

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 11/16

School number: 0205

School name: Keyneton Primary School

1. General information

Part A

School name : KEYNETON PRIMARY SCHOOL
School No. : 0205
Courier : Angaston Postal Region
Principal : Mrs Catherine Hull
Postal Address : PO Box 90, Keyneton 5353
Location Address : Henschke Road, Keyneton 5353
Portfolio : Gawler, Barossa Valley Partnership
Road distance from GPO : 85 kms
Phone No : 08 8564 8258
Fax No : 08 8564 8332
Email address : dl.0205_info@schools.sa.edu.au
CPC attached : NO

		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
February FTE Enrolment - Primary	Reception	6	4	4	3	7
	Year 1	3	4	6	2	3
	Year 2	6	4	5	4	2
	Year 3	7	6	4	4	5
	Year 4	2	7	6	5	4
	Year 5	6	1	7	6	4
	Year 6	1	6	1	7	6
	Year 7	2	1	6	1	7
	TOTAL	33	33	39	32	38
July FTE Enrolment					32	38
Male FTE					11	10
Female FTE					21	28
February School Card (Persons)					6	2
NESB Total						
Born O/S & in Aust less than 1 year						
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment						

Part B

- Staffing numbers: The Principal 1.0 (teaches 0.3); a permanent teacher teaches the Year 4-7 class 0.8; a second permanent teacher teaches 0.4 in the JP class and provides NIT 0.2. A contract teacher works 0.8, teaching the Primary Class on Mondays and JP class Wednesday to Friday.
- A permanent SSO works 30 hours per week and carries out the role of the Administration/Finance Officer. We employ two additional SSOs to provide intervention and classroom support for 15 hours per week, and work in the Resource Centre for 5 hours per week. 2 other SSOs are employed 14 hours per week each to support our student with severe multiple disabilities. An SSO is employed for 2hrs/fortnight to manage WHS tasks and compliance.
- The school contracts a grounds person.
- Partnerships 21 status: The school entered Partnerships 21 in 2001. Keyneton Primary School is a locally managed school.
- Enrolment trends: Whilst student enrolments did decline to the mid-20s a number of years ago, we have been experiencing steady growth in our student numbers for the last 5 years. This looks like falling slightly with more Upper Primary students than new receptions coming in but should remain above 30 for the foreseeable future. Playgroup runs on Monday mornings with an average of 6 pre-schoolers attending each week.
- Special arrangements: The school is part of the Barossa Valley Partnership. We have combined with Truro, Greenock, Sandy Creek and Light Pass Primary schools for a small schools Year 7 transition programme. We link with local sites to enable students to access visiting performances and specialist sports activities.
- Year of opening: 1925.
- Public transport access: None. Bus service (Barossa-Adelaide) available in Angaston, 12 kilometres away.

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics:

Only 2 students were approved for school card in 2016.

Classes are organised as R-3 and Years 4-7, in 2016.

One student has severe multiple disabilities and KPS works with Novita to provide special programs with an OT, physiotherapist and speech pathologist.

Student management: Class rules and yard rules are negotiated each year in line with the school's Behaviour Management Policy and linked to our school values. Students arrive at decisions through SRC meetings – all students are involved in SRC meetings.

Student government: SRC is active in decision making and fundraising for the school. Two SRC reps report to Governing Council meetings.

Special programmes: Environmental Focus – Waterwatch, Tree Planting, Clean-up Australia Day.

2. Key School Policies

Policies can be found on our website: www.keynetonps.sa.edu.au

Contextual Influences

Keyneton Primary School consists of six main buildings (described in the Facilities section). In addition there are 2 storage sheds, a shelter shed and a tennis court. The grounds are well presented and the oval is irrigated automatically.

There is a large area for students to play. The playground has rubber soft fall and a large shade cover. A large pine tree was removed from the sandpit and a shade cover has been erected in its place.

Students play together across age groups and siblings are often in the same class.

The local rural community exhibits strong ownership of the school. Parents are actively involved in their children's learning. The Parents and Friends Committee enthusiastically participates in fund raising and strongly supports curriculum activities.

Keyneton has a tennis club that is popular with junior players. Keyneton children and young people participate in a wide range of sports and recreation activities in the nearby Barossa Valley. Families have regular access with the wider Barossa community. This develops broader social networks.

All administration and curriculum computers are connected to the *LearnLink* Internet service.

We update our technological hardware regularly to ensure that students have access to the latest equipment. In 2008 and 2010, we purchased interactive whiteboards for the classrooms; all students have access to computers in the classrooms and 10 mini iPads are shared. These can be mirrored to the whiteboards using Apple TVs.

All three classrooms were repainted inside in 2008 and new reverse cycle air-conditioners were installed in the Upper and Junior Primary classrooms. In 2013 classroom exteriors, student toilets and 'The Lodge' roof were painted using the 2013-14 Maintenance Grants.

A tree audit was conducted in 2016 and trees have been removed or trimmed to meet safety recommendations.

Values and Principles

We value: Respect, responsibility, honesty, integrity and personal excellence. And we believe that “OK isn’t excellent”.

- A main focus for Barossa Partnership Schools in 2016 is Growth Mindset and Keyneton is working on building powerful learners through individual goal-setting and specific use of growth mindset language in classrooms. A child psychologist was employed to deliver a series of lessons at appropriate age levels. Students learned how the brain works and were able to understand why being willing to try and fail, and continuing to practise things that are hard help the brain to develop.

Core Business

The vision of Keyneton Primary School is that every child will be engaged in high quality, relevant learning programmes

We achieve this by:

- Encouraging strong partnerships and positive relationships between and amongst staff, students, families and the wider community;
- In 2016 we were recognised for our environmental work in the when we won the Premier’s Schools in the Community award;
- Providing learning programmes to support the diverse range of students;
- Developing student initiated curriculum and conducting 3-way interviews where students are encouraged to play a lead role in both the planning and reporting of their learning;
- Trialling new teaching and learning methods and programmes: eg: integrated and inclusive methodology, working on a whole-school theme each term; ICT, Literacy Block; Numeracy Block, including Investigative Maths activities; Primary Connections Science lessons; Environmental Education, including Waterwatch; Quality Improvement through Self Review;
- Utilising the skills of teachers in their specialist or interest areas;
- Accessing appropriate learning opportunities eg: excursions, performances, sport, camp and, for the first time in 2016, Festival of Music choir
- Clustering with other schools;
- Accessing appropriate grants and funding;
- Supporting staff to attend professional learning linked to school priorities;
- Using responsive planning and programming and authentic assessment tools that cater for the specific learning needs and styles of all students;
- Giving students power in decision-making processes and leadership opportunities through SRC meetings, Governing Council.

Priorities for 2016 from the Site Improvement Plan

- Developing powerful learners in Literacy and Numeracy
- The full Site Improvement Plan can be found at: www.keynetonps.sa.edu.au

Information Management

Data is collected and monitored by staff through standardised tests, PAT-R and –M tests, teacher observation, work samples, Reading Recovery levels, NAPLAN Test results, opinion surveys and, where appropriate, testing by Guidance Officers and Speech Pathologists.

- Feedback is gathered from parents via Governing Council, Parents & Friends, surveys, Learning Profiles and 3-way interviews.
- Feedback is gathered from students via reflections in the Student Learning Profiles, class meetings, Student Representative Council and surveys.

4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings: Eight areas of study are covered; the Australian Curriculum is being phased in as scheduled, replacing SACSA. The LOTE is Indonesian taught by the long-term, permanent teacher on staff. The Primary Connections Science Scope and Sequence provides the focus for each term's whole school theme.
- Year 3, 4 & 5 students are grouped for English and Maths lessons 3 days per week.
- Special needs: Individual students who have been identified as having learning difficulties receive extra small group SSO assistance for English and Maths.
- Teaching methodology: Teachers make significant use of Information Communication Technologies across all areas of learning. In our planning we aim to cater for all learning styles and use a constructivist, integrated, inclusive approach. We have whole school Literacy and Numeracy Blocks that provide the required amount of learning time each week in English and Maths. JP students use the Jolly Phonics programme. Year 4-7 students use Mathletics. Generally the timetable is organised for the whole school rather than individual classes.
- Assessment and reporting procedures are congruent with DECD Assessment and Reporting Policy. Student Learning Profiles are sent home regularly providing an ongoing form of assessment and reporting. These support formal 3-way interviews in Term 1 with an optional interview in Term 3.
- Mid Year and End of Year written student reports are issued according to DECD guidelines.

5. Sporting Activities

- A combined Small Schools' Sports Day is held annually with Truro, Springton, Light Pass, Mt Pleasant and Palmer Primary Schools and Cambrai Area School.
- Students participate in SAPSASA Cross Country, District Athletics Days and team events, and combine with Light Pass and Good Shepherd Lutheran School for Knockout Cricket, Football and Netball competitions. In 2016 Keyneton filled its own Knockout Netball team.
- We include sports coaching clinics in the curriculum, Auskick every two years, and take part in the Premier's Be Active Challenge each year.
- Daily Fitness sessions are programmed 5 days a week from 9:00 to 9:30am.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- We perform a school concert each year, for the last 5 years this has been a full musical;
- We have a whole school camp every year, travelling to Aldinga, the Murray River, Victor Harbor, Adelaide city, Monarto and the Adelaide Hills in recent years. We usually employ Active Ed to organise and run the camps;
- SRC run casual days and special days for charities and school fundraising, eg: special lunch and fun days. We won the national "Kids Helping Kids" Sustainability Award for our philanthropy in 2010;
- We participate in locally organised writing competitions;
- We join local events such as the Barossa Valley Vintage Festival;
- Year 7 students attend National Young Leaders Day and Meet the Writers Festival in Adelaide every year.
- We have a productive vegetable garden in 21 half wine barrels, 3 chickens and a worm farm.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile: Tenure for permanent teachers, excepting the principal, is unlimited.
- Leadership structure: The Principal, with all staff having numerous areas of responsibility.
- Staff support systems: All staff members work well together in a democratic, relational structure where an atmosphere of cooperation and strong support is evident.
- Professional development: Staff members participate in PD within the Barossa Valley and in Adelaide. The PD is negotiated on a needs basis and is linked to the areas for improvement under the Site Improvement Plan. We participate in a small schools PLC with Greenock and Light Pass schools. Members of staff are also encouraged to participate in other PD relating to areas of interest and need.
- Performance and Development: The DECD Performance and Development Policy is implemented with staff, and in 2016 the focus for teachers' personal improvement goals was based on building powerful learners. Goals were identified after teachers completed their own Powerful Learners survey.
- Staff utilisation policies: Access to support staff is through the Gawler office of DECD. Personnel that can be accessed are the Guidance Officer, Speech Pathologist, Behaviour Support and Social Worker. There is also access to local Barossa tutors and support workers privately.
- Incentives: Isolation points are 1.5.
- Accommodation is available in the nearby Barossa towns.

8. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds: The Resource Centre and staff room and upgraded kitchen are located in the former head teacher's house (The Lodge), a brick building. The original stone classroom houses the Years 4-7 class. A transportable wooden room accommodates the R-3 class. These 2 rooms are connected via the multi-purpose BER building which is used for small groups, whole school lessons, fitness, dance, SRC meetings and assemblies etc. The middle primary students use a metal clad transportable 3 days a week. All buildings are air-conditioned. Specialist facilities: There is a ratio of 1.5 students to each curriculum computer. All classrooms, the library and the office are cabled to access the Internet. There are wifi access points but these do not allow internet access.
- Staff facilities: All staff members have an email address. Access to EDSAS is via two Administration computers.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities: ramps to the office and new building enable wheelchair access. There are handrails to the toilets and the new room as per DECD guidelines. In 2015 the school was modified to enable the enrolment of the student with severe multiple disabilities. A disabled bathroom, and ramps to buildings and the oval were built.
- Access to bus transport: Local bus companies service the area for excursions. No school buses serve the school.

9. School Operations

- Decision making structures: Due to the small number of staff, as a general rule decisions are made by consensus. Disagreements are negotiated until a suitable compromise is reached. SRC and Governing Council work on a simple majority vote. There is a PAC, all teachers, the Principal and the Finance Officer have completed PAC training. All staff are involved in WH&S.
- Regular publications: A school newsletter is published fortnightly. The Parent Handbook is updated each year. Staff induction follows WH&S guidelines. A daily bulletin is used to communicate information amongst the staff.
- Other communication: Notices and consent forms are sent home to cover special events and other issues as they arise.
- School financial position: The school is in a sound financial position.
- Special funding: The school receives the Rural and Isolated Index funding. We apply for grants in particular curriculum areas to support an improved, diverse delivery of curriculum. Adequate funding is made available to support the school priorities.

10. Local Community

- General characteristics: Some seasonal vineyard work is available and other employment is available in the Barossa area, in wineries or industrial fields. The area is strongly Australian rural, mono-cultural with the English language predominant.
- Parent and community involvement: There is strong support for the school with the majority of parents being involved in the Parents and Friends Club, the Governing Council and/or Environmental Education Programmes.
- Other local care and educational facilities: Keyneton Playgroup runs at the school on Monday mornings. There is a kindergarten in Angaston and secondary schooling at Nuriootpa High School and Faith Lutheran Secondary School.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities: There is a postal service in Keyneton and shopping facilities exist in other Barossa towns.
- Other local facilities: The Barossa towns contain a wide range of medical, social, cultural, recreational and library facilities.
- Availability of staff housing: None in Keyneton but some Government housing at Angaston, 12 kms to the west.
- Local Government body: Mid Murray District Council at Mannum. Phone: 8569 1600. The Mid Murray Council supports our Year 7 presentations. The nearest office is at Cambrai, about 25 kilometres to the east.

11. Further Comments

The wonderful rural setting amongst tall trees and rolling hills, in a farming and vineyard area makes it a very attractive school and worksite. KPS is a family oriented small school with friendly students, caring staff and supportive parents.