



# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: May 2017

**School number:** 0114

**School name:** Curramulka Primary School

## School Profile:

The school's core values are respect, responsibility and trust and these values are embedded in our everyday language and actions at the school. The school plays an important role in the community by ensuring that it is part of events in Curramulka like, memorial services, the Curry Light up Christmas event, heritage events and sporting occasions. The community in return is very supportive of the school in a range of ways.

The school maintains a high profile in the wider community with its emphasis on environmental education and sustainability. In 2015 it was rewarded with being acknowledged and selected to present at the KESAB Sustainability Community Awards. Students take an active role in managing the Curramulka Bush Parklands Project; participate in the Youth Environmental Leaders Program and the Edible Kitchen Garden Program.

The Sporting Program is strong with Sporting Schools Australia supporting the development of more non traditional sports. Students have the opportunity to participate in a range of SAPSASA and local Sporting Activities.

In 2016 a Christian Pastoral Care Support worker was appointed to the school and supports our school program one day per week.

## 1. General information

- School Principal name: Ms Rosie Harden
- Year of opening: 1880
- Postal Address: P.O Box 121 Curramulka SA 5580
- Location Address: Sixth Street Curramulka SA 5580
- DECD Region: Southern Yorke Peninsula Partnership
- Geographical location – 186kms from GPO
- Telephone number: 88542102
- Fax Number: 88542018
- School website address: [curryps.sa.edu.au](http://curryps.sa.edu.au)
- School e-mail address: [dl.0114\\_info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0114_info@schools.sa.edu.au)

- Playgroup is in operation each Tuesday

February FTE student enrolment:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Rec	3	1	0	6	4
Year 1	3	2	1	0	6
Year 2	6	2	2	1	0
Year 3	6	4	2	2	1
Year 4	2	6	4	2	2
Year 5	6	2	6	4	2
Year 6	7	1	2	6	4
Year 7	4	4	1	2	5
• TOTALS	37	23	18	23	24

There are no students from non English speaking backgrounds and no ATSI students. School card recipients are approximately 20% of the school population.

- Student enrolments have shown a steady increase in the lower grades. The projected enrolment for 2018 is 22 students.
- Staffing numbers (as at February census).

The total teaching staff in 2017 is 2.6 with an extra 0.2 salary converted to SSO hours.

- In total 58.5 SSO hours are deployed and 6 hours for groundsperson.
- The school has a National Schools Chaplaincy program.
- There is no public transport access to or from Curramulka.
- Special site arrangements

Curramulka Primary School is an active member of the Southern Yorke Peninsula Partnership and as such shares a number of activities with neighbouring schools.

## Students (and their welfare)

### General characteristics

The school serves 15 families, some of which live in or close to the town. Other families travel to school on buses. There is a low level of transience in the present school population.

## Student management

In our school we aim to:

Provide a safe, caring, and productive environment free of bullying and harassment.

Provide all students with significant learning opportunities and the support for all students to experience success.

Promote positive and responsible behaviour.

Student leadership through SRC is a significant aspect of the school culture.

## 3. Key School Policies

Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:

The Site Improvement Plan for 2017 can be accessed from the school web site

- Recent key outcomes: In 2015 the site data and programs were reviewed which determined the need for a continued focus on Literacy and Numeracy along with Building Resilience.
- Staff analysed all PAT data. Results discussed with students. Results were used to target specific teaching areas and to focus on work not mastered. Results correlated well with NAPLAN. Students results overall showed very good growth from previous testing.
- There was only a very small sample of students sitting NAPLAN at each year level.
- With a strong focus on explicit teaching utilizing Jolly Phonics, a range of Maths strategies and the use of Numicon, students in the early years have had a great start to the learning at school. Running records have shown growth for individual students over the year, with 100% meeting the DECD SEA standards.
- To support engagement and enjoyment of reading most students participated in the Premier's Reading Challenge, with 100% success. Parents have also shown their support by listening to their children read aloud daily to promote the skill. Local volunteers have provided additional opportunities for children to read under the supervision of an adult and the value of reading was promoted through the newsletter. A school visit to the Minlaton Library resulted in all students having a reading card for borrowing and we negotiated with the library to change the local library depot hours at Curramulka so that our children had the opportunity to borrow weekly.
- To support learning improvement staff attended a range of professional learning sessions both cluster determined, and as identified by individuals, to build their knowledge and understanding of all areas of learning. Their learning has been implemented in the class with a strong focus on explicit teaching, learning intention and problem solving supported by a Growth Mindset.

- Rigorous student assessments have provided the opportunity for them to demonstrate their deep meaning and understanding in all areas of learning. Regular student sharing has encouraged them to become articulate in describing the learning goals and outcome of their learning. Parent, student, teacher interviews were again valuable in terms of students being able to articulate their thoughts about their learning.
- To support the students' well being we focused in 2016 on Building Resilience. This area was identified as a result of a student survey undertaken in 2015 through the DECD Resilience program.
- The students and staff engaged with neighbouring sites for a range of learning opportunities. Our Small Schools staff meetings continued twice a term with a focus on collaborative moderation.

## 4. Curriculum

### Subject offerings

All prescribed areas of the curriculum are offered. The Language taught is Indonesian.

Literacy, Student Well-being and Numeracy remain strong foci.

The school is divided into two classes – Lower Primary (R-2) and Upper Primary (3-7) with programs developed to meet individual student learning needs.

Class sizes are small, enabling favourable teacher/student ratios.

Both classes have additional SSO support – An extensive Literacy intervention programme has been established and continues to operate supporting classroom teaching programmes.

The school is well equipped with lap tops, and Ipads with students at various stages of skill acquisition.

### Assessment procedures and reporting

Parent teacher interviews are held early in the year. A detailed report is sent home at the end of Term 2. Parents can request an interview at any time of the year. A summary Summative Report is sent home in Term 4.

## 5. Sporting Activities

The local community is strongly committed to sport and student representation in SAPSASA teams is high. The school competes very strongly and successfully, despite small numbers, in the Southern Yorke Peninsula Interschool sports, occasionally combining with other small schools to enable a team.

There is a joint sports day combined with Stansbury Primary School in Term 1. This is following by an Interschool Sports Day with combined primary enrolments from all SYP schools.

## 6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

Students participate in a wide range of Environmental Education programs with an ongoing “Curramulka Parklands” project the focus of this program. Students in the upper primary grades have a number of leadership opportunities including being part of the SYP Young Environment Leaders program.

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

### Staff profile

There exists a very strong commitment to teamwork, mutual help and support is a feature of staff operation. Tier 2 salary is deployed by conversion to SSO hours. Ancillary staff provides direct and valuable assistance in student learning via class support and intervention programmes.

### Leadership structure

The Principal is responsible for the day to day running of the school and all staff members are on the PAC

### Staff support systems

All teachers plan closely together to ensure continuity in programming, specifically in numeracy and literacy.  
Staff have access to appropriate training and professional development.

### Performance Development

Curramulka Primary School has a Performance Development system in place, which supports all staff members to identify learning needs and receive feedback on their performance.

Staff receive recognition of achievements through staff meetings, the school newsletter, the local press and at Governing Council.

### Staff Utilisation

SSO support staff is used to support teachers in their curriculum delivery. SSO staff support the Intervention programme and work with individual students.

Access to special staff is via the Support Services Channel.

## 8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

### Housing assistance

There are no government houses in Curramulka (private rental is very occasionally available in Curramulka and in neighbouring Minlaton). Govt. employee housing is very limited.

### Relocation assistance

Some form of relocation assistance may be provided

## 9. School Facilities

### Buildings and grounds

An old stone building with additions accommodates the Upper Primary classroom, Principal's Office, Front Office, staff room and art/craft teaching spaces. A new Activity Hall was built on the school oval in 2011 and is used for a variety of purposes.

There are two transportable classrooms, a resource centre and a colorbond shed, which is used as a "hands on / making" technology space.

There is a grassed oval across the road from the main block.

The toilet block has ramp access and is fitted with hand driers and a shower.

### Specialist Facilities

There are excellent resources at Curramulka PS. A well stocked library with a good range of fiction/non fiction reading material. There are 20 curriculum computers and 3 administration machines. Two classrooms are fitted with interactive televisions. iPads are shared between the classes.

### Student Facilities

Students can order lunches through the local shop.

### Staff facilities

All staff have a DECD email address and access to the Internet via the use of 3 administration machines as well as class computers.

### Access for students and staff with disabilities

There is disabled access to toilets.

Disabled access is available to one of the transportable classrooms.

### Heating and cooling

The school has reverse cycle air conditioning through the school.

## 10. School Operations

### Decision making structures

All staff are involved in decision making which is by consensus. Being a small school, there are ample opportunities for staff interaction so decision-making is not confined to weekly staff meetings.

### Regular publications

A parent handbook is kept up to date and made available to all parents. A School Newsletter is produced fortnightly.

The Emergency Management Plan, Student Behaviour Policy, Anti-Bullying policy and Grievance Procedures are reviewed annually.

### Other Communication

The school has a closed Face Book page which is accessed regularly by parents. School news items are placed on public display at the local shop and contain community notices as well as school news. Items of interest are sent to the local paper, "The Country Times" and School Scoops are included in the local Curramulka Newspaper – The Warbler.

### School financial position

The school is in a sound financial position with no major commitments.

## **11. Local Community**

### General characteristics

Within the town there is a hotel, general store and a rural supplies store. There is a blue stone quarry near the township. The town has a small population but is supported by the surrounding farming community. The town has a proud history with many heritage buildings.

### Parent and community involvement

We currently have 7 Governing Council members with voting rights. Some parents are involved through working bees, tree planting days, etc. Community support for the school remains strong and the school is visited by a wide cross section of the community. Local residents are happy to be involved in special activities. Local people have access to a wide range of sporting activities but all require participants to travel for some fixtures.

### Feeder schools

Curramulka is a feeder school for Minlaton District School. Transition activities occur with students from Minlaton and Stansbury schools.

### Other local care and educational facilities

Playgroup occurs weekly on the school site. Early Learning facilities are available at Minlaton 14 km away and there is a strong transition to school program.

### Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

Minlaton has a wide range of stores and businesses to satisfy most needs.

### Other local facilities

Medical facilities are available in Minlaton but the nearest hospitals are at Yorketown, Ardrossan or Maitland.

Curramulka lies central to Spencer Gulf and St Vincent's Gulf. Beautiful beaches are only a 15-minute drive away on sealed roads in either direction.

Also only a 50-minute drive to the magnificent Innes National Park.

Local Government body

The Yorke Peninsula Council has an office in Minlaton.

## **12. Further Comments**

The school has a caring family atmosphere and is strongly supported by parents and community.