

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 21/06/17

School number: 0356

School name: Port Elliot Primary School



School Values: Community, Confidence, Respect

1. General information

School name : PORT ELLIOT PRIMARY SCHOOL
School No. : 0356 Courier: Port Elliot Primary School
Principal : Mr Brenton Hudson
Deputy Principal : Ms Les Cameron
Postal Address : 4 Cameron Street, Port Elliot 5212
Location Address : 4 Cameron Street, Port Elliot 5212
Region : Fleurieu
Road distance from GPO : 85kms

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Principal's email address: brenton.hudson785@schools.sa.edu.au

CPC attached : No, but the school is co-located with the Port Elliot Kindergarten.

R-7 Enrolment in Term 1 2017: 390 students.

Enrolment has increased steadily over recent years.

2015 School Card	approximately 90
NESB Total	8
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	12

Staffing numbers: Under the Student-Centred-Funding Model introduced in 2011, there is no specific staff target. However, the school has 14 classes in 2016. The school has an allocation of 0.45 Primary School Counsellor. In 2017 this has been added to create a 1.0 counsellor position.

- A number of School Service Officers support the learning programs and administration of the school. There is 11 hours per week for a grounds person.
- Out of School Hours Care: An OSHC service is provided before and after school hours on weekdays, as an outreach service managed by Southern Fleurieu OSHC. Vacation Care is also provided.
- Enrolment trends: Enrolments have steadily increased from approximately 100 in 1991 accelerating to 390 in 2017. It is anticipated that enrolments will continue to increase steadily in the foreseeable future, along with general growth in the district.
- Important Developments: During 2007 the school (and co-located Kindergarten) relocated into a new school and Kindergarten adjacent to the Port Elliot Showgrounds. There is a joint use agreement between the Minister for Education and Child Development and the Southern Agricultural Society for use of the showgrounds oval.
- Special arrangements: Our swimming and aquatics programs are run by Victor Harbor DECD Aquatics Centre.
- Year of opening on the previous site: 1880.
- Public transport access: There is no regular public transport to the school. There is a local taxi service, and a bus service between Adelaide and Victor Harbor daily, with pickup in Port Elliot. Also Goolwa-Adelaide service. Students living in areas of Middleton are able to access a school bus to attend Port Elliot Primary School.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics: From the beginning of 2012, Port Elliot Primary School is an Index of Disadvantage Category 5 School. The student body is quite diverse, with a significant transient population. A significant number of students come from complex and diverse family units. About 45% of the students of Port Elliot Primary School travel from the catchment areas of other schools to attend Port Elliot. This range is from Encounter Bay in the west, to Hindmarsh Island in the east.
- **Well-being programs:** Supportive individual, small group, whole-class and whole-school programmes are provided both separately and with Primary School Counsellor support. The School Counsellor conducts a range of supportive and proactive programs across the school. During 2015 all staff have been involved in the kids matter programme which will continue into the future.
- In 2016, the school has an Aboriginal Community Education Officer for 8 hours a week. Funding for the ACEO is dependent upon Indigenous enrolment numbers, which have increased in recent years.
- Support offered: Individual student and parent counselling; access to psychological and other DECD services as appropriate, and usually provided through the Regional Office. A number of students qualify for levels of support such as A, C, and D Students with Disabilities using teacher and SSO time.
- Student management: Comprehensive and effective Student Behaviour Management and Anti-Bullying policies and practices are in place, and consistently adhered to across the R-7 site.

- Student Voice: There is a strong SRC with an executive of senior members. There are regular meetings and activities. An annual SRC training program is held early in the year. Class meetings are a key part of the process.
- Parent Network is a group of dedicated parents who contribute in a wide range of ways to the life of the school and to fundraising.

3. Key School Policies

- The School has an Improvement Plan for 2017. The priorities are:
 - Continuous improvement through innovation supported through Numeracy,
 - Continuous improvement through innovation supported through Literacy with focus Reading,
 - Continuous improvement through intervention and well being
- For the three years 2016-2018 inclusive, the school has appointed a Coordinator, in Numeracy, to support the priorities listed above, and specifically to enhance student engagement and learning outcomes.
- Subject offerings: All subjects of the Australian Curriculum (Version 8.0) are offered. With specialist lessons in Indonesian, Physical Education and The Arts.
- Special curriculum features: Through the Student Services Team, a detailed and systematic exercise identifies and allows prioritisation of students with special or specific needs. These targeted students' needs are addressed via specific funds and programmes. Literacy and Numeracy support for identified students is implemented.
- Special curriculum features: The school has participated in teacher visitation programs from Indonesia. In 1998 a comprehensive Aboriginal Studies Programme for Year 6/7 students, involving a Cultural Exchange Programme with remote Aboriginal communities served by Murputja School, was implemented. This program continues today, with a visit to Murputja and Uluru each even-numbered year. In odd-numbered years Yr 6-7 students are offered the opportunity to participate in a visit to Canberra.
- Assessment procedures and reporting. Reporting procedures comply with State and Commonwealth Government requirements.
- Joint programs: The School benefits from membership of a local Fleurieu Partnership. From time to time combined student free days are organised for coordinated training and development.

5. Sporting Activities

- The school and its students are active in an expanding range of sporting and physical activities. We participate in SAPSASA athletics and sports, and selected programmes where applicable for talented students.
- Swimming and aquatics are also part of our program. Inter-school surfing is a key activity.
- The school has three sports 'houses', and there is a very popular annual inter-house sports day. In 2018 four teams will be formed for the first time due to increase in student numbers.

- A range of local clubs offers extensive choice in sporting activities. Many Port Elliot Primary School students are junior surf life savers with the Port Elliot club.

6. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile: Port Elliot Primary School staff members are a very experienced team. A considerable number of staff members work part time and most staff members live locally in the Southern Fleurieu. The staff members are highly committed, providing a well-balanced and excellent education service. Fractional times are usually allocated to: Teacher-librarian, specialist Arts teaching and the Language teacher in Indonesian. Intervention and Support teacher and SSO time is used for student support.
- Leadership structure: The leadership structure consists of Principal, Deputy Principal, Student Counsellor, and Coordinator:
- Staff support systems: From 2009, and following engagement with the 2007 McKinsey Report, staff members agreed to implement a Peer Observation and Feedback system based upon the University of Newcastle Quality Teaching Framework developed for the NSW Department of Education and Training. In 2011 this evolved to see the use of the Teaching for Effective Learning framework TfEL and resources to facilitate staff and student observations by teachers. There are also regular meetings with line managers; DECD Complaint Resolution procedures; funded individual staff T&D budgets; and feedback procedures associated with the Site Self-Review process. Members of the Leadership Team make every effort to meet the needs of staff members through negotiation and consultation. Funds are allocated for the employment of an IT technician, and for additional SSO time in the Library-Resource Centre.
- Performance Development: Regular meetings are held between line managers and staff members to discuss teaching and learning programs, Performance Development plans, and any workplace issues.
- Staff utilisation policies: Issues relating to staff utilisation are discussed by PAC and recommendations taken to staff, unless determined by fixed policies or regulations.
- Access to special staff: The School has access to a range of Support Services, particularly from the support services for the Fleurieu Region.

9. School Facilities

- The school relocated to a new, larger, school and kindergarten complex in mid-2007. This modern complex is the envy of many visitors, with Smartboards in each classroom, as well as in the Computer room and Resource Centre. Each of the four classroom buildings has four classrooms around a central Shared Learning Area, with withdrawal and preparation spaces. The new school project has included a Primary School Hall, partly funded through a DECD loan to Governing Council. There is a Joint Use Agreement between DECD and the Southern Agricultural Society for the use of the oval space at the new site.
- In 2009/2010 the school benefitted from Building the Education Revolution funding from the Commonwealth Government. This funded the third of the 4-classroom buildings referred to above, as well as a storage space adjacent to the existing Hall, and completion of plans for outdoor covered sandpit and play areas.
- Cooling: All rooms occupied by classes are air-conditioned.

- Specialist facilities: The school has an expanding IT inventory, a computer room, and 100% interactive whiteboards in regular classrooms. All teaching spaces are cabled and connected to servers and the internet.
- There is a developing vegetable garden, a garden of Indigenous plants, nature play areas and playground space. A few undeveloped garden areas remain for development.
- Student facilities: The school has a new and well-equipped Resource Centre, and attractive grounds.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities: The site is flat, with easy access to all areas facilitated for students and adults with mobility difficulties and wheeled mobility.
- Access to bus transport: School buses bring students from Middleton. While some students travel from further afield by family choice, there is no public bus service to the school.

10. School Operations: Local Management, Governing Council

- Decision making structures: The school is strongly supported by a hard-working and dedicated core of volunteer members of Governing Council with a Finance sub-committee. There is an active Parent Network which raises funds for much needed equipment. Other decisions are made through: Staff Meetings and Sectional Meetings, P.A.C., Student Services and School Services Officers. For students, forums of Class Meetings and SRC exist.
- Regular publications: Newsletters are produced every fortnight. These are available on our web-site, in addition to being distributed to all families. Staff members receive a weekly bulletin of information. Some classes distribute class newsletters to families.
- Other communication: Whole School Assemblies are held every 3 weeks. Parents and Caregivers are welcome at these events.
- School financial position: The school is in a sound position, and works to an annual budget which now includes annual repayments on the school gym/hall.
- Special funding: The school applies for and attracts a range of grant funds.

11. Local Community

- General characteristics: Port Elliot is a very popular South Australian recreation area for urban Adelaide dwellers as well as other country and interstate visitors. Tourism and population has increased markedly over the past decade. There is a broad mixture of self-employed, locally employed and commuting parents. Whale watching has developed quickly as a winter activity and is very popular.
- The school community is Index of Disadvantage Category 5, and services struggle to keep up with growing population and demand. The local population is a diverse one with a range of identifiable common interest groups. A significant number of parents have chosen a more alternative lifestyle.
- Parent and community involvement: Considerable parent/caregiver and community involvement exists through structured programmes like classroom support, and library assistance, and also through sporting and environmental projects and

programmes. A small but hard-working Parent Network makes a significant contribution to the school, improving communication with parents and supporting class teachers in class activities and with fund-raising. Parents are very interested in their school and outcomes for their children.

- Other local care and educational facilities: Port Elliot Kindergarten shares the site and most Port Elliot Kindy Kids enrol at Port Elliot Primary School. Playgroup, Kindergym and day care are locally available.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities: Essential services and shopping facilities are available either at Port Elliot to a limited extent, or in nearby Victor Harbor or Goolwa. There has been steady growth in the size and range of shopping facilities available in both of these larger centres.
- Other local facilities: The area is well-served by a wide range of sporting, cultural, and service organisations.
- Availability of staff housing: There is no designated staff housing. There is a wide range of rental housing available privately along the Southern Fleurieu coast.
- Accessibility: The school on its current site is accessible on two street frontages, Cameron and Wright Streets, Port Elliot. There is limited access to Port Elliot and the school by Public Transport.
- Local Government body: Alexandrina Council.

12. Further Comments

- Excellent support exists for students with disabilities/targeted students through specific planning and implementation/support at leadership level, including Principal, Deputy Principal, School Counsellor and Special Needs staff. There are very effective support programs, planned and delivered by SSOs to targeted students. Port Elliot Primary School is a cooperative staff and community enterprise due to its focus on human relationships.
- Port Elliot Primary School has a focus on achievement and excellence, based upon implementing practices shown to have a positive impact upon the work of teachers and the performance of students.
- *'How high can our fish fly?'* remains our vision, arising from the story of local hero Agen Dent and his rescue of all on board in the 1860 wreck of the Flying Fish in Horseshoe Bay. This vision is a challenge to all members of the school community to do our best in all of our endeavours.