

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 6/6/2014

School number: 0355

School name: Port Augusta West PS

1. General information

Part A

School name: Port Augusta West Primary School (Reception to Year 7)

School number: 0355

Principal: Cathy Bornholm

Address: 46 Mildred St, Port Augusta 5700

Courier: Port Augusta

Phone: 08 8642 2637

Fax: 08 8642 3432

Email: dl.0355.info@schools.sa.edu.au

School Website: www.pawps.sa.edu.au

Partnership: Port Augusta/ Quorn

Distance from GPO: 320kms

August Census	2011	2012	2013	2014(June)
Enrolment Figures	271	271	289	291
School Card	35	43	51	56
ATSI students	38	40	40	37
ESL students	60	55	52	47
Students with Disabilities	39	38	35	35

Part B

- **Deputy Principal's name:** Carolyn Zubrinich

 - **Staffing**

Principal, Deputy, Coordinator in Teaching and Learning, School Counsellor (0.74), 12 class teachers, 1 LOTE (German), 1 NIT PE/Design & Tech teacher, 1 Special Class Primary Teacher with full time SSO, AET (0.56), EALD (0.41), FLMD(Adnyamathanha) 0.15, 2 PRTs based at our school that service Pt Augusta schools , GSE(grounds) 12 hours Permanent SSOhours 228 (11 SSOs)
Some of the Special Ed & ESL time is converted to SSO student support

 - **OSHC**

An Out of School Hours Care service operates on our site for the whole town. We provide before school (30 places) and after school care (60 places), as well as vacation care programs(45 places). OSHC has excellent facilities in the hall complex.

 - **Enrolment trends**

Stable – around 290 students. We only have room for 12 classes. Increased transience has become a trend with students moving within the state and interstate on a more regular basis.

 - **Year of Opening**

The school was opened in 1881 and rebuilt in 1971. The Administration section was upgraded in 2001. The school held a 125 year celebration in 2006. The hall complex was built in 2010

 - **Public transport access**

Access to Port Augusta via bus, plane and car.
There is a public bus system which operates across the town and some of our students use this to travel to school. Students alight from the bus on Bond St in the mornings and catch the bus in the afternoon on Mildred St. There are also school buses which collect students to take them to the secondary school.
Port Augusta Secondary School also have their own school buses which collect their students around the town.
- 2. Students (and their welfare)**
- **General characteristics**

Port Augusta West is a Category 3 school site.
Students come from a mix of two parent and single parent families, with many parents working. We have between 12-15% Aboriginal students and a number of students from overseas.
We have 35 students with identified disabilities including 12 in the special class. We have a significant number of students with speech and specific learning difficulties.

- **Support offered**

We have a school counsellor who works with individual students as well as class teachers supporting them with social skills programs, including a focus on preventing bullying. The Child Protection Curriculum is taught each year. Harassment and Grievance procedures are in place and are actively supported.

The principal, deputy principal, counsellor, coordinator, Aboriginal Community Education Officer (ACEO), teachers and Student Support Officers (SSOs) are all available to support our community.

- **Student management**

A preventative and developmental approach to behaviour management is in place and is reflected in the school's Student Behaviour Management policy.

The school has four rules

1. Follow teacher instructions immediately
2. Keep your hands, feet and objects to yourself
3. Don't call out, put your hand up
4. Be respectful

Students are expected to follow these and know there are consequences of playtime and learning time exits for inappropriate behaviour.

Our school values are Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Safety, Kindness and Friendship.

Students are rewarded for positive class and yard behaviour including Gold Cards, Values Cards and School Values Superstars, many of which are presented at assemblies and recognised in school newsletters.

- **Student government**

The school has a Student Representative Council. They are involved in aspects of the school decision making process including participating in Governing Council meetings as well as fund raising to provide equipment for students and for charities. They organise social events such as fun days for the students.

- **Special programmes**

The Special class operates for Year 3-7 students from across the town. Students with intellectual disabilities are placed in this class as determined by a Special Options panel in consultation with the parents and the school. Taxis provide transport to the school for eligible students (for those who live more than 1.5km from our school).

Students with learning difficulties are offered extra SSO support - some teacher time is converted to SSO hours. Students are identified for these programs through Psychological Assessments, Speech Assessments, NAPLAN results, as well as school based testing.

The school runs an Adnyamathanha Aboriginal Languages program for all students (each class gets a lesson a week for two terms).

The school has a focus on recycling and classes take it in turns to be responsible for recycling paper products and drink containers.

Students are encouraged to participate in the Premier's Reading and Be Active Programs, as well as the Principal's Reading and Maths Challenges.

3. Key School Priorities

Australian Curriculum Develop teacher's programming, planning and assessment skills in using the Australian Curriculum.

English NAPLAN – aim for at or above state mean
Improve % of students achieving Running Record Benchmarks
All students participate in Guided Reading & Reading Comprehension
Develop students Oral Language skills
All students recognise Jolly Phonics and Magic 200 sight words by the end of Year One

Mathematics Close the gap between our schools and the state's NAPLAN mean scores
Develop students executive function skills (Stop and think)
Improve students' automaticity in number

Staff & Student Wellbeing School Values
Reduce student Learning and Play exits by 20%
Review Staff Induction booklet
Develop an Electronic Device Use policy

Attendance Increase attendance by 3%
Decrease lateness by 10%
Review the Attendance Policy

John Fleming Warm ups, I do We do, You do, Ploughback

Empowering Local Schools – partnership with schools in Port Augusta and Quorn schools working with Flinders University's Martin Westwall's team on developing students Executive Function skills (Stop and Think skills).

Whole School Agreements have been developed and staff and students are expected to follow them

4. Curriculum

• Subject offerings

Mathematics (minimum 300 minutes), English (minimum 300 minutes), The Arts, Science (minimum 120 minutes for Primary, 90 for JP), Design & Technology, Health and PE, German (LOTE), History, Geography, Adnyamathanha, Students can choose to participate in Choir (MP), Instrumental Music (Year 5/6/7)

• Open Access

No

- **Special needs**

- Town special class Year 3-7

- SSO support for students with learning difficulties and EALD

- AET & ACEO support for Aboriginal students

- **Special curriculum features**

- Adnyamathanha across the school

- Jolly Phonics, Jolly Grammar

- Stephen Graham Spelling

- Whole school agreements on programs to be used across the year levels, and Intervention programs including Lexia and Quicksmart

- John Fleming – Warm Ups, I Do, We Do, You Do and Ploughback.

- **Assessment procedures and reporting**

- Parent/ teacher interviews in Term One (Week Nine) and optional interviews in Term Three. Parents may request an interview at any time throughout the year.

- Written student reports Term Two and summative reports at the end of the year.

- The school has published timelines for collecting student data throughout the year, including reading, spelling tests, diagnostic mathematical data, running records, sight words, Phonological Awareness, PAT Maths & Reading tests.

- **Joint Programmes**

- SAPSASA carnival days and Friday afternoon sport competitions between the Primary Schools of Port Augusta occur throughout the year.

- A town Preschool to Reception transition policy has been developed between the schools and preschools, so that all transition visits across the town occur on the same day and in the same weeks. A Year 7 to Year 8 transition programme also exists and this is coordinated by the secondary school and the local Catholic school.

5. **Sporting Activities**

- We participate in the local SAPSASA competitions including cricket, softball, netball, football, swimming, hockey, soccer, athletics and European Handball. Some of our students are selected for the SAPSASA District teams and participate in local and Adelaide based competitions. We hold a Sports Day in Term 3 involving individual tabloid events and team games encouraging participation and team spirit. We hold a fun splash day at the local swimming pool at the beginning of the year. We have our school swimming program in Term 4 and the Aquatics program in Term1 for Yr6/7 offering snorkelling, kayaking, sailing, fishing and wind surfing. Other programs offered to students include Auskick, Tennis, Golf, basketball and cricket clinics as the opportunity arises.

- Many students participate in weekend and evening sports such as cricket, tennis, netball, football, basketball, soccer, hockey, swimming, athletics and equestrian activities.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- **General**

Music – students have access to lessons for percussion, woodwind and brass instruments (depending on availability of staff).

Choir – offered to students as a school based (middle primary) activity. Students can then be part of the town choir (where students from across the town perform at the Lea Theatre in the Crossroads Music Festival).

Camps – students are given opportunities to participate in class camps (upper primary) and excursions where they are able to enjoy new experiences and develop social skills.

We have up to three performances a year paid for by the school, so that all students get the opportunity to experience the arts in a variety of forms.

- **Special**

Family night - held in Term 4 where students perform items for their parents, grandparents and friends.

Sportsday – Term 3

Jump Rope for Heart is held in Term 2 and helps develops students' skipping skills and has had excellent community support over many years with some of the funds raised coming back to the school.

The Year 7 Graduation ceremony is held in Term 4 at the West Augusta Football Clubrooms and is followed by disco. Year 7 students are able to bring a friend and their family.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile**

We have a mix of experienced and beginning teachers. Currently there are 18 female teachers and 2 male teachers as well as 2 Permanent Relieving Teachers based at our school.

- **Leadership structure**

Principal, Deputy Principal, Teaching and Learning Coordinator (0.2) Primary School Counsellor (0.8)

- **Staff support systems**

Regular admin and Professional Development staff meetings.

Induction meetings for new staff – whole town and school based

Grievance procedures in place for conflict resolution and concerns

Code of Conduct for staff

Performance management which is designed to enable individuals to enhance their skills and abilities through professional development and feedback.

Staff share ideas and resources in mentor meetings and hub group meetings.

Employee Assist Program is a professional, confidential counselling service available for staff and their immediate family members.

- **Performance Management**

Performance Management is aligned with DECD policy. All staff have an allocated line manager with whom they negotiate a performance and personal development

plan in relation to the priorities of the site plan and individual staff needs. Formal meetings are held at least once a term where written feedback is provided. Term four the focus is on writing a summative report for each staff member. Ongoing induction is provided for new staff. Staff are encouraged to manage the process.

- **Staff utilisation policies**

Staff deployment is managed through the Personnel Advisory Committee (PAC), Leadership input and consultations with staff. Currently NIT lessons are PE, German and some Design and Tech, History lessons. Mother Tongue salary supports HPI instructor to deliver Adnaya mathan language across the school. Some special education and EALD teacher time is converted to SSO time to support students with learning needs.

We have IT SSO support to keep computer systems and network running.

- **Access to special staff**

Instrumental music teachers provide lessons in percussion, brass and woodwind for Year 5.6 and 7s when available.

We are able to access Interagency Student Behaviour Management, Disability Services, Psychologist, Speech Pathologist, CAMHS, FamiliesSA, Hearing Services, Townsend House, Autism SA. Residential Paediatricians are also available in Port Augusta and work closely with schools.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- **Complexity placement points**

1.0

- **Isolation placement points**

4.0

- **Shorter terms**

No

- **Travelling time**

No

- **Housing assistance**

Teachers moving to the country have the right to access government housing through Real Estate Management (REM). If there is no housing available REM will find private rental, enter into a lease agreement and the teacher will receive the subsidy.

- **Cooling for school buildings**

Yes – Reverse Cycle Air Conditioners throughout the school

- **Additional increment allowance**

No

- **Designated schools benefits**

Country incentive leave – One off “incidental” payment of \$528 on recruitment to permanency. Cash incentive payments will be made to all Band 1,2 and 3 teachers who are permanent or contract appointed in this area – paid as

fortnightly payments. Total - Year 1 - \$3271, Year 2 - \$3587, Year 3 - \$3798, Year 4 - \$4009 and Year 5 - \$4220

No period of leave without pay will attract the cash incentive payment.

- **Medical and dental treatment expenses**

Reimbursement for travel and accommodation costs incurred as a result of obtaining medical/dental assistance in Adelaide (unavailable in location) can be claimed for the first ten years of appointment in these locations (travelling time available). Note - not available to local recruits.

- **Locality allowances**

No

- **Relocation assistance**

Teachers relocating to these schools will have their removal arranged by DECD including transit insurance. Travel reimbursement, packing and accelerated depreciation of furniture allowances can also be claimed by completing a VL131E form

- **Principal's telephone costs**

Principals will have the cost of basic rental and official calls paid.

9. School Facilities

- **Buildings and grounds**

The design of the school consists of two main buildings, two transportable classrooms and a new hall with an Out of School Hours Care facility on the side. The Administration, staffroom, SSO area, Library, Teacher Resource area, Counsellor's office, library area and a computer room are accommodated in one building. The other building consists of ten classroom teaching spaces in three units. There are two double units with concertina doors in middle and six single classrooms. Each unit has a foyer, boys and girls toilets and a storage area. Eight of the classrooms are larger than a standard classroom. All classrooms have telephone communication with each other and the office. The transportables are 2 Junior Primary classrooms.

The new hall (West Beach design) has facilities for basketball (almost full size), netball, volleyball and badminton as well as two storage areas. The Out of School Hours Care facility is on the side of the hall with an office and kitchen area linked to the hall, This area is used during the day for cooking, music lessons, art activities, parent meetings, smaller group literacy and numeracy lessons. There are four toilets located on the outside of the hall as well as a disabled toilet and shower inside the hall. There is a large grounds and furniture shed storing equipment, two sheds housing sports equipment, one for class use one for playtime use. We have a grassed oval with a subsurface irrigation system, netball court and two playgrounds both covered by a solid shade structure. Both playgrounds have rubber softfall under them.

The main classroom block has been significantly upgraded in recent years with new carpets, furniture, upgraded pinboards in many areas. It was repainted in 2009.

The administration area was upgraded in 2001, the hall completed in 2010. The library has been relocated to what was the multipurpose room, and the old library is now a computer room. The library office is now the IT technician's office and the old canteen area is now the library office.

- **Cooling and Heating**

All buildings are heated and cooled by reverse cycle air conditioners. Installation of airtight insulation, when the buildings were reroofed, and window tinting has considerably improved classroom conditions in the hot spells. The classroom block had their reverse cycle airconditioners replaced with new ones in 2007.

- **Specialist facilities**

New hall for assemblies and indoor PE lessons (facilities for basketball (not quite full size), netball, volleyball and badminton), Library and well equipped Teacher Resource Area. Sports sheds (one sport shed for class lessons, the other for playtime). There is a Special class (Yr 3- 7) for students with intellectual disabilities. The Out of School Hours Care facility is on the side of the hall with an office and kitchen area linked to the hall, This area is used during the day for cooking, music lessons, art activities, parent meetings, smaller group literacy and numeracy lessons. Wireless internet access across the school as well as cable for classroom computers. All classes have at least six laptops, a digital camera and a unit colour laser printer. All classrooms have an Interactive Whiteboard. We have well stocked library which also has a class learning area and a computer room with 31 computers and a large interactive whiteboard.

- **Student facilities**

An outsourced canteen provides preordered lunches for students, no recess or lunchtime purchasing of goods available.

Sports shed for playtime provides equipment for students to play with at recess and lunch, manned by student monitors.

Toilet and drink facilities are available in all units as well as outside toilets for playtimes. Two sets of refrigerated drink taps, one set located outside the Multipurpose Room and one outside the Hall, as well as three refrigerated drink taps in the classroom unit foyers.

The Library is open for second lunch for students to access. Students can borrow books before and after school.

Out of School Hours care – before school (7.30 – 8.30am) and after school (till 6pm), vacation care from 8am to 6pm.

Junior Primary and Upper Primary playgrounds, grassed oval, basketball court in the hall, netball court, four square courts.

We currently have lunch first, then recess enabling students to have a substantial meal earlier in the day and more playtime in summer instead of being restricted to classrooms because of the heat later in the day.

- **Staff facilities**

Teacher Prep areas with computers which can access email and the Internet
Staffroom with kitchen area, stove, fridge, two microwaves, filtered water.

Comprehensive Teacher Resource and preparation area between library and staff room

School Counsellor office, Interview Room

SSO/ACEO/AET work areas

IT Technician's office

Library office

Staff have access to computers, printers, digital cameras, scanners, photocopiers (including colour), fax, e-mail, Internet, telephones.

- **Access for students and staff with disabilities**

Ramps to all buildings. Taxi access provided for special class students. Disabled toilet and shower facilities in admin building and the hall complex.

Two classrooms have had sound proofing installed for hearing impaired students.

Currently we have **three** Soundfield systems to support students with hearing issues and staff with voice issues.
- **Access to bus transport**

Town bus service runs through out the day. A number of our students use this service to travel to and from school.
- **Other**

Port Augusta West Preschool is located two blocks from the school. A child care facility (Bubble and Squeak, formerly known as ABC) is a block away on Bond Street.

10. School Operations

- **Decision making structures**

We have a PAC Committee which meets regularly to discuss Human Resource issues. Major whole staff decisions are made at staff meetings. Priority Improvement Committees (Literacy, Numeracy and Well Being Groups) bring recommendations to staff meetings regarding areas needing to be included on our Site Improvement Plan. Sub committees (Finance, Canteen, Out of School Hours Care, Grounds and Facilities and Parent Club) and SRC make recommendations to Governing Council for ratification.
- **Regular publications**

The school's newsletter published every fortnight on a Thursday (Odd weeks of term eg 1,3,5)

Weekly notes are published for staff to inform them of upcoming events. Daily bulletin is in staff prep area with notes on events etc for that particular day.

Teachers publish class newsletters early each term.

"School Talk" articles are published in the local paper "The Transcontinental", usually written by our students.
- **Other communication**

Parent Information packs are available for all new families on enrolment.

Class diaries or communication books go home each day.

Staff handbook information is available to all staff members on the J drive..

Teachers send home class newsletters and notes on excursions when appropriate.

There is a day book in the staff room for staff to leave notes regarding happenings for the day/week.

Large yearly planner board located on staff room wall

Minute books for school's Priority Improvement Committees (PIC), Hub meetings, Staff Meetings etc are located in the Teacher Prep room.

- **School financial position**

The school is in a reasonably sound financial position

Parent Club works hard to fundraise for the school, often purchasing equipment for the students to use eg seating, playtime activities, fridges for classrooms.

- **Special funding**

Extra Early Years and Year 3 funding per capita.

Early Years Literacy Program

Rural and Isolated Index.

Disadvantaged Schools Program (SAISOP) plus Early Years Component

Special Education – Students with Learning Difficulties

11. Local Community

- **General characteristics**

The Westside refers to the area on the Western side of the gulf which is connected to the rest of the community by a bridge. Most families are employed mainly by government agencies, retail or tourism, with less now working at the power station and the railways due to privatisation which resulted in job losses. There has been a recent trend in employment opportunities and population growth due to the mining industry.

- **Parent and community involvement**

We have an excellent Parent Club that is supportive and fundraise to buy resources for the school. They also provide stalls for students to purchase gifts for Mother's and Father's Day. Parents provide classroom support in various ways eg hearing reading, working in electives, transporting students, helping with sport, going on camps.

- **Other local care and educational facilities**

All government support agencies are available in Port Augusta. There are 5 other primary schools, a special school, a Secondary School, various childcare and preschool facilities and an R- 12 Catholic school. The Spencer Institute of TAFE has a campus in Port Augusta and there is a university campus at Whyalla. The schools networks support each other across the town eg organising Training & Development across the town, combined town induction for new staff.

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**

Port Augusta has all the facilities associated with a reasonably large town/ city. Two large supermarket chains, Coles and Woolworths operate on extended trading hours seven days a week. Foodland is located on the Westside. There is Target Country, BIG W, Radio Rentals, Betta Electrical, Mitre 10, Home Hardware, Enfield Furnishers, Harvey Furniture & Carpets, Solomons Carpets, Office Shop, Cheap as Chips, The Reject Shop and a number of specialist variety stores such as clothes boutiques, toy stores, video outlets, hairdressers etc. There is also a regional shopping centre at Whyalla containing department stores such as Harris Scarfe, Harvey Norman, Target. There are more large retail outlets including Kmart at Port Pirie. There is a Commonwealth Bank, Westpac, National Australia Bank, Bank SA, ANZ, CPS Credit Union and Creditunionsa.

- **Other local facilities**

There are medical facilities including a recently built hospital and a range of visiting specialists and a resident obstetrician, numerous sporting and recreational facilities available, hotels, motels, clubs, restaurants including Café Primo, take-away food outlets (including KFC, McDonalds, Hungry Jacks, Barnacle Bills, Subway and Eagle Boys), a cinema/theatre and a public library. There are a range of tourist attractions including Wadlata and the Arid Lands Botanic Gardens. The recent development of the wharf area including the foreshore upgrade and building of the Oasis Apartments has given the area a new lease of life. Port Augusta is a keen sporting town and offers people many opportunities to participate in sports including football, tennis, golf(18 hole greens), netball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, softball, badminton, swimming (Olympic Size pool), aquatic centre, yacht club, pony club, horse racing, dance schools, fishing, bushwalking and camping in the nearby Flinders Ranges.

- **Availability of staff housing**

Available - see staff section

- **Accessibility**

Crossroads of Australia - a little over 3 hours drive to Adelaide. Bus, train and plane transport is available to Adelaide. The Indian Pacific and Ghan pass through the town.

12. Further Comments

- Port Augusta West Primary School is a member of the Port Augusta Quorn partnership, including schools and preschools in Port Augusta and Quorn. The Education Office is currently located in the TAFE building in Port Augusta.
- The Educational Director is Ian May.