

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: February 2019

School number: 0456

School name: Waikerie Primary School



Contextual Statement:

Waikerie Primary School is located 180 kilometres from the Adelaide General Post Office and has a February 2018 census enrolment of 261 students. The school card population is approximately 38% (2017 figure) with a small percentage of Aboriginal and non English speaking background students.

1. General information

- School Principal Belinda Krollig
- Deputy Principal Megan Higgins
- Year of Opening 1894 - on present site 1913
- Postal Address 23 Coombe Terrace, Waikerie 5330
- Location Address 23 Coombe Terrace, Waikerie 5330
- DECD Region Murray Bridge 2
- Waikerie Partnership
Waikerie Primary School is a part of this partnership along with Swan Reach, Waikerie High, Ramco, Cadell, Morgan and Blanchetown schools and preschools. The site leaders meet regularly to discuss topics relevant to student learning and welfare (eg. transition to school and high school). From time to time students from the partnership join with Waikerie Primary School to take part in programs or activities offered at Waikerie Primary School or at Waikerie High School.
- Geographical location Road distance from Adelaide GPO 176 kms
- Telephone number 08 85412733
- Fax Number 08 85413410
- School website address www.waikerieps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address dl.0456.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached No
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) Service
Known locally as WOOSHC, it is a 5 days per week after school and vacation care service. It is located on site in the old Principal's Residence.
- Play Group
Playgroup is held every Friday morning, 8:45 – 10:30am.

February FTE student enrolment

YEAR LEVEL	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
RE	26	23	22	22	31	37
01	26	38	25	25	21	37
02	34	28	27	27	26	34
03	27	39	35	35	28	19
04	28	27	30	30	37	22
05	34	29	39	39	29	22
06	25	36	29	29	38	37
07	44	25	32	32	29	30
TOTAL	244	245	239	239	239	238

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
School Card Approvals	74	59	67	91	90
EALD	16	11	20	27	21
Aboriginal Enrolment	15	14	13	17	14

Staffing numbers (as at February 2019 census)

Classroom teachers				Female 7 - 1.0	2 - 0.8	1 - 0.6
					1 - 0.4	1 - 0.2
Student Wellbeing Leader				Female 0.7		
Science - NIT				Female 1.0		
The Arts - NIT			Male 0.5			
Spanish - NIT				Female 0.4		
ACEO				Female (9 hours)		
Aboriginal Education Teacher				Female 0.2		
Ancillary Staff	(Permanent Part Time)			Female 6.0		
	(Casual/Part Time)		Male 1	Female 5.0		
Groundsperson	(Part Time)		Male 1 (20 hours)			
Pastoral Care Worker				vacant (10 hours)		

2. **Students**

General characteristics

Approximately 20% of students travel on school buses. The majority of these students reside on agricultural and horticultural properties. A significant proportion of families rely on various aspects of fruit growing for their income. ESL new arrival students and Aboriginal students attract additional funding.

Student Wellbeing Programs

Breakfast program – Our Pastoral Support Worker oversees a breakfast program three mornings a week with volunteer support.

The school has a Student Engagement and Wellbeing Plan attached to the Site Improvement Plan as an ongoing priority.

Social and emotional learning programs that may be utilised in the school include:

‘Value It’

Child Protection Curriculum

Peer Support/Buddy classes

Seasons for Growth

Berry Street

Student Support

The school has a Student Wellbeing Leader who is a registered teacher. They provide leadership within a preventative and developmental model of primary school counselling. The Wellbeing Leader works with class teachers to implement a range of social and emotional initiatives.

The school has a newly appointed Pastoral Support Worker who supports the school community and School Ministry Group.

Waikerie Primary School supports KidsMatter. The Wellbeing Leader has attended component training and leads the school Action Team.

The school provides additional SSO support to meet student learning needs particularly in Speech and Language, Literacy and Numeracy. This support varies from in class, to small group and 1:1 dependent on need. There are a number of student plans in place to document support.

Students with Disabilities are supported with additional SSO time and or special programs and where necessary a differentiated curriculum. One plans are developed and monitored.

Funding through the Aboriginal Programs Assistance Scheme enables our eligible Aboriginal students to have extra assistance in Literacy through targeted support.

Student Management

The school has a positive support approach and reinforces agreed appropriate behaviours through logical consequences and behaviour education. Clear behaviour guidelines have been established and documented in our Behaviour Support Process.

The 5 school expectations and values are displayed throughout the school. We focus at the beginning of each year on our values. Value work continues throughout the year and certificates are awarded at fortnightly student led assemblies. The Restorative Justice is enacted.

House Teams / Cup

Waikerie Primary School has 4 House Teams – Barker (green), Eyre (yellow), Flinders (red) and Sturt (blue). When students enrol at the school they are placed in a team. House Captains are the Year 7 students. At the beginning of the school year female and male students nominate for the positions and are voted in by team members. These leaders assist with school sporting events, organise their teams and activities. House leaders build positive team spirit, attitudes and promote participation.

The school also runs a House Cup competition. Students have the opportunity to receive *house tokens* in learning or break time as a reward for positive behaviour and actions. Tokens are collected, tallied and totals are announced at assembly and published in the newsletter.

Student Leadership

At Waikerie Primary School we aim to promote and develop leadership skills in all students. These opportunities range from classroom responsibilities to more formal leadership roles. Leadership roles include School Leaders, House Captains, Student Voice representatives and Youth Environment Team (YET) members.

Student Leadership positions are held in high regard by the principal, staff and school community. Student Leaders are representative of the Waikerie Primary School values. They are key participants in both the modelling of standards for their peers and younger students as well as proactively representing the school community.

Special Programmes

Our choir participates in the Riverland Music Festival each year

Year 7 Leadership Day

'Chics & Blokes' Year 7 Program

Seasons for Growth

3. School Improvement Plan priority areas

- Reading, Writing and Numeracy
- Student Wellbeing and Environmental Education are ongoing

4. Curriculum

- The Australian Curriculum is implemented and reported on in English, Mathematics, Science, The Arts, Health and PE, Digital Technologies and Design, Humanities and Social Science (HASS) and languages (Spanish).
- Science, Spanish and the Arts are R-7 Specialist subjects.
- Reporting procedures include parent/teacher/student discussions at the beginning of Term 2 and during Term 3 (optional) and written reports twice a year.
- ICT is integrated across the curriculum at all year levels with Interactive White Boards (Smartboards) and TVs installed in all classrooms. Students have access to classroom computers and ipads as well as a computer suite. Tablets are utilised by our Year 6 and 7 students.
- A Playroom for the Junior Primary students is available.

5. Sporting Activities

- Year 5/6/7 students have the opportunity to be involved in a range of SAPSASA sports including swimming, hockey, athletics, basketball, netball and football. Parent support and involvement is high.
- Swimming lessons are conducted in the school's pool for the Junior Primary students and the town pool for Primary years. Year 7s participate in an Aquatics program each year.

6. Co-Curricular Activities

General

Students have the opportunity to learn various musical instruments through DECD teachers or private instructors. DECD instrumental music teaching is available in brass, guitar and woodwind. Private teaching is available in drums and piano.

Some classes perform concerts or conduct class presentations each year. These are well supported and attended by the community.

YET (Youth Environment Team) is an initiative within the school which has made an impact on environmental awareness and has been active in participating in environmental projects both within the school and the Waikerie District. The Team has presented at the Youth Environment Conference in Adelaide and now the Barmera Environmental Expo. There is a strong ongoing partnership between YET and the Riverland West Local Action planning group.

7. Staff

Staff profile

2019 has seen 2 new teaching staff commencing.

Leadership structure

Currently Principal, Deputy Principal, Student Wellbeing Leader and Senior Leader: Learning Improvement.

Decisions

Staff meetings are held each Thursday and comprise of professional learning, self review and management, and school administration. Other decisions are also made through consultation PAC, WHS, Curriculum, Finance, and ICT operating committees. The school has a documented *Decision Making* process.

Staff communication

Staff communicate via email, daily communication book, weekly bulletin and whiteboard. Other communication via pigeon holes.

Performance Performance and Development

The school has a documented Performance and Development process that is aligned to the Department for Education 2019 Performance development Policy and Guidelines.

Access to Specialist Staff

Support Services including Social Worker, Behaviour Support Coach, Special Education, Speech Pathologist, Behaviour Management and Hearing Educator are available through the Berri Education Office. A Wellbeing Practitioner was assigned for 2017 but the position is currently unfilled.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Government housing available
- Access to the Country Incentive Allowance for new staff

9. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds

There are three stone buildings, a solid brick class block and 3 timber framed classrooms.

The school grounds have been well developed and maintained to provide grassed, paved and shade areas with 2 turf court areas.

Specialist facilities

The school also has a school pool, hall, gym, computing suite, Science room, and a Play room which hosts the community playgroup.

Heating and cooling

All school buildings are air conditioned (Reverse Cycle).

Access for students and staff with disabilities

The main classroom blocks, school hall, gym and administration building have ramps for wheelchair access.

Bus Transport

Buses are used for school excursions. The school 11 seater bus is used for YET, SAPSASA and other events.

10. School Operations

Decision making structures

The school has a Governing Council with representatives on the WOOSHC, Finance, Grounds and ICT Committees. Parents and staff have input into these committees.

Code of Conduct & Behaviour Code Brochures

A "Code of Conduct" document for students, staff and parents was developed, in 2015, by a staff group and School Counsellor in consultation with staff and the Governing Council. It was then ratified by the Governing Council and disseminated to families. It was reviewed in 2016 and updated to "Community Code of Conduct".

The student Behaviour Education and Self-Management (BESM) Agreement was updated in 2018 and is now the Behaviour Support Process.

Parent Complaint Management

The school follows the Department for Education documents 'Managing complaints at a site level' and 'Raising a complaint with DECD' brochure.

Policies and Procedures

The following Policies have been ratified by Governing Council and apply to the whole school community – Sun Smart, Phone and No Bullying.

Regular publications

Newsletter published fortnightly and also available on the school's website.

School financial position

The school is in a sound financial position.

Special funding

Country Areas Program

11. Local Community

General characteristics

Most employment opportunities are linked to the fruit and grape growing industry (block hands, picking, packing, transport).

The majority of the students come from an English speaking background but there are a number of Indian students attending the school. A few students are from other non English speaking backgrounds.

Parent and community involvement

Although work commitments have made it more difficult to find volunteers who are able to make time regularly available to the school, parents serve on committees, assist teachers in the classroom, on excursions and camps.

Events such as Acquaintance Event, Splash Carnivals, Sports Day and assemblies are very well supported.

Feeder or destination schools

Students mainly transition from the Waikerie Children's Centre and to Waikerie High School.

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

Good local shopping facilities for most purposes (two supermarkets, butcher, two bakeries, hairdressers). Residents need to shop out of town for some speciality items. Eating establishments include the Hotel, Community Club, cafes and take-away shops.

Other local facilities

A hospital and medical centre with several doctors. Physiotherapy, chiropractic and dentistry services available.

Football, netball, basketball, cricket, tennis and hockey clubs all have senior and junior competitions. Waikerie also has active bowling and Little Athletics clubs. The Recreation Centre caters for a variety of activities including a 24 hour gym facility and fitness classes.

Several churches are located within the region.

Many other recreational activities are based around the River Murray, eg. water skiing.

Waikerie has a community library attached to the Civic Centre.

Service clubs such as Lions and Rotary operate.

Availability of staff housing

There are Government Real Estate Management houses available for eligible government employees. Three local land agents are in the town.

Public transport access

Stateliner service to Adelaide twice daily

Taxi service available.

Local Government body

Loxton and Waikerie District Council, Strangman Road, Waikerie, telephone 8541 2077.

Publications include Waikerie and Surrounding Visitors Guide, Riverland Visitors Guide and on request at the District Council Office, information on "What Waikerie has to Offer". The Loxton Waikerie Council operates a website at www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au