



School number: 0456 School name: **Waikerie Primary School**

## School Vision

Students are supported and challenged with high learning expectations and display the characteristics of a Visible Learner.

## Contextual Statement:

Waikerie Primary School is located 180 kilometres from the Adelaide General Post Office and has a February 2023 census enrolment of 178 students. The school card population is approximately 18% with a small percentage of Aboriginal and non English speaking background students.

### 1. General information

<u>School Principal</u>	Megan Higgins
<u>Deputy Principal</u>	Leanne Jones
<u>Year of Opening</u>	1894 - on present site 1913
<u>Postal Address</u>	23 Coombe Terrace, Waikerie 5330
<u>Location Address</u>	23 Coombe Terrace, Waikerie 5330
<u>DfE Region</u>	Murray Bridge 2

### Waikerie Partnership

Waikerie Primary School is a part of Murray Bridge 2 Portfolio and the Waikerie Partnership along with Swan Reach Area School, Waikerie High School, Waikerie Preschool, Ramco Primary School, 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 Waikerie 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

<u>Telephone number</u>	08 85412733
<u>Fax Number</u>	08 85413410
<u>School website address</u>	<a href="http://www.waikerieps.sa.edu.au">www.waikerieps.sa.edu.au</a>
<u>School e-mail address</u>	dl.0456.info@schools.sa.edu.au

Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached No



### Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) Service

Known locally as WOOSHC, this service operates 5 days per week. After school and vacation care is offered, and currently a Before School Care service is being trialled. WOOSHC is located on site in the old Principal's Residence.

### Play Group

Play group is held every Friday morning, 8:45 – 10:30am based in the school's Playroom.

### February FTE student enrolment

YEAR LEVEL	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
RE	22	31	37	36	44	24	20	18
01	25	21	37	37	36	43	22	20
02	27	26	34	34	36	31	40	19
03	35	28	19	19	31	36	33	33
04	30	37	22	20	20	28	37	30
05	39	29	22	23	19	19	26	35
06	29	38	37	38	19	23	22	23
07	32	29	30	30	36	20		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>178</b>

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
School Card Approvals	67	91	90	93	95	73	62	22
EALD	20	27	21	25	19	16	14	5
Aboriginal Enrolment	13	17	14	15	11	16	11	13

### Staffing numbers (as at February 2023 census)

Classroom teachers	Female 9 - 1.0	1 - 0.6
	1 - 0.2	1 - 0.4
Student Wellbeing Leader	Female 0.8	
Coordinator	Female 0.4	
Science - NIT	Female 1.0	
The Arts - NIT	Male 0.4	
Spanish - NIT	Female 0.4	
ACEO	Not Filled	
Aboriginal Education Teacher	Female 0.2	
Autism Inclusion Teacher	Female 0.2	
Ancillary Staff (Permanent Part Time)	Female 6.0	
(Casual/Part Time)	Male 1	Female 4.0
Pastoral Care Worker	Female (12 hours)	
Groundsperson (Part Time)	Male (20 hours)	



## 2. Students

### General characteristics

Approximately 25% 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. EALD new arrival students and Aboriginal students attract additional funding.

### Student Wellbeing Programs

Breakfast program – The Student Wellbeing leader and Pastoral Care Worker oversee a breakfast program two mornings a week with volunteer support.

The school has a whole school wellbeing approach in addition to the School Improvement Plan as an ongoing priority.

Social and emotional learning programs and strategies in the school include a focus on Berry Street Education Strategies, Child Protection Curriculum, School Values and Social & Emotional learning.

### Student Support

The school has a Student Wellbeing Leader who is a registered teacher. They provide leadership in the whole school wellbeing approach. The Wellbeing Leader works with class teachers to implement a range of social and emotional initiatives.

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 needs. 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 and 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 appropriate behaviours through logical consequences and behaviour education incorporating Berry Street strategies. Behaviour guidelines, based on the Department for Education Policy have been established and documented in our Behaviour Support Process.

Our six values are displayed throughout the school: Respect, Responsibility, Persistence, Confidence, Care and Honesty. We focus at the beginning of each year on our values and continue throughout the year, acknowledging efforts through awards at student led assemblies. Restorative conversations relate to our school values.

Visible Learning provides students with the opportunity to be actively engaged and take ownership of their learning so they become life-long learners. Our Visible Learner dispositions are the traits we value in our learners and are habits of thinking that help them to respond to an experience or situation. We focus on developing our dispositions of Problem Solving, Curiosity and Resilience in all of our students and these are also recognised through awards and assembly.

### House Teams and House 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 in 2023 are Year 6 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.

### 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. House Captains and Student Voice representatives are elected by students and Year 6 Student Leaders are elected by students and staff and through an application process and student voting.

### Special Programmes

Our Choir participates in the Riverland Music Festival each year and our student leaders attend a Leadership conference each year.

### **3. School Improvement Plan priority areas**

- Increase high achievement in Maths
- Increase high achievement in Reading
- Increase phonics achievement in R-2

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-6 Specialist subjects.
- Reporting procedures include parent/teacher/student discussions in Term 2, with optional discussions in Term 3/4 and written reports are completed and provided to parents twice a year.
- ICT is integrated across the curriculum at all year levels with interactive screens and TVs installed in all classrooms. Students have access to classroom computers and ipads as well as a computer suite. 1:1 laptops are utilised by our Year 5 and 6 students.
- A Playroom for the Junior Primary students is available.

## 5. Sporting Activities

- Year 4/5/6 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 6 students participate in an Aquatics program each year.

## 6. Co-Curricular Activities

### General

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

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. There is a strong ongoing partnership between YET and Banrock Station and the team participate with other school Youth Environment leaders (YEL) in activities through Landscape SA Murray and Riverland.

Other special events and activities throughout the year include Book Week, Sports Day and Splash carnivals, Year 6 Graduation, Premier's Reading Challenge, book fairs, performances and excursions.

## 7. Staff

### Staff profile

2023 has 2 new teaching staff members and a Coordinator in Primary Reading (0.4).

### Leadership structure

Currently Principal, Deputy Principal (0.6) and Student Wellbeing Leader (0.8)

### 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 with PAC, WHS and Finance committees. The school has a documented *Decision Making* process.

### Staff communication

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

### Performance and Development

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

### Access to Specialist Staff

Support Services including Behaviour Support Coach, Special Education and Speech Pathologist, available through the Berri Education Office.

## 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, early years and primary playgrounds and nature play areas.

### Specialist facilities

The school 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, Fundraising and Grounds Committees. Parents and staff have input into these committees.

### Parent Complaint Management

The school follows the Department for Education documents 'Managing complaints at a site level'.

### Policies and Procedures

The following Policies have been ratified by Governing Council and apply to the whole school community – Sun Smart, School Mobile Phone and Personal Devices and Bullying and Harassment Policy.

### Regular publications

Newsletters are published every 3 weeks in paper copy along with being posted digitally via the SeeSaw app and 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

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 Family Night, 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, clothing, garden centre, hardware stores, variety stores, chemist). 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](http://www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au)