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SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT updated: 25/01/2023

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, responsive 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 and ensure the RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan) is enacted.
- Specialist lessons include Music, Technology, AUSLAN/Oz Harvest 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 and a 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, garden, Makers Empire grants and more.
- In 2021, WPS initiated InitialLit, an evidence based literacy program in years R-2. The Heggerty Phological & Phonemic Awareness program has continued to support a strong foundation in literacy within the Early Years.
- WPS is involved in KESAB community initiatives, SAPSASA sports, the Festival of Music, Yorke Peninsula community events including the Kadina Show, Kernewek Lowender Festival, Light Festival and more. From 2023 an experienced teacher has been allocated 4 lessons a week to support Early Career teacher through mentoring along with supporting whole school events to ensure contextualization of curriculum to the real world.
- Commencing in 2023, an Extension Educator position has been created. The teacher is allocated one day a week to support the extension of identified students, gifted in one or more areas of their learning through 1:1 support and small group projects.



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
- Category of disadvantage: 2
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service:
- February FTE student enrolment: 82

February FTE Enrolment		2020	2021	2022	2023
Primary	Special NAP, upgraded etc	0	0	0	0
	Reception	12	12	13	10
	Year 1	12	16	13	10
	Year 2	13	9	10	13
	Year 3	6	13	10	10
	Year 4	14	10	12	12
	Year 5	16	15	9	10
	Year 6	15	14	15	11
	Year 7	6	15		
Total		94	104	82	76
School Card Percentage		76%	85%	75%	75-80%
NESB Enrolment		0	2%	2%	2.6%
Aboriginal Enrolment		22%	23%	23%	17%

- 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. Families that have needed to move to Kadina due to the housing shortage will be supported from 2023, with two bus pick-ups thanks to a collaboration between OSHC and WPS Governing Council.

- Staffing numbers (as at February census):
 - Principal
 - Student Wellbeing Leader (.6 inclusion, .2 Aboriginal Education Teacher, .2 Autism Inclusion Teacher)
 - 4 FTE classroom teachers
 - .8 FTE specialist teachers
 - .2 Extension Educator
 - .2 Community Enrichment Coordinator - organising involvement in community events, excursions and making any extra community connections to enhance curriculum connections.
 - 8 SSOs and 2 ACEOs (1 ACEO @ 4 hours, funded from site budget)
- 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. As stated above, families will be supported from 2023, with two bus pickups due to a collaboration between OSHC and WPS Governing Council.
- 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 2nd, 3rd, 4th 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 several wellbeing initiatives including but not limited to, student voice, student leadership, social skills programs including ‘What’s the Buzz’ and ‘PaLS’ (Playing at Lunchtime), 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. From 2022 a staff ‘Wellness Group’ has been formed to develop and regularly review a staff charter, contextualised grievance procedure and support overall staff wellbeing.

Student support offered

: The wellbeing leader teaches all classes on one day a week, 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. All teachers facilitate brain breaks, positive primers and morning circles to ensure students have multiple opportunities to let an adult know how they are feeling emotionally and about their learning throughout the day. All students create a ‘Learning to Learn Plan’ to support their social and emotional wellbeing.

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, School Dog and Therapy Dog visits, Children's University, ICAS testing opportunities provided, 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 \(wallaroops.sa.edu.au\)](https://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 programs including InitialLit, QuickSmart and Department for Education units of work are evident across the school. The Site Improvement Plan targets improvement in Literacy and Numeracy outcomes, with the challenge of practice prioritising the consistent pedagogical practice of reciprocal teaching with a focus on task design that enables responsive teaching, aiming to increase the number of students achieving a B or better in Year 1 to Year 6 in their end of year report.

A small school of 76 students over 4 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 Auslan/OzHarvest, Technology, Music and PE & Health. An extra lesson of release each Monday provided by the Wellbeing Leader to support Berry Street Education, positive behaviour model allows for classroom teachers to meet 1:1 with students over a rotational basis, to co-construct literacy and numeracy goals and discuss learning.

We have had many highlights throughout 2022 and look forward to a jampacked 2023 including:

- Student leaders: lead many events including Sports Day, PaLs program (Play at Lunchtime) lunchtime games, Farm themed disco and fundraising for Variety, Anglicare and SIDS & KidsSA.

- During 2022 students were involved in the Copper Coast Council Lantern Festival, with the Kernewek Lowender high on the community/historical list for 2023 including but not limited to Maypole and the Dressing of the Graves.
- During 2022, as the world 'opened up' post Covid WPS students and staff went on two whole school excursions to Adelaide, visiting a number of destinations including the Adelaide Museum and Art Gallery, Popeye, Parliament House and Migration Museum. Students also celebrated achieving a 'filled Values Jar' three times, leading to three free organised incursions linked to curriculum areas including science and music.
- Yearly: Book Week Parade, Science Day/Week, Sports Day, Football and SAPSASA
- Music: 2023 brings the third year of Instrumental Music at Wallaroo Primary providing the opportunity for all year 5 students to learn the trumpet or trombone for free.
- Students have been able to access the Festival of Music choir opportunities over time, however during 2023, students will be accessing an onsite choir where they will have choice in their songs, with the aim to increase the number of local performances. A school-based choir was trialled in term 4 of 2022, with the success leading to the allocation of 2 hours to choir across the school in 2023.

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:

: The wellbeing and inclusion leader along with extension educator and instructional leader support the differentiation of curriculum to individual student needs by working closely with students and staff. WPS employs several SSOs (student support officers) who have a wide range of skills, including three SSOs at level 2, supporting the QuickSmart maths intervention program, speech and InitialLit intervention and the library/playgroup (playgroup to be launched in 2023). 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. Teachers access the partnership curriculum lead along with Department for Education Literacy Guarantee Literacy Coach to support their training needs.

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/Inclusion Leader, Business Manager

Staff leading learning through extra release time: Extension Educator, Community Enrichment Coordinator, SSO2 Coordinating QuickSmart, Speech/InitialLit resourcing/organisation & Library management/Playgroup.

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 1 x a term officially to support the analysis of classroom and departmental data to support the differentiation of learning for 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 mid term, with an overall review on the completion of each term. Student free days are 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 who 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/21st 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.