



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 04/16

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: Julianne O'Dea
- Year of opening: The site has been open for over 100 years; however the present building was opened in 1982. An extra class space is currently underway as the local Kindergarten is coming on site at the end of 2016.
- Postal Address: Box 11, Wilmington, 5485, SA
- Location Address: 12 Beauval Street, Wilmington
- DECD Region: Flinders
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 284 kms (Adelaide)
- Telephone number: 86675112
- Fax Number: 86675025
- School website address: www.wilmngtnps
- School e-mail address: dl.0483_info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached:
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service:

- February FTE student enrolment:55

February FTE Enrolment

Term1 enrolments	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Reception	5	11	1	6	4
Year 1	12	1	7	7	11
Year 2	1	8	7	11	8
Year 3	8	7	11	7	6
Year 4	7	9	8	6	10
Year 5	11	7	5	9	5
Year 6	8	4	9	5	7
Year 7	3	9	6	6	6
TOTAL	55	56	54	57	57

Male FTE

Female FTE

July School Card (Persons)

NESB Total (Persons) nil nil nil nil

- 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)

SSO 2 -37.5 hours per week Administration / Finance officer

SSO 1-19 hours per week 5.5 hours Library, 5 hours curriculum support, 8.5

hours finance training, 21 hours per week- Curriculum Support and

intervention, 16 hours per week- Classroom support and individual student, 4

hours per week- Curriculum Support

Grounds Maintenance- 6 hours per week

Pool Operator- 6 hours per week during swimming season

- Public transport access:

Wilmington Primary School is reliant on private transport.

- 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.First Aid, James Anderson -Growth Mindset. 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 Junior Primary students and the needs of individual students.This Year2016 JP class is R to 2. Middle Primary is Year 3 and 4. Upper Primary is Year 5 to 7. While the community views individual need as important, there is a strong desire by the

parent body not to split year level groups if at all possible. 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 OHSW legislative requirements

- Recent key outcomes:

Engagement in 2015 and 2016 Flinders Partnership training program for Numeracy

4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings:

Wilmington Primary School is able to offer 7 areas of study.

Students also have access to private tuition by a specialist piano teacher through the school.

- 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 is 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.

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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. 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 5 part time staff, all local or nearby residents. Three of these are permanent, the other 2 are contracts.

- Leadership structure

Wilmington has a Principal position made up of 0.6 Administration time, with a 0.4 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 is encouraged to mix with their teaching peers in the other Regional Cluster schools 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 at least once per term 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 Yorke and Mid North Port Pirie/Clare Education Office. The most commonly used services are Instrumental Music, Special Education, Speech Pathology, Guidance, Social Work specialists and Information Technology 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. Currently construction is underway for a new classroom space for the Kindergaten to be on site by end of 2016.
- 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. A fridge 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 staff room to work during NIT (Non-Instruction Time). They have access to a computer peer linked to the EDSAS unit. 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 PAC, weekly staff meetings. Governing Council has the following sub-committees Finance, Fundraising 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 a Staff Handbook and notes are recorded in a Day Book.

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 through local papers.

- 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

Currently have funding in budget for the development of an extra room space to accommodate the local Kindewrgarten children who will be moving onsite by the end of the 2016 school year.

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

Kindergarten sessions are held on Mondays and Tuesdays and alternate Wednesdays. There is very limited childcare available in Wilmington but more freely in Port Augusta. Melrose Kindergarten 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 club and celebrated with a colourful Rodeo each January long weekend. 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 no 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

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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 presented 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.