



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 05/2017

School number: 0679

School name: Willsden Primary School

1. General information

PART A

School Name : WILLSDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL
 School Number : 0679 Courier: Port Augusta
 Principal name : Ms Linda Ritchie
 Year of opening : 1954
 Postal Address : Willsden Primary School, Elizabeth Terrace, PORT AUGUSTA 5700
 Location Address : Elizabeth Terrace, Port Augusta 5700
 Distance from GPO : 3kms
 Telephone number : 86422722
 Fax Number : 86423524
 CPC attached : No
 OSHC service : No

February FTE student enrolment:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
February FTE Enrolment					
Primary	157	147	159	186	151
Reception	29	16	26	20	14
Year 1	21	20	18	30	16
Year 2	19	20	22	20	25
Year 3	17	23	24	27	18
Year 4	22	17	22	27	25
Year 5	18	18	12	24	21
Year 6	13	17	21	10	21
Year 7	18	12	14	28	11
July Total Enrolment	156	157	143	159	xxx
Male FTE	79	79	78	82	xx
Female FTE	77	78	65	77	xx
School Card Approvals Persons	51	44	31	88	xx
Aboriginal FTE enrolment	97	99	104	117	xxx
Students with Disabilities	30	28	31	39	xx
EALD	99	92	96	107	xxx
NESB	3	3	0	0	0

PART B

Principal : Ms Linda Ritchie
Deputy Principal : Ms Lyn Kolic
Senior Leader Aboriginal Education : Wes Yates
Senior Leader Counsellor : Sylvia Jadrych
School Email Address : dl.0679info@schools.sa.edu.au
School website : www.willsdenps.sa.edu.au

Staffing Numbers :

- 8 classroom teachers, 1.8 NIT teachers: Health and PE and Science
- A total of School Support Officer hours as used for classroom, intervention, front office management and library manager
- A total of 98 hours of Aboriginal Community Education Officer are used within the school.
- Pastoral Care Worker position 1 day per week.

Governance : Willsden Primary School is a locally managed school with a Governing Council

Enrolment Trends: Enrolment trends at Willsden have fluctuated over time with transience a major issue as student move in and out of the school.

Public transport access: The Town Bus picks up and drops off students from Abernathy Avenue at the back of the school. Buses connect students with both Stirling North and Port Augusta West communities.

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics

Willsden Primary School is a category one school located in Port Augusta. We have a high Aboriginal student population, with a number of these being transient. The majority of students use English as an additional dialect or language and Aboriginal English is their first language. Willsden is a complex school in a low socio economic area, but has strong parent and community involvement within the school. Community engagement is a key part of our learning strategy.

Student Well-Being Programs

Willsden is a Play is the Way school and the key concepts of the program are embedded within the schools social emotional wellbeing program. The schools' values Respect, Responsibility and Honesty are used alongside the golden rule of Play Is the Way – Treat others as you would like to be treated - to drive the school code. Play is the Way has a focus on students taking responsibility for and managing their own behaviour. The Wellbeing Classroom is established in junior and middle primary classes in collaboration with the school's ministry group to support students to discuss their feelings. Providing students with the language to describe how they are feeling supports staff when they are in discussion with students about what happened and why. Often students don't have the language to discuss their concerns and our program supports them to articulate issues.

A Pastoral Support Worker is funded through Federal Government contributions to support the social, emotional and psychological wellbeing of students.

The school counsellor and the Aboriginal Community Education staff are available to support families.

When appropriate the school supports students and families to access services provided by outside agencies eg Child and Mental Health Services (CAMHS).

Student Management

Student behaviour education is based on the students' self-management, this is supported through "Play is the Way". The policy is inclusive of both classroom and yard behaviours based on the schools values of respect, responsibility and honesty.

The school values: respect, responsibility and honesty underpin the behaviour code of the school. A step process is followed and all classes are allocated "Yellow Card" books that need to be completed by the teacher when a student requires time out of the classroom to talk to the teacher about their behaviour and learning. For more information please see the policy in the folder.

A Behaviour Response Guide guides the response of all staff to students' behaviour. This guide is used within classrooms to establish clear expectations of behaviour early in the school year.

The school follows a restorative justice process to resolve issues between students and also students and teachers.

Student Governance

The school leadership structure at Willsden Primary is comprised of:

- Prefects elected from the year 7 class
- Elected house captains and their deputies
- Student Representative Council = 2 students elected from each class.

The SRC meets fortnightly and is coordinated by the school counsellor.

Members of the SRC are involved in instructional rounds to contribute to the teaching and learning outcomes at the school.

3. Key School Policies

Site Improvement Plan Priorities

- Expert Learners – all staff is implementing TfEL in the classrooms. All day every day.
- Literacy and Numeracy – increase in the number of students achieving in the upper bands for NAPLAN Reading, Writing and Numeracy
- School and Community Connections – improvement in the attendance rate of Willsden school to meet the DECD standard.

4. Curriculum

Subject Offerings

Programs are based on the Australian Curriculum and include: English, Mathematics, Science, History and Social Sciences, Health and Physical Education, The Arts and Technology. Specialist programs are provided in Health and Physical Education, Science and Technology and Spanish.

DECD instrumental music programs are accessed within the local primary schools.

Special Needs and Access to Service Providers

The school receives a range of supplementary funding to support students with behaviour needs, attendance support and special education. The funding is allocated to the student and supports are put in place.

Students with an NEP have additional support provided in class. The negotiated education plan is updated yearly and reviewed every 10 weeks using SMATER goals.

Intervention programs include:

- Speech and language programs for identified students
- Phonological awareness programs for students in the early years
- Read Up program.

Sound field systems are available in all classrooms to support all students and especially those with conductive hearing losses.

The Deputy Principal manages the special needs program and works closely with DECD support personnel in the areas of child psychology, speech pathology, special education and behaviour management. The providers meet regularly with the school to determine priorities for service.

Teaching Methodology

At Willsden staff is committed to improving literacy and numeracy achievements. The school has developed whole school agreements around the delivery of maths and literacy lessons. The school works extensively to incorporate TfEL as the how of the curriculum delivery.

The school works across the partnership on the Empowering Local Learners project. The staff are embedding the teaching of executive functions in the maths teaching and learning program. Incorporated with this is Growth Mindset and ensuring stretch occurs with the learning.

Assessment and Reporting Procedures

The school currently undertakes a range of activities to report to parents:

- Term program – information is provided to parents at the end of week 2 each term on the focus of the class program and any special events that will be happening in the class that term
- Meet the teacher – week 2 of term 1. This is an introductory session and should provide parents with information about your expectations, homework agreements and your class programme
- Term 1 Parent Interviews are held
- Term 2 and 4 Written reports are sent home

Willsden School uses an Assess - Plan - Teach learning cycle. This is based on the collection of common data to inform our teaching and learning programs. Each term staff will receive a handout indicating when assessments have to be undertaken with students.

The assessment cycle includes:

Oxford – running records	Term 1 – formal assessment Ongoing casual observation	Term 3 – formal assessment
PATR		Term 3
PATM		Term 3
Alphabet Knowledge	ongoing	Term 3
Oxford Word List - ongoing	Term 1	
GANSKE Spelling	Term 1	
Westwood Spelling test		Term 3
EALD scope and scales	Term 1	Term 3
Phonological Awareness – early years	ongoing	Term 3

5. Sporting Activities

Students participate in a range of Physical Education programs including Aquatics and Swimming. In addition to class based curriculum the Years 5-7 children are eligible to participate in a range of SAPSASA programs including team and individual pursuits ranging from Athletics, Hockey, Netball, Tennis and Football.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

At Willsden Primary School we provide children with activities that enhance and compliment their educational experiences including:

- Choir which combines with the Whole Town Choir to perform in the Festival of Music.
- Year 6/7 Aquatics Program
- Swimming program
- Pedal prix – year 6 and 7

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff Profile

A high percentage of the teachers on the staff are new graduates or in their first five years of teaching. The school has structures and processes in place to ensure mentoring is provided for graduate teachers. This enables teachers to move from a graduate to proficient status and then to explore how they can develop their skills further.

Leadership Structure

The Principal, Deputy, School Counsellor, Literacy and Numeracy Coordinator, Aboriginal Education Coordinator and the Finance Manager meet weekly on a Tuesday morning and work as a collaborative team.

Personnel Advisory Committee meets regularly and ensures staff voice through all Human Resources planning and deployment. Major HR decisions are taken to the whole for consultation.

Staff Support Systems

The staff works in Professional Learning Communities to support, programming and planning within the year levels. The teams meet through dedicated staff meeting times.

Staff also works in data wise teams to review, analyse and incorporate data within their programming and planning.

Performance Management

All staff participates in performance management processes including Induction upon appointment, support with planning and programming, behaviour management. All staff establishes a Performance Management relationship with their line manager. Regular discussions are negotiated with your line manager. Each term a formal supervision meeting is held of 1 to 1 and half hours duration. Formal records are kept of the meeting. Staff members need to plan for this meeting. Staffs are able to discuss programming and planning, school strategic plan priorities, students at risk, personal/professional goals and achievements. The principal undertakes the performance management of the senior staff.

Staff Utilisation Policies

Tier 2 staffing has been used to reduce class sizes, R-7 to promote positive relationships and teacher :student ratios to be optimised.

8. Incentives, Support and Award Conditions for Staff

Housing assistance

:yes

Country Incentive

: yes

Relocation assistance

available through DECS staffing unit, forms can be down loaded from the DECS website.

9. School Facilities

Buildings and Grounds

Many of the schools' buildings have been on site since the 70s and as a result are far more spacious than more modern classrooms. All are carpeted and have been recently fitted with digital TV, Apple TV and sound field systems.

The school has a football oval also fitted with soccer goals and a cricket pitch.

The school has a modern Gym as well as an activity room.

The school has a bike track that is open during lunch for the students to use.

Heating and Cooling

All classrooms are fitted with refrigerated reverse-cycle air conditioners.

Specialist Facilities and Equipment

- All teaching staff are issued with a laptop computer that can be used with the interactive whiteboard and an iPad. This is to support teaching staff to integrate ICT within the teaching and learning program.
- A class set of laptop computers has been purchased for use by the primary students. These are housed in Spencer Block.
- All classes are allocated a bank of iPads. These are to be used to support the teaching and learning program. The Junior Primary block has class set of iPads to be shared on a roster basis. The 2 Upper Primary classes have 1:1 iPads.

Student Facilities

The canteen is open daily at recess and lunch.

Staff Facilities

The staffroom has a large space for both meetings, social gatherings and is a hub of activity before school commences each day.

A teacher prep area with four desktop computers is available in the staff area.

All classroom teachers have a laptop computer and an iPad provided.

10. School Operations

Decision Making Structures

A school decision making policy exists to support collaborative decision making

- Governing Council ratifies the Site Learning Plan and Annual budgets and monitors the implementation of both through the Annual Report.
- *The Site Learning Plan* is the overriding framework which all programs take direction from. It reflects the schools priorities which are determined by staff, students and families under the auspices of DECS priorities.

- Action plans which are derived from the Site Learning Plan priorities outline responsibility and strategies for implementation.

Regular Publications

- School newsletters are distributed fortnightly
- School Facebook page is used regularly
- A staff handbook is updated and printed at the beginning of each year with additional and changes
- Weekly Bulletin is produced once a week and emailed to staff.
- A day book is used in the staff room
- An Annual Report is presented to the Governing Council in February each year.
- The School Magazine is developed each year and sent home to families at the end of the school year. This includes some information from the Annual Report

School Financial Position

The school is in a healthy financial position

11. Local Community

General Characteristics

Port Augusta City Council covers the city of Port Augusta, including Stirling North, and the seaside homes located at Commissariat Point, Blanche Harbour and Miranda and has a population 14,522 (*ABS Census 2015*).

Port Augusta is uniquely located on Spencers Gulf, with the Flinders Ranges providing a spectacular backdrop. It is also located on Australia's crossroads for both rail and road

Parent and Community Involvement

This is an ongoing focus to increase parental participation, however the majority of school events are well patronised.

Feeder or Destination Schools

Willsden Preschool is the prime feeder of students; both enrolments also come from the other preschools including Augusta Park and Flinders.

The majority of year 7 student's transition to Port Augusta Secondary.

Other Local Care and Educational Facilities

The Council operates a Child Care facility on Stirling Road (Birth to 4) and a private facility is available. Port Augusta TAFE provides courses across two semesters both long and short term.

Commercial/Industrial and Shopping Facilities

The local shopping precinct provides a range of shops and services

Other Local Facilities

Port Augusta is well sourced in terms of medical facilities including the PA hospital and several clinics, at least one of which operates 7 days/week.

The council manages the Library and the Wadlata Tourist facility.

Art Galleries including the Fountain Art gallery and Platform Gallery provide local and visiting artists with opportunity to display their creativity.

Availability of Staff Housing

Housing is available through the local rental market or through DTEI – Building Management, Accommodation and Property Services (BMAPS). DTEI housing is supported by Facilities Services which is responsible for maintenance.

Accessibility

Adelaide is accessible by bus, air and road. Buses depart twice daily and flights are to (morning) and from (evening) Adelaide daily.

Local Government body

The local council is the City of Port Augusta