



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 11/17

School number: 0483

School name: WILMINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Profile:

The core values of the school are Respect, Honesty, Care and Persistence. Wilmington is situated about three hundred kilometres north of Adelaide. Wilmington Primary School sits at the base of the southern Flinders Ranges. The closest regional centre, Port Augusta, provides employment for some of our families, whilst others work as farmers or in business within the township. A feeder school to Booleroo Centre District School, Wilmington Primary offers a tranquil environment in a regional setting, with a vision that includes trust and respect. Community partnerships are integral to the school's educational philosophy.

1. General information

- School Principal name: Cathy Bornholm

- Year of opening : The site has been open for over 100 years; however the present building was opened in 1982. An extra class space was added in 2016 so that the kindergarten could move on to the site which now operates as a site-based preschool.

- Postal Address: Box 11, Wilmington, 5485, SA

- Location Address: 12 Beauval Street, Wilmington 5485

- DECD Region: Flinders Partnership which is part of the Port Pirie Portfolio

- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 284 kms (Adelaide)

- Telephone number: 08 8667 5112

- Fax Number: 08 8667 5025

- School website address: www.wilmngtnps

- School e-mail address: dl.0483.info@schools.sa.edu.au

February FTE student enrolment:55

February FTE Enrolment

Term 1 Enrolments	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Receptions	5	5	11	1	6
Year 1	5	12	1	7	7
Year 2	13	1	8	7	11
Year 3	0	8	7	11	7
Year 4	7	7	9	8	6
Year 5	6	11	7	5	9
Year 6	11	8	4	9	5
Year 7	5	3	9	6	6
TOTAL	52	55	56	54	57

Term 1 Enrolments	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Preschool	10				

Male FTE 29 (including 4 preschool)

Female FTE 33 (including 6 preschool)

July School Card 1

NESB Total 1

Born O/S & in Aust less than 1 yr (Persons) nil

Student enrolment trends: Numbers over the past 5 years has been reasonably stable.

Staffing numbers (as at February census):

1 FTE Band A-2 Principal

3.4 FTE Classroom teachers (extra funding supplied from site)

0.6 FTE Preschool teacher

SSO 2 - 37.5 hours per week Administration / Finance officer

SSO 1 - 19 hours per week 5 hours Library, 14 hours curriculum support,

SSO 1 - 21 hours per week- Curriculum Support and intervention,

SSO1 1- 9 hours per week – Curriculum Support

Grounds Maintenance- 6 hours per week

Pool Operator- 7 hours per week during swimming season

Public transport access:

Limited public transport. A bus company provides bus transport to and from Wilmington twice a week.

Wilmington Primary School is mostly reliant on private transport. Sometimes the school uses the school bus from Booleroo to transport students to performances.

Special site arrangements:

Wilmington Staff sometimes combines with other staff from schools in the surrounding region to undertake Training and Development in areas that are common to our Flinders partnership – e.g.Learning Design and Moderation Students also participate in combined school activities such as, Sports Days and Cross Country events.

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics

Organisation of classes is done according to number of students and the needs of individual students. This Year 2017 JP class is R to 2. Middle Primary is Year 3 to 5 and Upper Primary is Year 6 to 7. Those students not functioning at a level usually seen by that age group, especially in the area of literacy and numeracy, are supported through intervention at this school.

Student support offered

No specialist support personnel eg counsellors etc. These roles are generally undertaken by the Principal or teachers where there is a special interest or expertise.

Student management

In general, students at this school are very successful in following the 'respect yourself, respect others, respect property' policy. There is a community developed Behaviour Management Policy and Procedure, and is supported consistently. Parental support is very strong, with Governing Council, Finance and Fundraising Committees regularly filled.

Student government

Students are encouraged to participate in decision making through the Student Representative Council. Members of SRC are nominated by each class. Students are involved in some decisions made about grounds development and student activity in matters like charity collections, special days and school activities. The emphasis is based on participation in discussion by all.

Special programmes

A strong focus on achieving benchmarks and higher Literacy and Numeracy outcomes continues to be a priority for all. Individual students are supported through: one to one or small group intervention work. There is also an acknowledgment of Students with High Intellectual Potential and teachers and parents endeavour to cater for their needs through classroom programs and the inclusion of technology to enhance individual achievement.

During the summer months there is a heavy focus on swimming, as children have access to the school pool.

3. Key School Policies

Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:

SIP can be sited on the website.

Statement of Purpose

Wilmington Primary School is a positive learning environment, which prepares students for the future.

Within a safe and secure environment, Wilmington Primary School aims to:

- Achieve a sound foundation in the eight learning areas
- Foster a respect for self, others and the environment
- Develop critical and creative thinking skills
- Promote confidence in using technology
- Communicate effectively with the wider school community
- Practise inclusive assessment and ongoing reporting procedures
 - Use a wide range of methodologies to allow all students to reach the benchmark of literacy and numeracy
- To meet WHS legislative requirements

.□ Recent key outcomes:

Engagement in Flinders Partnership training program for Numeracy, the Visible Learning Program and Learning Design and Moderation of the Australian Curriculum.

4. Curriculum

□ Subject offerings:

Wilmington Primary School is able to offer 8 areas of study in 2017 including the introduction of Spanish as a LOTE subject in the second half of the year. Primary students have also had the opportunity to learn the recorder in the second half of the year.

□ Special needs:

The whole staff forms a Special Needs committee that examines the individual needs of students who, we feel need something more than the regular classroom programs. SSO time and budget requirements are distributed through this method. Staff are also kept informed for yard duty responsibilities.

□ Special curriculum features:

Wilmington has a special focus on Numeracy and Literacy this year as described earlier.

□ Teaching methodology:

All classes have multigrade levels, which is conducive to group work and ease in offering challenging programmes for gifted students. Peer tutoring is very successful at the school.

□ Student assessment procedures and reporting

Aquaintance night is held early term one to meet parents. Interviews are held at the end of term 1 or early term 2. Written reports go home at the end of term 2 and 4. Interviews with parents/caregivers happen throughout the whole year and at the request of either the school or home.

5. Sporting Activities

□ Wilmington Primary School is a member of the North Eastern SAPSASA zone and regularly has representatives in the tennis, cricket, football, netball, golf and basketball teams. Wilmington hosts the regional Cross-Country to be held yearly in May. The school participates in a Sports Day held at Booleroo Centre District School. Wilmington and the district have a strong sense of community sport and provide many opportunities for both child and adult participation through golf, football, tennis, netball, cricket, table tennis, lawn bowls, equestrian pursuits, basketball etc. These sporting groups support the school in our endeavours to provide opportunity for each child in their chosen sports. In addition, Port Augusta offers a range of non-traditional sports like hockey, volleyball, squash etc.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

□ General

Each year the Upper Primary class travel to Port Augusta mid term 1 to take part in a day of Aquatics. All classes attend performances provided at the school or nearby sites. These may include Science days, Cultural days, Harmony Day and other events we may be invited to take part in. The primary students attended a combined camp with Melrose students at Illawonga Camp. Late in term 4, the school performs a concert for the community to celebrate the end of a successful year's work. Both Parliamentary and School awards are given on these occasions.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile

Currently we have a principal, two full time teachers two part time teachers and a preschool teacher (3 days a week)/ NIT teacher (2 days), all local or nearby residents. We have a finance/front office support person, three SSOs providing curriculum support, one IT SSO and a groundsperson.

Leadership structure

Wilmington has a Principal position made up of 0.7 Administration time, with a 0.3 teaching load to provide Non-Instruction Time to class teachers. Staff all have responsibility for Training and Development and budget management. When the Principal is absent, staff take turns to be the leader which, while there is no time allocation, gives each staff member the opportunity to work with the secretary and Chairperson of the Council should any decisions be necessary to make in the Principal's absence.

Staff support systems

Wilmington enjoys a small staff which forms a caring group prepared to support each other. Staff are encouraged to mix with their teaching peers in the other schools in our Flinders Partnership and to attend T&D sessions both in and out of our district.

Performance Management

Performance management is negotiated between the Principal and all staff to meet formally and informally over the course of the year. Formally, staff members meet to discuss roles, professional and personal needs, feedback on performance, issues related to their position in the school etc. Processes will be determined by the need

Access to special staff

Wilmington Primary School is serviced through the Port Pirie Education Office. The most commonly used services are Instrumental Music, Special Education, Speech Pathology, Psychology, Social Work specialists and Financial support

8. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds

Wilmington Primary School has an attractive building with very pleasant grounds. The building opened in 1982 holds all classrooms and other rooms under the one roof. Concertina doors connect all classrooms, and most rooms have direct access to the playground on one side and the office areas on the other. The playground contains equipment that is challenging to students. This is all under a large shade. A new classroom space for the preschool was added to the building in 2016 and the preschool commenced operation in 2017.

Heating and cooling

Systems installed throughout the school in each room.

Specialist facilities and equipment

The grounds hold a small swimming pool where all students undertake lessons and Vacswim program is held in January.

Student facilities

Students have sheltered access to all amenities, and hygienic storage for personal bags. Fridges to store lunches can be accessed by all students. Recreation swimming occurs hot days. A large gazebo

adds another dimension to play breaks as some student's access it for games like chess. On wet or very hot days, the children can reach toilet areas under total cover. The Library is also accessed on these days. On extreme weather days students may be directed to stay indoors as decided by the staff.

Staff facilities

Teachers have access to a quiet teacher preparation room to work during NIT (Non-Instruction Time) which also houses teacher resources and computers for teachers to use. A comfortable staff room provides an area for teachers to relax in with the usual amenities. All phones are available for staff use. While no off street parking is available; a safe, quiet street is available close to the building.

Access for students and staff with disabilities

: A ramp is in place to the toilet areas, class areas would require modification and would be minor should the need arise.

Access to bus transport

No buses run to the Primary school. Parents bring students into school. A school bus leaves Wilmington each day taking the Booleroo Centre High School students.

9. School Operations

Decision making structures

The school has a Personnel Advisory Committee (PAC) where staffing issues are discussed with the principal. Staff meetings are held weekly. Governing Council has the following sub-committees Finance and Fundraising Committees comprising a mixture of staff, parents and in some cases, community members. For one off functions like the Concert and Cross-Country the Council sets up small groups. We have an agreed procedure to follow in our Decision-Making policy.

Regular publications

A fortnightly newsletter is produced to supplement the information given in the Parent handbook provided to each enrolling family. Classes use a diary system. All staff have access to the Staff Handbook and the Day Book is used to communicate daily organisational issues. The school enjoys a good relationship with its families and phone communication is common. It has a high profile and the school communicates positive activities in our school newsletter.

School financial position

The Governing Council is an active group of people who use the money it has access to, to provide the best possible facilities for their students while wisely planning for replacement of equipment. Fund raising is a part of Wilmington school life and the Fundraising Committee has the skill of providing a form of social interaction with most fundraising efforts.

Special funding

Funding to support the introduction of the preschool on site.
Better Schools funding to support students special needs
Primary Curriculum funding to support teachers implementation of the Australian Curriculum.

10. Local Community

General characteristics

Wilmington, with a population of approximately 250 people, is a very friendly country town, in a picturesque location in the Southern Flinders Ranges. Many of the buildings are of historic value with the town reflecting its 120 plus years of history. The parent community is a combination of

Parent and community involvement

Constructive and positive involvement is a feature of this school. While some activities like Tuck Days see a wide range of involvement, the school relies heavily on a core of parents/caregivers whose efforts are immense.

Feeder or destination schools

Our students mainly go to Booleroo Centre District School.

Other local care and educational facilities

In 2017 Preschool sessions were held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays Terms 1,2 and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in Term 3,4. Some students from Melrose attend the preschool as they do not have a kindergarten. A Playgroup operates in the old kindergarten site on Mondays. There is very limited childcare available in Wilmington but more freely in Port Augusta. Melrose Primary School has a Rural Care program sharing its facility (24 kms away).

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

Wilmington has some shopping facilities for a family to do most shopping and business. Port Augusta has an extensive range of business and shopping facilities. Banking facilities are available through various agencies, but no actual banks.

Other local facilities

While no doctor, police officer or minister lives in Wilmington, all services come to the town on a regular basis. The Police Officer, Public Hospital and two manses are in Booleroo Centre. Other ministers live in Orroroo and Port Augusta. Social events mainly revolve around the sporting clubs and the hotel, with recent release movies and live theatre presented within the towns of Port Augusta(½ hour drive) , Port Pirie(1 hour drive) and Whyalla (approx. 1 ½ hours drive). Besides sporting options, Wilmington has opportunity for the development of art and craft through evening and weekend interest groups. Local history is valued greatly and opportunities are available for historians to become involved. Wild life is in abundance very near the town. Pony and horse riding is formalised in a local western club. The celebrated Wilmington Rodeo is held usually on the last Saturday in January. Bush walkers and campers enjoy magnificent outings in the many Flinders Ranges Parks.

Availability of staff housing

One Government house exists. Private rental is available from time to time with some opportunity for some short-term rental of units at our local caravan parks. Some staff have lived in nearby Melrose in OGEH homes.

Accessibility

There is limited public transport in and out of Wilmington. Port Augusta (40 kms) is the nearest access point to air, road and rail transport. Roads between Adelaide and Wilmington are in very good condition. A conservative driver can be in Adelaide within 3 hours of leaving Wilmington.

Local Government body

Wilmington is part of the Mount Remarkable Council. Details of the area can be obtained through the Council, C/- Post Office, Melrose. 5483

12. Further Comments

Wilmington Primary School has much to offer a city teacher. Classroom atmosphere is conducive to teaching and learning and yard behaviour usually delightful. Teachers feel the support of the community through both involvement and the allocation of funds for the school curriculum. The availability of the city amenities as present in Port Augusta and the feeling of country isolation one can experience by driving through Horrock's Pass to enter Wilmington, make it a unique place to teach.