

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 16/05/2017

School number: 0459

School name: Wallaroo Primary School

1. General information

Part A

School name	: Wallaroo Primary School	
School No.	: 0459	Courier : Kadina
Principal	: Julie Petersen	
Student Wellbeing	: Damian McCarthy	
Postal Address	: Hughes Street, Wallaroo	
Location Address	: Hughes Street, Wallaroo	
Partnership	: Northern Yorke	
Distance from GPO	: 160 km	Phone No. : 88232190
CPC attached	: No	Fax No. : 88233244

February FTE Enrolment		2014	2015	2016	2017
Primary	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.	0	0	0	0
	Reception	27	23	22	13
	Year 1	22	22	21	24
	Year 2	20	19	21	21
	Year 3	7	18	14	27
	Year 4	20	22	15	11
	Year 5	19	17	24	18
	Year 6	24	17	11	21
	Year 7	26	23	13	7
TOTAL		185	161	141	142
School Card percentage		65%	50%	50%	51%
NESB Enrolment		0	0	0	0
Aboriginal Enrolment		6%	11%	8.5%	9.8%

Part B

- School website address:
www.wallaroops.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address:
DL.0459_info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Staffing numbers:
 - teaching staff 7.8
 - SSOs 11
- OSHC/Vacation Care
We have an OSHC facility from 6am – 8.30am and then 3.00 – 6.00pm
Monday-Friday

A Vacation Care programme also operates each school holidays

- Enrolment trends:
 - : Enrolments are impacted on by a highly transient population resulting in annual fluctuations between approximately 130 and 150 students
- Year of opening:
 - : 1878
- Public transport access:
 - : There is no public transport access for students attending Wallaroo Primary School

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics:

Wallaroo Primary School is a Category 2 Index of Disadvantage, R-7 school. It is located in a relatively low socio-economic area with approximately 51% School Card. Its student cohort describes as being mostly mono-cultural (9.8% Aboriginal), with the majority of students having Anglo-Celtic backgrounds. Student enrolments are affected by a high rate of transience, caused by issues relating to employment and housing availability, although there is a sizable population of children who are 2nd, 3rd or 4th generation at the school.
- Student management:

Policies and procedures for both the yard and all classrooms are in place and are implemented consistently and continually monitored. These are based on the school's values of Respect, Pride, Care and Persistence, and include expectations and routines for:

 - End-of-play
 - Movement
 - Transitioning
 - Work Noises (One-Voice-Classrooms)

Additionally, the following expectations are enforced:

 - We follow instructions immediately
 - We keep hands, objects and hurtful comments to ourselves
 - We are a one-voice-school
- Student governance:

Student Representative Council has been operating for many years with a strong class meeting procedure in place. SRC is viewed as an important decision-making group in our school, and is facilitated by the Counsellor. The SRC comprises of 10 representatives from the upper primary classes and two School Captains from year 6/7.
- Special programmes:

Intervention and support programs are provided for students who are identified as being at risk (emotionally, socially, academically). These are

determined on a needs basis as a result of regular monitoring of student achievement and behaviour. In other instances, some students participate in special programs which are part of negotiated or modified education plans. The Student Wellbeing Coordinator and Child Wellbeing Practitioner are available to provide additional support to those that require it.

3. Key School Policies

- Vision Statement

Our vision for Wallaroo Primary School is for it to be *A School of Excellence*. Its mission is to create resilient and independent learners and that every child reaches his or her potential, which is underlined by two beliefs:

- Every child matters, every day
- Every child can be a high achiever

Central to the school's vision are the 3 Imperatives for Student Engagement, the 4 Pillars for outstanding student outcomes and the 6 Givens for every teacher:

3 Imperatives for Student Engagement

- All students trust and respect their teacher
- Work is provided at the student's level
- All children have friends at school

4 Pillars for Outstanding Student Outcomes

- Teacher accountable learning
- Explicit Instruction
- Moving students' learning from short-term to long term memory
- Positive relationships exist between students and teachers

6 Givens for Every Teacher

- High Expectations
- Quality Relationships
- Excellent presentation and handwriting
- High Quality Display
- Correction and Feedback
- Positive and productive classroom tone

4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings:

Programs include specialist teaching in the following areas across R-7 that also provide NIT time:

- LOTE (Japanese) delivered via Open Access to year 3 – 7 students.
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM)
- History, Geography and Art

- Special needs:

Site Leaders co-ordinate support programs for students with learning needs. Students are identified for intervention from regular monitoring of achievement data and through teacher referrals. Additional support is provided through:

- In-class SSO support
- Targeted intervention programs

- Special curriculum features:

A number of programs operate which support the deliver of English and Mathematics including: Spelling Mastery, Jolly Phonics, Jolly Grammar, Cars and Stars (Reading Comprerhension), Junior Elementary Maths Mastery and New Wave Mental Maths.

- Teaching methodology:

Explicit instruction is the signature pedagogy at Wallaroo Primary School, and is implemented across all learning areas. Central to this method is the gradual release of responsibility approach characterised by three steps: I Do, We Do, You Do. This model also includes a variety of other researched-based high yield strategies such as: stating the learning intentions, activating prior knowledge and making the success criteria clear. Additionally, daily consolidation and revision activities, delivered through a practice called 'Warm-Ups' is mandated in Reading, Spelling, Writing and Mathematics.

- Assessment procedures and reporting:

The site has in place an assessment schedule which mandates frequent testing and data collection across key aspects of literacy and numeracy. These include:

- Running Records R-2
- Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System
- SPA (phonological Awareness)
- Magic Words (high frequency words) for reading and spelling Foundation to Year 7
- South Australian Spelling Test
- PAT-R
- Mental Computation

Reporting to parents

- NAPLAN (Years 3, 5 and 7)
- Acquaintance Night (Term 1)
- Parent Teacher Interviews (Term 1)
- Written reports in term 2 and term 4

5. Sporting Activities

- We have a new Gymnasium, built as part of the Building the Education Revolution in 2010
- We are affiliated with the Northern Yorke Peninsula SAPSASA which offers football, netball, softball, cricket, tennis, hockey, swimming, athletics.
- We hold an Annual tabloid Sports Day and Cross Country.
- We are involved in the Districts Cross Country and Districts Athletics Day.
- Our students participate in local clubs in the sports of football, cricket, tennis, hockey, basketball, softball and athletics.
- We hold regular coaching clinics with guest facilitators from the community.
- All classes participate in swimming lessons at our local beach.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- Special:
 - Class Awards are presented at student-run assemblies and End of Year Twilight Assembly to promote the school's values.
 - Performing Arts: junior and senior choir, annual music collaboration with Heathfield High, biannual participation in the Kernewek Festival.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile:
 - All live in the Copper Triangle.
 - Range in experience from first year "contract" to long term Wallaroo staff.
 - Several teachers are employed on a part-time basis.
- Leadership structure:
 - Principal, Student Wellbeing Coordinator & SSO 3 (Finance Officer).
- Staff support systems:
 - All staff are part of Year Level Teams that focus on areas of teaching programming and pedagogy and Annual Improvement Plan priorities

- Performance Management:

The Wallaroo Primary School Performance Development Program aims to establish and maintain a Performance and Development culture within the school. Key features of this process include:

 - Formal classroom observations
 - Regular informal classroom observations
 - Peer observations
 - Annual review/development of Performance Development Plans (PDP) for all staff
 - Student surveys (twice a year)
 - Regular formal performance conversations between staff and school leaders (at least 3 per year)
- Staff utilisation policies:

PAC meet to discuss staff utilisation prior to whole staff and Governing Council discussion.

Current deployment is Principal (1.0), Student Wellbeing Coordinator (1.0) Classroom teachers (7.8) NIT teacher (1.2)
- Access to special staff:

DECD support personnel are based at either Kadina or Pt Pirie and include Speech, Psychology, Hearing, SBM, Special Ed, Attendance Counsellors.

8. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds:

Large grounds; stone building circa 1878 has been extensively renovated due to a major fire in January 2006; several transportable buildings (SAMCON); large playground; small oval.
- Cooling:

All classrooms have r/c air conditioners.
- Specialist facilities:

Sports Hall
ICT Centre with 30 Laptops
Large Activity Room.
Proposed Multi-media centre.
- Student facilities:

Excellent playground with shade and a variety of equipment.
- Staff facilities:

Access to Admin and curriculum computers; comfortable staff room.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities:

Good ramps to all buildings, disabled toilet and shower.
- Access to bus transport:

Buses available at Wallaroo and Kadina.

- Other:
Access to preschool short walk within walking distance; dental clinic in Kadina.

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures:
: Governing Council, Year Level Teams, SRC, Staff Meetings, PAC, special sub-committees formed on an 'as required' basis.
- Regular publications:
: Fortnightly newsletter, daily internal staff bulletin, Annual Report, Staff Meeting Minutes, Parent Handbook.

11. Local Community

- General characteristics:
: The school is located in a low socio-economic community with relatively affordable housing being a particular feature. Most of the school's community are employed in the service, clerical, agriculture and fishing industries. English is the common language in virtually every home.
- Parent and community involvement:
: There is a small, yet highly dedicated and committed number of parents and community members who support the school and are involved in a range of ways such as Governing Council, helping in classrooms, working bees and supporting whole school events.
- Feeder schools:
: Wallaroo Pre-school.
- Other local care and educational facilities:
: Wallaroo Pre-school, St Mary MacKillop Catholic School (R-7).
Child care, Kadina Memorial School (combined Secondary/Primary) and TAFE in Kadina (9 km).
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities:
: Business centre for community is complemented by many regional offices and shopping centre in Kadina.
- Other local facilities:
: Numerous sporting, historical and Art clubs. Several medical clinics operate in the area.
- Availability of staff housing:
: Predominantly private/ rental; limited Government Housing is available in Kadina, Moonta and Wallaroo.
- Accessibility:
: One school bus provides access from North Beach (5km); other students travel by car, bicycle or walk.

- Local Government body:
: Copper Coast District Council is located in Kadina, with Office/ library in Wallaroo Railway Station building.

12. Further Comments

- The school is 139 years old and was established in the district's mining heyday.
- Wallaroo is now a "tourist town", with the population almost doubling during summer months. A large marina has been developed and has provided optimism for the community's future.
- Wallaroo is seen as a desirable 'retirement location' meaning its community has an aged population. As employment is often seasonal, there are limited work opportunities available to encourage an increase in young families.
- Wallaroo Primary School is a challenging and rewarding campus.
- Our vision is to be a school that lives our values of care, respect, pride and persistence.