretching the gifted and helping weaker pupils.

Pupils are assessed through continuous assessment and terminal examinations.

All pupils study:

English

Maths

Science

French

History

Geography

Technology Design

Art

P.E.

R.E.

Music

Home Economics

Spanish

Information Technology

P.S.E.

At work in the I.T. room





ADMISSION

The lodging of an application is interpreted by the Board of Governors as an indication that the parents and the child concerned accept and are in agreement with the ethos, philosophy, aims, policies and regulations of the school including any code of conduct or discipline policy of the school. Information in relation to these may be obtained from the school.

If the school's enrolment and admission numbers have not been reached the school will enrol all the children whose parents wish them to attend. In any year when these numbers are exceeded the Board of Governors will use the following criteria to decide which pupils should be admitted.

1. Pupils who attended contributory primary schools (list available)
2. Children whose brother/sister will be in attendance at Killicomaine Junior High School during the 2010-2011 school year.
3. Children whose brother/sister previously attended Killicomaine Junior High School.
4. Children of permanent members of staff.
5. Pupils for whom Killicomaine Junior High is the nearest Controlled Junior High School.

OTHER CHILDREN

In the event of over-subscription within any of the above criteria, the following sub-criteria will be applied as appropriate to determine which children should be admitted.

1. Children whose brother/sister will be in attendance at Killicomaine Junior High School during the 2010-2011 school year.
2. Children whose brother/sister previously attended Killicomaine Junior High School.
3. Children of permanent members of staff.
4. Children living nearest the school as measured 'as the crow flies' on an Ordnance Survey map.



VJSJING THE SCHOOL

It is the aim of Killicomaine Junior High School to involve parents in the education of their children and to inform them as fully as possible about their children's progress. The arrangements for consultation are:

1. Parents of eighth year pupils are invited to visit the school in December to discuss their child's progress. An Open Night for prospective parents is also held during the month of January.
2. Parents of tenth year pupils are invited to the school in December to discuss their child's progress. Parents of ninth year pupils are invited in February.
3. Through the meetings or by arrangement with Principal/Vice Principal/Year Head or Form Teacher, parents may meet with staff to discuss concerns they may have over their child's health, safety or academic progress.

Parents are welcome at all other times but especially to Prize Days, Sports Days, the annual Carol Service and above all the School Plays. Please ring the school or the Principal (telephone 028 3833 2021) for individual attention.

At the end of the tenth year pupils select either Craigavon Senior High School or Portadown College. Examination results count at this stage with 50% of our pupils moving on to Grammar School. There is a full liaison with the parents over this choice.

Our children constantly achieve exceptional results in their new schools.

Pupils on the school ski trip





CLASS STRUCTURE

Pupils are placed in classes appropriate to their abilities. These placements are based initially on recommendations from the primary schools.

Class Structure

This is designed to:

- stretch the able child
- enable teaching to be targeted in relation to the abilities of the children .
- reflect the natural range of abilities found in an annual intake of approximately 160 pupils.
- Encourage pupils to work to the best of their abilities and allow for success to be rewarded.
- Enable weaker pupils to receive special help.

Classes belong to one of three broad bands:

Band 1 } A1, A2
Band 2 } B1, B2
Band 3 } C1, C2

A1 and A2 are equal ability groups
B1 and B2 are equal ability groups
C1 and C2 are usually equal ability groups

Movement between Classes/Bands

The progress of pupils is closely monitored and class placements are reviewed at Christmas and June in each of the three year groups.

This process is carried out by the Principal, Vice Principal and Form Teachers.



**AJMS OF
KILLICOMAINE
JUNIOR
HIGH SCHOOL**

To promote the highest standards of teaching and learning.

To encourage the development of each pupil's potential.

To make every pupil feel an important part of the school.

To prepare pupils for responsible, healthy and independent adulthood.

To provide the requirements of the N.I. Curriculum and provide many extra opportunities for a wider learning experience.

To create a pleasant, stimulating and well-ordered environment.

To promote caring, tolerant and responsible attitudes towards others in the community and in the wider world.

To guide and prepare pupils for education at 14+

To encourage participation in a wide variety of extra curricular activities.

Pupils on the rugby pitch





THE SCHOOL DAY

9.00am Registration
9.15am Assembly
Whole School
Conducted by Principal/Vice Principal

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
Order of Service
Hymn (accompanied)
Prayer
Short Address
Announcements
Wednesday – no assembly
Friday Assembly
Conducted by visiting clergy (in rota)

Morning Classes
9.25am – 11.05am
Break
11.05am – 11.30am

Morning Classes
11.20am – 12.30pm or 1.05pm

Lunch
12.30pm – 1.10pm or 1.05pm – 1.45pm
Afternoon Classes
1.10pm – 3.25pm or 1.45pm – 3.25pm

There is a supervised snack bar in the cafeteria at break time.

There is a cafeteria where the pupils are supervised by the dinner ladies and teaching staff.

Tables are set aside for those who wish to bring a packed lunch.

Societies meet at lunchtime so that many pupils attend these e.g. library and computer club.

3.25pm end of school day.

Those pupils who are travelling on the school buses assemble to be escorted to the appropriate bus by the member of staff who is on duty. Many pupils go straight from last class to the many extra-curricular activities available.



PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral care lies at the heart of the school's overall policy which seeks to provide a caring happy environment in which the young people can develop to their full potential. It aims to extend the pupils' learning skills in line with their spiritual, moral, social, personal and physical development and, thus enable them to manage their present lives and prepare them for adult life in an ever-changing society.

The key element in the school's pastoral provision lies in the Form Teacher system where daily contact enables at least one teacher to have a detailed knowledge of the needs, aspirations, interests and academic progress of each pupil. Important links are established with parents, external agencies and other members of staff to support the learning and development of the individual.

A structured programmed of Personal and Social Education followed by all year 8 and year 9 pupils enables issues of school organisation, discipline and personal development to be addressed in an atmosphere where self-reflection is encouraged and opinions valued.

In Year 10 the pupils are encouraged to become increasingly aware of their own strengths and weaknesses and have opportunities to reflect on and discuss these.

Each is asked to prepare a Personal Career Action Plan and assistance is given in subject options at Key Stage 4 so that this transition point in the pupil's school career can be negotiated as comfortably as possible.

DRUGS EDUCATION

Killicomaine recognises that drugs increasingly form a part of the society to which the school belongs. We unreservedly condemn and prohibit the possession, use of and dealing in drugs and anyone engaged in such activities will be subject to disciplinary procedures including suspension or expulsion.

As is required by law we:

- (a) teach drugs education as part of the school curriculum
- (b) have a Drugs Education Policy.
- (c) inform the Police where we believe or suspect a pupil to be in possession of a drug.
- (d) have appointed a Co-ordinator.



ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

All children are entitled to receive their education free from humiliation, oppression and abuse. We take very seriously our responsibility to ensure that the atmosphere here is caring and protective. The key step in stopping bullying is to tell.

As parents you should encourage your son/daughter to talk about school and if you suspect they are being bullied you should phone the school and speak to:

- The Principal
- The Vice Principal
- The relevant Year Head
- Or the relevant Form Teacher

Do not ignore it.

Killicomaine affirms that all forms of bullying are unacceptable and we shall do all in our power to eradicate them.

CHILD PROTECTION

A Child protection policy operates in Killicomaine. The aim of our policy is to protect pupils by ensuring everyone who works in our school has clear guidance on detection and reporting procedures where abuse or neglect of a child is suspected. In all our contact with pupils, staff in Killicomaine follow the guidelines described in DENI's publication "Pastoral Care in School – Child Protection (1999)".

The principle of our action as required by legislation, is that the care, welfare and safety of the child is our paramount consideration.

The following forms the basis of our policy:

- Children should be listened to and taken seriously.
- A proper balance must be struck between protecting children and respecting the rights and needs of parents and families but where there is a conflict the child's welfare must always come first.
- The child's welfare must always be paramount. This overrides all other considerations.

In all cases of suspected child abuse the response, as required by law, will be to report the matter to Social Services and SELB.

We will not be involved in investigating suspected abuse.

(Full copies of the above policies are available from the School Office)



EXTRA- CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Killicomaine Junior High School considers that the extra-curricular activities it offers add a very valuable dimension to the education of the children.

These activities are:

Rugby including a full programme of Saturday morning fixtures against the province's top schools.

Hockey including a full programme of Saturday morning fixtures against the province's top schools.

Soccer including participation in the province's competition

Netball teams participate in the league system.

Tennis including participation in the Schools' Cup.

Badminton

Choir perform regularly at school and community events.

Annual Dramatic Production for example, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.

Theatre Outings including regular visits to the Grand Opera House and the Lyric Theatre.

Annual Ski Trips e.g. to Italy, Austria, France and Switzerland.

Educational Visits e.g. France, Holland, Belgium.

Athletics including cross-country and participation in national competitions.

Clubs

Technology Craft, Art, Computer, Library, Drama

Scripture Union



Pupils are offered the N.I. Syllabus in R.E. and there is a daily collective act of worship. Ministers of Religion attend to take the pupils of their own denomination on Friday morning each week from 9.25 – 9.55am.

The flourishing Scripture Union enhances the schools' Christian ethos.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CHOIR

The School Choir can always boast of at least seventy members drawn from all year groups. The choir performs at school functions such as Parents' Nights, Prize Night and our annual Carol Service. It also performs within the Community, at Church Services and Carol Singing in Portadown.

ORCHESTRA

The School Orchestra has many members with all sections well represented.

The repertoire varies from "Rock Around the Clock" to Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance".

Peripatetic teachers give weekly lessons to upper and lower strings, woodwind and brass.

The Orchestra, like the choir, plays at school functions and entertains within the community.

The School Choir recording the 2006 Christmas CD





STATUTORY ASSESSMENT RESULTS

The school's Statutory Assessment results were once again top of the class, indeed top in Northern Ireland. In all three assessment subjects Killicomaine finished top in our category of school. This is the sixth year in a row in which Maths and Science have been top.

The examinations are taken by all year 10 pupils in Northern Ireland in English, Maths and Science. The results are given in levels from 3 to 8 (3 to 7 in English), level 8 being the highest.

The papers are marked by external markers in the same way as GCSE and A levels.

All schools are required to publish the following information:-

(a) percentage of pupils achieving levels 5,6,7 and 8

	Killicomaine	NI average
Maths	89	71
English	83	69
Science	80	68

(b) percentage of pupils achieving 6,7, and 8

	Killicomaine	NI average
Maths	65	46
English	67	43
Science	61	43

A Science class at Killicomaine





SPECIAL NEEDS

Special Needs in the school caters for pupils across the ability range. The principal aim is to help children with learning difficulties to realise their full potential through continuous support in a small class situation.

Staff with specific expertise diagnose the difficulties and provide help and support as required to meet the individual needs of the pupil and facilitate teaching and learning in the key areas of reading, writing, communication skills and mathematics, enabling the less able and more able pupils to achieve to the level of their ability. The programme is designed to improve and develop the pupils socially and emotionally whilst building their self-esteem.

The pupil's progress is constantly monitored and the programme is adjusted accordingly to meet each child's individual needs and motivate pupils to develop their true potential.

Emphasis is placed on the skills in which the pupils already has confidence and these are built on in a caring atmosphere to encourage each child to overcome particular difficulties.

(A full copy of the Policy is available from the School Office)

At work in the technology suite





UNIFORM

BOYS

Black blazer with school pocket
Plain charcoal trousers
White shirt
School tie
Black socks
Black leather shoes (these are essential on safety grounds especially in practical classes. Training shoes are **NOT** permitted).

For Sport

School sports jersey (club soccer shirts will not be permitted)
Black shorts
School sports socks
Football boots/rugby boots
Training shoes
Shin pads

GIRLS

Black blazer with school pocket
Black gym tunic
White blouse
School tie
Black knee socks or ankle socks
(plain black tights may be worn in winter)
Black leather shoes
(of low heeled design without colours)

For sport:

Yellow polo shirt (Gymphlex with embroidered school badge)
Yellow sweatshirt with school badge
Black wrap-over games skirt
Black pants
Black school shorts
Training shoes
Games socks (black with yellow stripes)
Shin pads

ALL PUPILS:

Overcoats or Anoraks **MUST BE BLACK.**

Pupils are expected to take a pride in their appearance. Badges of B.B., Scouts, GB or Girl Guides may be worn.

Please note that tints, highlights, dyes or extreme hairstyles are not permitted.



CHARGES AND REMISSION POLICIES

In accordance with Article 10 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 the Board of Governors has determined the following policy for pupils in Killicomaine Junior High School:

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

recognises the right to free school education for all pupils enrolled in Killicomaine Junior High School;

has established the activities organised wholly or mainly during normal teaching time should be made available to all pupils regardless of the ability or willingness of their parents to meet the cost;

recognises that charges may not be made in respect of the education provided wholly or mainly during school hours for a registered pupil at Killicomaine Junior High School;

reserves the right under the current legislation, to make a charge to parents for optional extras, ie activities offered outside the normal school day. In the case of these activities the charges will be no more than the cost of the transport or entrance to any institution divided by the number of pupils participating in that particular outing;

reserves the right to request a voluntary contribution for the benefit of the School or in support of any school activity, whether during or outside school hours from all parents with the understanding that no pupils will be excluded from any activity because of their parents unwillingness or inability to make a voluntary contribution;

recognises its entitlement to make a charge for the materials used in Home Economics or Craft Design Technology provided that the finished product is recognised as the property of the parent;

recognises that it may make a charge for the cost of repairs or replacement where this is a result of a pupil's behaviour, eg the cost of replacing a broken window, a defaced, damaged or lost textbook or item of damaged equipment.



HOLIDAYS ***2008-2009***

MJD ***ACADEMIC*** ***YEAR CHANGES***

Halloween: 29th Oct & 1st Nov 2010
Christmas: 23rd Dec 2010 to 5th Jan 2011
(inclusive)
Mid-Term: 14th & 15th February 2011
St. Patrick's Day: 17th March 2011
Easter: 18th April to 29th April 2011 (inclusive)
May Day: 2nd May 2011
Bank Holiday: 30th May 2011

If there is any change in the above information due to unforeseen circumstances during the school year 2010 - 2011 parents will be informed in writing of the nature of such a change.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES:
Telephone: 028 3833 2021
Fax: 028 3835 0823

