



Website: [www.wallarooops.sa.edu.au](http://www.wallarooops.sa.edu.au)  
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## SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT updated: 25/02/2022

School number: 0459  
School name: Wallaroo Primary School

**At Wallaroo Primary School we believe all children will be accelerated in their learning through staff using evidence-based high impact strategies. This includes targeted differentiated teaching, clear learning intentions, logical and intentional sequencing of the learning, explicitly teaching, multiple approaches and ongoing feedback.**

- The core values of the school are Persistence, Respect, Pride and Care
- The school achieves its mission through a holistic, consistent approach including the voice of students, staff, families and local community members.
- Some unique features of the school include our heritage listed classroom building, filled with modern fixtures and resources.
- The school plays an important role within the community, through inclusion during events, opening up the school grounds eg. Gym, playground, street library and connecting to the local kindy and organisations.
- Wallaroo Primary School makes connections to Country through an AET (Aboriginal Education Teacher) and ACEO (Aboriginal Community Education Officer). The ACEO has extensive knowledge in Nharangga culture and language. They transfer this knowledge to all staff and students through working alongside them and contextualizing the Nharangga culture. The AET works closely with staff and indigenous students to achieve their literacy and numeracy goals.
- Specialist lessons include Music, Technology, AUSLAN and PE/Health
- WPS is a multi-award winning school, with achievements in the Governor's Civics Awards over 2020 and 2021, the recipient of a Country Arts SA Award, Schools Plus Award funding the Instrumental Music Program commencement. All students in Year 5 and 6 (optional) are able to learn a brass instrument. Other awards include sustainability grants, garden grants and more.
- In 2021, WPS initiated InitialLit, an evidence based literacy program in years R-2. The Heggerty Phological & Phonemic Awareness program has also continued in support of strong foundation to literacy within the Early Years.
- WPS is involved in KESAB community initiatives, SAPSASA sports, the Festival of Music and more.



## 1. General information

- School Principal name: Dominica Thomson
- Wellbeing Leader's name: Jen Heinrich
- Year of opening: 1878
- Postal Address: Hughes Street, Wallaroo
- Location Address: Hughes Street, Wallaroo
- DfE Region: Northern Yorke Partnership
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km):
- Telephone number: 08 88232190
- Fax Number: 08 8823 3244
- School website address: Home - wallaroops.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: [dl.0459.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0459.info@schools.sa.edu.au)
- Category of disadvantage: 2
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service:
- February FTE student enrolment: 82

February FTE Enrolment		2019	2020	2021	2022
Primary	Special NAP, upgraded etc	0	0	0	0
	Reception	14	12	12	13
	Year 1	16	12	16	13
	Year 2	8	13	9	10
	Year 3	15	6	13	10
	Year 4	17	14	10	12
	Year 5	18	16	15	9
	Year 6	6	15	14	15
	Year 7	12	6	15	
Total		106	94	104	82
School Card Percentage		74%	76%	85%	75%
NESB Enrolment		0	0	2%	2%
Aboriginal Enrolment		19%	22%	23%	23%

- Student enrolment trends: Student numbers are stable following the movement of Year 7 students from Primary to High School. Affordable and available housing is an issue faced by our families, with several families moving to Adelaide due to the housing shortage.

- Staffing numbers (as at February census):
  - Principal
  - Student Wellbeing Leader
  - 4 FTE classroom teachers
  - .8 FTE specialist teachers
  - .2 intervention teacher
  - 8 SSOs and 1 ACEO
- Public transport access: students have access to a Department for Education funded bus service, if living at North Beach and/or 5km from WPS – which is the child’s closest school.
- OSHC/Vacation Care: WPS has an OSHC facility between 6am to 8:30am and between 3:00 and 6:00pm Monday to Friday and all day during School Holidays.

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

### General characteristics

: Wallaroo Primary School is situated centrally in a beautiful coastal town on the Yorke Peninsula, rich in history, landmarks and traditions. The traditional custodians are the Nharangga people. WPS students and staff celebrate the Nharangga culture throughout the school, embedding culture and language contextually within learning. A number of students are 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> generation. At WPS there is a strong focus of literacy, numeracy and embedding lifelong skills in problem solving and connecting students to real life contexts.

### Student well-being programs

: WPS involves students and staff in a number of wellbeing initiatives including but not limited to, student voice, student leadership, social skills programs including ‘What’s the Buzz’ and ‘PaLS’ (Play and Learning Skills), a mentor based play program occurring at break times. Self-regulation is promoted through student’s designing their own ‘Ready to Learn’ plans, positive primers and the zones of regulation.

### Student support offered

: The wellbeing leader provides a half release for teachers twice a term, where students ‘connect to self’ through learning strategies to support their wellbeing. At WPS we know that students learn best, when they feel safe and in control of their emotions. Student voice meet regularly to share thoughts and opinions and plan fundraising events such as discos, play based initiatives, sports shed and more.

### Student behaviour support:

: A number of key behaviour support documents were reviewed in 2021 to include the Berry Street Education Model, restorative practice approach, based on values education, aligning WPS processes to the Department for Education Behaviour Support Toolkit. These documents include the Behaviour Policy, Behaviour Response Continuums for classrooms and the yard along with a Bullying Prevention Policy and Mobile Phone Policy.

### Student government

: The Student Representative Council (SRC) is an integral part of decision making processes at WPS, with SRC leaders attending Governing Council meetings. Other

student leadership programs include: Sports Day House captains, Road Crossing Monitors and Flag Monitors. Classes are also involved in leading sustainability initiatives, such as gardening and 10c recycling, with proceeds given to Anglicare.

Special programmes

: Swimming, Instrumental Music, Choir, Gardening, Technology (including food processing)

### 3. Key School Policies

Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:

: The most recent Annual Reports and Site Improvement Plan are available on the WPS school website: [Key Documents - Wallaroo Primary School \(wallaroops.sa.edu.au\)](http://www.wallaroops.sa.edu.au)

Recent key outcomes:

At Wallaroo Primary School our motto is 'Every Child Matters, Every Day'. Our driving force that underpins all we do is a sense of equity for all, connection to community and a contextualised curriculum that is challenging and stretching of all students. Evidenced based teaching approaches including Explicit Teaching and Instructional Routines are evident across the school with the Site Improvement Plan targeting improvement in Literacy and Numeracy outcomes, specifically in problem solving, reading comprehension and student voice. A small school of 108 students over 5 classes this year, located within a picturesque coastal town, we have been able to provide our community with small classes and four specialist lessons in Nharangga, Technology, The Arts (Music focus in 2021) and PE & Health. The whole school focus on a contextualised curriculum has led to cross curriculum links between HaSS (History and Social Sciences: Geography, History, Economics and Business and Civics and Citizenship), Technology, Science and Literacy and Numeracy, with a particular emphasis of reciprocal teaching within Guided Reading rotations. We have had many highlights this year including:

- Student leaders: led many events including Sports Day, PaLs program (Play and Learning) lunchtime games, Halloween themed disco and fundraising.
- Students were involved in the Kernewek Lowender festival: Maypole and the Dressing of the Graves
- Dragon Boat program: students in year 6/7 took part in a 6 week training program, learning about team work, persistence and resilience.
- Year 3/4 Students were successful in winning a video competition with clips played at the Kadina cinema. The same cohort were also successful in a writing competition with many poems being chosen for online accessibility
- A Nharangga mural created by Linda Turner encompassing Nharangga totems was launched in our school gym
- Students in year 1/2 illustrated a book in recognition of the RAAF centenary and launch of the Moonta Sir Richard Williams statue
- The site collected bread bags and tags as part of a 'WonderWhite' recycling challenge • The site won a Landmark Woolworths garden grant
- Book Week Parade, Science Day, Sports Day, Football and SAPSASA

- Music: the introduction of Instrumental Music into Wallaroo Primary providing the opportunity for all year 5 students to learn the trumpet or trombone
- Festival of Music

#### 4. Curriculum

Subject offerings: Australian Curriculum (including the implementation of the Department for Education Curriculum Units creating state wide consistency) is covered by classroom teachers, with Specialist subjects in AUSLAN, Technology, PE & Health and Music.

Special needs:

: An intervention educator supports the differentiation of the curriculum to individual student needs by working closely with students and staff. WPS employs a number of SSOs (student support officers) who have a wide range of skills, including three SSOs at level 2, supporting the QuickSmart program, speech intervention and the library. SSOs support targeted small group intervention, working with teachers to ensure student learning goals are met.

Teaching methodology:

: At WPS the Principal is an Instructional Leader, working regularly with teachers to analyse classroom data and to support the directions of planning and learning focus and staff training and development. Teachers work as a collaborative team, meeting regularly to set their own individual classroom goals, share tracking and monitoring and networking to ensure consistency of application.

Student assessment procedures and reporting

: Teachers report formative assessments regularly to families via phone calls, face-to-face meetings and share work samples via the Class DoJo app. Written reports are sent home each semester, with interviews occurring in term 1 and a learning journey/optional interview held in term 3. NAPLAN results are shared with families annually.

Joint programmes:

: Wallaroo Primary School students join with Wallaroo Mines (WMPS) and Kadina Memorial School (KMS) students in a shared Choir. Instrumental music students join the KMS band regularly. WPS joins with WMPS students to enter SAPSASA sporting events.

#### 7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile

: All staff reside locally, with several having moved from Adelaide, to call the Copper Coast their home. WPS teachers and SSOs have a minimum of 3 years' experience in education, with many being 7 years+, holding a wide range of further education, skills and areas of passion.

Leadership structure

: Principal, Student Wellbeing Leader, Learning Intervention/Learning Extension Leader and Business Manager

### Staff support systems

: A staff 'Wellness Group' was formed in 2022, to support staff wellbeing, with initiatives including strategies to support self-regulation, mindfulness, self-care and the facilitation of the development of a WPS Staff Charter. The charter contains agreed expectations of how all staff will communicate, including a department aligned grievance process and commitment to work.

### Staff professional development profile

: All staff meet with the Principal for a professional development plan conversation 3 x a year, tracking and monitoring individual goals. Teachers meet as a Professional Learning Team 3 x a term to support the sharing of staff/student learning goals. The Principal meets with each teacher 2 x a term to support the analysis of classroom and departmental data to support the differentiation of learning to each student. A Literacy Coach supports the Early Years in developing a consistent and evidence based literacy program aimed at improving literacy outcomes. All staff work together to review the Site Improvement Plan targets 1 x a term, with student free days assigned to focus areas of learning and pedagogy. The regular staff meeting structure includes 2 x literacy focus, 2 x maths focus and 3 x professional learning team focus per term.

### Staff utilisation

: The Personnel Advisory Committee consisting of the Principal, Union, SSO and Teacher representatives meet 2 x a term to support the management of the staff profile. All staff are involved in consultation, with the Governing Council supporting the Principal with the overall direction of the Site Improvement Plan.

### Access to special staff

: All staff work closely with partnership student services to support WPS students eg Behaviour Coach, Special Educator, Student Wellbeing Practitioners, Occupational Therapists, Speech Pathologists, Psychologists.

## 9. School Facilities

### Buildings and grounds

Large grounds, with a well-established Nature Play area, football/soccer goals, swings including a nest swing, beautiful murals including historical, Nharangga, community/street library, boat with pier and more. The main stone classroom building is historical, established in 1878. Large shade covered outside eating areas and playground.

### Heating and cooling

:All classrooms are air-conditioned including air purifiers where required and natural window ventilation.

### Specialist facilities and equipment

:Music room includes \$30,000+ musical instruments including class sets of Ukulele's, Djembes, recorders, enough trumpets and trombones to service year 5 students with Instrumental Music and continuing year 6 students and 5 keyboards. Computer lab with class set of desk laptops, 25 laptops, class sets of iPads (utilised across the school to support group rotations and research/21<sup>st</sup> century learning). Specialist classroom resourced to support AUSLAN and technology. Large gym with full sized basketball court and kitchen. A number of table tennis tables are stored at Wallaroo and utilised by the local table tennis association.

#### Staff facilities

:All staff are provided with laptops, interactive whiteboards, planning areas including two breakout offices to support meetings, planning, services to attend including speech and occupational therapy.

#### Access for students and staff with disabilities

:Ramp access and large and/or double doors to allow wheelchair access to all learning areas.

#### Access to bus transport

:Students are able to access a department bus service from local areas further than 5km eg North Beach.

### 10. School Operations

#### Decision making structures

:Student Representative Council, Governing Council, Staff Meetings including Staff Charter, Personnel Advisory Committee, Professional Learning Teams

#### Regular publications

:Regular school newsletter, Departmental 'Teams' including OneNote (an online daybook including all meeting minutes), Annual Report, FaceBook page and Class DoJos.

### 11. Local Community

#### Parent and community involvement

:Parents are encouraged to be involved through volunteering at working bees, onsite during school hours, and on Governing Council. All Governing Council members are required to be double vaccinated.

#### Feeder or destination schools

:Wallaroo Preschool, Kadina Memorial School

#### Other local facilities

:Numerous sporting, historical and Arts clubs. Several shopping centres and medical clinics.

#### Local Government body

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