

# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 03/16

**School Name: Allendale East Area School**

**School Number: 0751**

## 1. General Information

### Part A

Schoolname : ALLENDALE EAST AREA SCHOOL  
School No. : 0751 Courier : R26/16  
Principal : Ms Kylie Smith  
Postal Address : c/- Post Office, Allendale East 5291  
Location Address : Bay Road, Allendale East 5291  
District : Limestone Coast  
Distance from GPO : 472 kms Phone No. : 08 87387218  
CPC attached : NO Fax No. : 08 87387321

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Reception</b>	25	19	18	28	17
<b>Year 1</b>	19	18	18	14	27
<b>Year 2</b>	18	24	20	16	14
<b>Year 3</b>	16	18	20	19	17
<b>Year 4</b>	16	16	20	20	17
<b>Year 5</b>	14	14	18	21	21
<b>Year 6</b>	18	14	13	16	22
<b>Year 7</b>	30	18	15	10	16
<b>Year 8</b>	10	14	11	12	11
<b>Year 9</b>	15	11	13	11	12
<b>Year 10</b>	14	11	14	11	8
<b>Year 11</b>	12	12	11	11	9
<b>Year 12</b>	3.6	7	11	10	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>210.6</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>201</b>

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>ATSI</b>	3	3	3	5	5
<b>Disabilities</b>	13	13	11	11	8
<b>School Card</b>	42	37	44	37	38

Note: Placement points for Complexity and (Base plus Isolation) can be obtained from the document 'Placement Points History' in the 'schools/placement' section of the 'Legal and Policy Framework Library' available on the departmental CD-ROM or web-site.

## Part B

- Deputy Principal  
:Marian Hodson
- Staffing numbers  
:**Teachers:**  
Tier 1: 15.81 Tier 2: 2.75  
**Ancillary:**  
147.5 hours  
**Leadership Positions:**  
1 Deputy Principal  
2 Coordinator 3  
1.0 School Counsellor/ Senior School Coordinator
- OSHC  
The service has operated since 2001, afterschool care and vacation care is offered.
- Enrolment trends  
Currently there are 202 students enrolled at the school. In the past 3 years enrolments have stabilised around 200. Retention of year7-8 in 2015-16 is greater than 75%. Senior student numbers have increased to around 20 since 2013.  
The school draws its population from Allendale East, Port MacDonnell and surrounding districts in South Australia, as well as from the Nelson community in Victoria.
- Year of opening  
The school was opened in 1953 to serve the needs of students when some local small schools were closed. At times the primary school works together with Yahl and Kongorong for projects such as Youth Worx. The secondary students connect with Mount Gambier High School and Grant High School for VET courses and Pedal Prix events. There is an annual Area School Athletics Sportsday where the school competes with Kangaroo Inn, Kingston and Lucindale Area Schools.
- Public transport access  
The majority of students travel to the school by bus from the surrounding districts, approximately two thirds of them live on dairy and/or sheep farms and one third live in the fishing township of Port MacDonnell. There is no public transport servicing the school. Some staff, many of whom live in Mount Gambier, drive from Mount Gambier.
- Distance from GPO (kms)  
Allendale East Area School is situated 25 kilometres south of Mount Gambier. Mount Gambier has a population of approximately 23,000, is 460 kilometres from Adelaide. By car it is approximately five hours from either Adelaide or Melbourne.

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics

The school caters for students from Reception to Year 12, with Kirinari Kindergarten also on the campus. The school has developed close links with the Kindergarten giving support with its financial management.

- (Pastoral) care programs

Pastoral care is an ongoing process in all classes with students supported through Values Education and Anti-bullying strategies. The beginning year Skills for Success program delivers the Child Protection curriculum to R-12 students and helps build strong class teacher relationships. Emphasis is on building confidence, self esteem, and strategies for successful social interaction.

- Support offered

Enterprise Education forms a significant focus in the school, bringing together community interests, mentors and students in many enterprise projects. It is taught as a dedicated lesson once per week to secondary students and is embedded in lessons for primary students.

Career Counselling begins in Year 10 when all students meet with co-ordinator, Counsellor and their parents in Term 1, to set goals for the year. Course Counselling and career counselling continues throughout the senior school. Year 10 students complete a compulsory SACE stage 1 unit, PLP, during Semester 2, which involves a work experience placement.

All students have access to the counsellor, who has a 0.5 counsellor role across the school. The counsellor also works on a proactive approach with class teachers and initiates class programs.

- Student Management

The school has an established behaviour management process, which operates on a Restorative Justice model. With all issues and concerns we attempt to restore relationships and develop a sense of fairness for all.

- Student government

Junior and Senior Student Representative Councils meet regularly. They take an increasingly active role in the school, organise a variety of student events and give advice on a range of student issues. Success and Achievement assemblies are hosted by SRC at the end of each term.

- **Special programmes**

There are a number of programs which support the specific needs of students, such as a Year 10 Personal Presentation at TAFE, Meals on Wheels volunteering, outdoor education camp and a week of CFS training which counts towards students' SACE.

Performing Arts is a very successful program in the school. This year students performed in Melbourne's Wakakirri competition and Move It @ The Helpman. Performing Arts aims to develop such things as self confidence, teamwork and persistence. Every second year the group perform a musical and involve all primary classes in the production also.

The Led steer program has been a popular and successful option for students interested in Agriculture. They compete in Adelaide and Mt Gambier shows.

Netball and Softball Specialist Sports Programs have been operating since 2007 whenever there are interested groups.

Special Needs are catered for from Reception to year 12 with students being monitored through their Negotiated Education Plans. A major focus of the school is in developing inclusivity and differentiating the curriculum to ensure that all students are successful.

Early Intervention is also offered to primary students who require extra support. Multi-lit is used to support students literacy and Quicksmart is being used to increase students Maths recall.

### **3. Key School Policies**

#### **Contextual Influences**

Allendale East Area School is situated 24 kms south of Mount Gambier. The communities of Port MacDonnell, Allendale East, Kongorong, Eight Mile Creek and Nelson operate as individual communities with individual need and a great sense of pride and ownership. This influences the activities that students are involved in and needs to be considered when building a collaborative culture.

Parent Participation is an important aspect of the school with parents involved on school governing council, sub-committees, school sport, canteen and class support. The school is committed to increasing parent participation.

Allendale East is located in a rural setting and is influenced by its fishing and farming industries. This influences the type of employment available to students and their choices of careers pathways. Allendale East has a fine tradition in students gaining employment, traineeships and apprenticeships due to the success of the careers program and the ongoing reputation of a strong work ethic amongst students.

The school caters for students from Reception to Year 12, and is co-located with Kirinari Kindergarten. Approximately three quarters of enrolments are in the primary section which provides a high quality education.

As there is potential for a loss of enrolments at a senior secondary level the school is committed to providing viable curriculum choices which are attractive to students. The school has a variety of choices for students including VET programs and School Based Traineeships, while also supporting students to gain ATAR scores enabling them to succeed in further education. Over the last few years several students have successfully pursued university study.

### **Core Business**

The core business of Allendale East Area school is to deliver “Teaching and Learning within a Supportive Environment.” The Teaching and Learning program emphasises the worth of the individual, and promotes excellence within a collaborative environment that values the views of students, teachers and parents.

The School Values of Excellence, Respect and Courage are key to the Skills to Success program beginning each year.

Teaching programs at all levels provide learnings within the 8 areas of the curriculum.

The Chinese language has been introduced to the learning program for Reception to Year 9 students in 2013 through the Open Access School via Centra.

Our core business is delivered with these features prominent:

- Literacy and Numeracy are taught explicitly across all curriculum areas.
- An emphasis on Digital Technology, Child Protection and General Capabilities in all areas of the curriculum.
- A committed and caring staff in a small school environment that reflects the local community.
- A family atmosphere with students from Kindergarten to Year 12, staff, and parents working co-operatively on a shared campus.
- A range of career possibilities incorporating the curriculum development focus of VET (Vocational Education & Training), School based traineeships, and Enterprise skills. Career opportunities are developed through areas of employment needs such as Information Technology, Agriculture (dairying) and Metal Fabrication.
- Agricultural studies as a key feature of our secondary curriculum.
- Inclusivity and a personalised approach to students' learning.

- Support for students and their families within a caring atmosphere which fosters respectful relationships in line with the “Breaking the Silence” White Ribbon Schools Program.

### **School Priorities**

Our Site Improvement Plan focusses on the following priorities: **Quality Learning** incorporating Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Technologies **Student Well Being and Engagement; Senior School Development** including SACE

#### **Recent Key Outcomes**

- Development of the whole school Literacy/Numeracy agreement and Literacy/Numeracy skills explicitly taught by all staff in each curriculum area.
- Early Intervention programs for R-9 students include Multi-Lit and Quicksmart.
- School activities such as, Fun Days, Sports Day, Debating, Choir, Healthy Hike, Interschool Sports Day, Senior School Dinner, School Musical and Wakakirri.
  - Involvement of our students in community activities such as Meals on Wheels, White Ribbon Day, Tree planting and Water Watch.
- Camps and excursions including Year 6/7 camps, Year 10 outdoor education camps, Year 12 dinner and graduation.

## **4. Curriculum**

- The early childhood program is based on the Early learning Framework and the Australian Curriculum.
- Students in year 1 to year 10 are exposed to a broad general curriculum based on the 8 areas of learning in the Australian Curriculum.
  - The Arts
  - Mathematics
  - Health and Physical Education
  - English
  - HASS – History and Social Sciences
  - Science

- Language (Chinese)
- Design and Technology

By 2016 most year levels will be using the Australian Curriculum for all areas of learning.

- Open Access

Open Access College courses complement our SACE Stage 1 and 2 programs, and are used as needed by those students who choose to pursue subjects not offered face to face.

Chinese R- 7 is also taught through the Open Access School.

- Special needs

Early intervention and Special Education programs support students with learning needs. Senior students with verified learning disabilities receive a modified SACE program.

- Special curriculum features

Specialist teachers in PE, Art, Drama and ICT teach the R-7 students for NIT lessons.

Senior students' access vocational training such as Metal Fabrication on site and other VET programs are available to them through a cooperative arrangement in the district.

Development of Softball and Netball Specialist Sport Programs from years 7-10 which operates on a needs basis depending on the group of students.

Information and communication technology is an important tool in our curriculum. We are well equipped with both Apple and IBM computers which are used throughout the school. Laptops are available for secondary students to use during lessons and some students bring their own laptops from home. Sets of Ipads are used by Primary students to support their learning. Students with learning needs (R-yr12) have access to Ipads to assist with their learning.

The Agriculture program provides opportunities for students to develop their skills through the Led steer program during the year and participate in the Adelaide and Mount Gambier Shows.

- Pedagogy

The staff have developed their teaching methodologies to support a range of student learning styles. They use the Teaching for Effective Learning documents to guide their Pedagogy. Programming is now planned by using the Learning Design model from the Australian Curriculum.

A strong collaborative culture exists at the school which is supported by all staff. Shared leadership is a key feature of the school with staff accepting responsibilities and working collaboratively to achieve goals.

There is a strong emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy. This will continue to be focus for all the staff as they model and scaffold the literacy demands of different learning areas. The school timetable 105 minute lessons across Reception to Year 12.

- **Assessment procedures and reporting**

Assessment and reporting is in line with new SA Student reporting requirements, incorporating the achievement standards of the Australian Curriculum.

Reporting occurs each term with written reports provided to parents at the end of terms 2, 3 and 4. Parent interviews are conducted at the end of term 1 for all students.

- **Joint programmes**

Joint programmes occur between the Kirinari Kindergarten and the Junior Primary component of the school. Joint programmes also occur in conjunction with other schools in the area of Enterprise education. VET course offerings are made in conjunction with the other Secondary schools in the district such.

## **5. Sporting Activities**

The school participates in SAPSASA Knock out sports and district cross country competitions. The school sports day involves all students from Reception to year 12. Students under 8 years of age enjoy a range of participation based sports and team events. Other student's participate in athletics events supporting one of three school based sports teams. These events act as a selection process for an interschool sports meeting involving Kingston, Lucindale and Kangaroo Inn Area Schools later in term 1.

A high percentage of students are involved in local club sports, particularly Netball, Football and Softball.

## **6. Other Co-Curricular Activities**

- **General**

The School Performance in Term 3 involves students in performing, set design, stage management and organisation of the evening biannually. Students organise and manage a "Fun Day" each year, which enables them to raise money for SRC projects. A Fun Run at Port MacDonnell is held in term 4 and involves parents and community members.

- **Special**

Students are involved in "Move It at the Helpmann", a dance performance which takes place during Come Out, and the performance is then developed for Wakakirri. The Christmas Parade and a major school musical alternate year.

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile

Staff work well together across Reception to Year 12 with a mixture of youth and experience. Many of the teaching staff drive from Mt Gambier, whereas the majority of support staff live locally.
- Leadership structure

The Principal, Deputy Principal, Finance Officer, Counsellor and 2 Coordinators have responsibilities across the school for student well being and behaviour, as well as specific responsibilities in their field. Currently the co ordinators focus on “Teaching and Learning” and “Digital Technologies”.

Management of school priorities and projects is carried out by a variety of people, as their interests and talents allow.
- Staff support systems

Staff are line managed and supported by the leadership team. A strong sense of collegiality exists.
- Performance Management

A Performance management Policy has been developed and Performance Chats occur each term. There is a focus on the Professional Standards for Teachers and peer observation is built into the development of staff.

Ancillary staff work as a team, and share some roles. They are a supportive and skilled part of staff and are line managed by the Finance officer.

Teachers with generalist rather than one specific area of expertise are preferred, given the smaller numbers of secondary students. Specific expertise is used across a range of age levels.
- Access to special staff

Instrumental music teachers, Regional Support staff, CAMHS are all available, and have good links with the school.

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

- Complexity placement points

N/A
- Isolation placement points

Staff receive three points for each year of service.
- Housing assistance

Some rental assistance is available through DECD

- Cash in lieu of removal allowance  
After 7 years in a country area staff can elect to take an allowance in lieu of removal costs.
- Medical and dental treatment expenses  
The Non-metropolitan award applies.
- Locality allowances  
A small locality allowance is paid by DECD to all employees.

## 9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds  
There are extensive grounds, including an agricultural area and a fully equipped VET shed.  
The main building houses the administration and staff room and staff resource area, Reception to Year 5 classes, Year 11/12 area, Home Economics and an Information Technology area. It is linked to the canteen area by an enclosed atrium.  
The year 5/6/7 classes have new buildings joined by a pergola and deck area. The performing arts room is furnished with a mirrored wall and tarket flooring for dance instruction.  
A new library complex includes two secondary classrooms, Art room and materials tech centre which is joined by a glassed computer hub. There is a covered courtyard in the centre of this complex.
- Cooling  
All classrooms are air conditioned, all have adequate heating.
- Specialist facilities  
N/A
- Student facilities  
The school has a good range of facilities, including a gymnasium, Technology Studies, Art, Science Laboratories, Drama area, Resource Centre, Agricultural Science and VET shed.
- Staff facilities  
Computers in the staff resource area are linked to EDSAS on the Administration network and also to the curriculum network.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities  
Ramp access to buildings and a disability toilet.
- Access to bus transport  
School buses can be hired for excursions within school hours.

- Other
  - There is a Kindergarten on site, and transition processes are in place. We have a good working relationship.

## 10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
  - Decision making structures include staff, SRC and Governing Council. Community consultation and collaborative decision-making is highly valued.
- Regular publications
  - The school newsletter is published each week. Many community events are also publicised in the newsletter. A parent information manual and a staff information manual is also provided. Each year a school magazine is published. Newsletters are emailed on request.
- Other communication
  - Communication occurs through the day book and staff memos where necessary.
- School financial position
  - The School is in a sound financial position.
- Special funding
  - N/A

## 11. Local Community

- General characteristics
  - Allendale East Area School is the most southerly located school in South Australia. It is situated in a very rural district 23 kilometres south of Mount Gambier in the South East of the state. Allendale East lies 5.5 kilometres from the coast in a district featuring open grazing land and an appealing maritime river environment. Allendale East is approximately 500 kilometres South East of Adelaide.
- Parent and community involvement
  - Parent and community involvement is highly valued by the school with a strong tradition of community ownership and pride.
- Other local care and educational facilities
  - OSHC operates after school and during school holidays, and is very well organised and popular with students.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  - Mount Gambier is well served by large shopping centres and numerous smaller regional shopping centres.

- Other local facilities  
Sporting facilities are highly regarded and outstanding for a town of its size. Cultural activities are catered for by visiting performers, exhibitions and some local groups. Most religious denominations are catered for.
- Local Government body  
The school is in the District Council of Grant and has good links with this body.

## **12. Further Comments**

I certify that this is a true and accurate statement:

Endorsed  
Kylie Smith  
Principal