

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT Updated: 05/06

School number: 0938

School name: HINCKS AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

1. General information

Part A

School Name : HINCKS AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL School
No. : 0938 Courier : Eyre & Western

Principal : Mrs Rosie Gilsenan-Reed

Postal Address : Schulz Avenue, Whyalla Norrie 5608

Location Address : Schulz Avenue, Whyalla Norrie 5608
Region : Eyre & Western
Distance from GPO : 380 kms

Phone No. : 08 86457266
Fax No. : 08 86450811

CPC attached : NO

	2012	2013	2014	2015
February FTE Enrolment				
Primary Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.	8	8	7	8
Reception	26	20	16	27
Year 1	21	19	17	17
Year 2	22	19	19	16
Year 3	24	22	19	25
Year 4	13	17	17	23
Year 5	12	17	18	16
Year 6	22	13	18	21
Year 7	22	20	9	20
Secondary Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.				
Year 8				
Year 9				
Year 10				
Year 11				
Year 12				
Year 12 plus				
TOTAL	170	155	140	173
School Card Approvals (Persons)	95	85	50	

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Part B

School e-mail address: dl.0938info@schools.sa.edu.au

- Staffing numbers teaching staff FTE 11.6 Support staff 16
- Enrolment trends

Although there had been a decline in enrolments there has been a steady increase over the past two years. Total enrolments for 2015 are presently 186

- Year of opening 1962 with amalgamation of Junior and Primary in 1985
- Public transport access

Local Whyalla bus service as well as an Iron Knob to Whyalla bus service.

2. Students (and their welfare)

Hincks Avenue Primary School is a Reception to Year 7 school with a current enrolment of 186 students.

- 31 students have Negotiated Education Plans, including 8 students in the junior primary special class. Student plans are closely monitored, and School Services Officers' time is allocated according to individual needs.
- 57 students are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent
- By the end of the year 50% of students are approved for school card.

School and class codes of behaviour are based on the values of:- •

Respecting Individual Dignity and Worth

- Open Communication
- Teamwork
- Honesty
- Trust
- Pride in ourselves and our school

The values guide our actions and decisions. Values are well embedded in the school culture. The infringement of codes results in logical consequences and actions based on Restorative Practices.(we are currently reviewing our values to align with REBE)

The School Counsellor works with students individually, in small groups and whole classes developing positive social skills. For children in need of emotional/social support the counsellor uses collaborative methodologies to support best practice in classrooms using a model of co-teaching.

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Clearly outlined behaviour management/behaviour education structures are implemented. An emphasis is placed on rights, responsibilities, routines and positive interaction to provide a success-oriented environment. Our site promotes REBE (Rational Emotive Behaviour Education) and the language of success helper behaviour or success stopper behaviour is used across the site.

3. Key School Policies

Our vision is

“Hincks Avenue is committed to student learning in a positive environment”

Our core business is

“To empower students to reach their full potential”

Our school motto is ...

‘Every student matters everyday”

The school priorities are:-

- Numeracy
- Literacy
- Student Wellbeing by being engaged learners and improved attendance

4. Curriculum

Hincks Avenue Primary School hosts an Early Years Special class, which caters for students with learning disabilities in the Whyalla Partnership.

Students across the site are well supported through the use of intervention programs, targeted small group work as well as SSOs supporting students who have an NEP and/or ILP. Succinct programs are provided for students which are reviewed regularly. EALD Scales are used R-7 both to plan for teaching and to assess student learning. Scaling of student work occurs at the beginning of the teaching of each genre (beginning of each term) and again at the end of the teaching period. A consistent Guided Reading approach is used throughout the school.

Work with John Fleming in 2013 had a profound influence on the development of explicit teaching skills leading to increased student learning outcomes, particularly in Literacy. As a result of this work with John, Whole School Agreements have been documented around the Literacy Block, Warm Ups and Numeracy.

Bookwork standards have been established and published for students.

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All schools in the Whyalla Partnership have agreed that Numeracy and Mathematics is a major focus for improvement for all students. The partnership committed 3 student free days to numeracy and mathematics professional development for all staff. The aim of the partnership is to build leadership capability and improve educator quality in mathematics and numeracy.

Reporting Outline

Interviews are held twice per year, at the end of term 1 and 3. Formal Reports are written at the end of term 2 and 4.

Open communication with caregivers is actively encouraged.

A structured process of collecting data is used R-7 using

- Running Records
- PROBE
- EALD Scales
- PAT Maths
- PAT Reading
- A-E grades
- Spelling Mastery
- NAPLAN
- Attendance.

Some of this data is reviewed at 4 weekly intervals, shared as a staff and with the Governing Council to celebrate student achievement, teacher and SSO work with students and plan for future learning.

5. Sporting Activities

Term time swimming lessons takes place for one week annually. Year 6 and 7 students participate in aquatics.

Students participate in interschool sports organised between other primary schools.

Individual students have the opportunity to try out for a number of SAPSASA events.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

The school has a choir, which participates in the Whyalla Combined Primary Schools' Choir.

Instrumental tuition is provided by DECS.

Yard activities and clubs are provided during break times.

We celebrate special events (e.g. Reconciliation Week, PE Week, Bandana Day etc)

At the beginning of the year we host an Acquaintance Afternoon.

Sports day is enthusiastically supported by our school community.

This year we have one class participating in recorder tuition and another having the opportunity to experience orchestral band.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Currently there are 28 people on staff. Of these people 14 are SSOs, 2 ACEO's and 14 are teachers with 11 female and 3 male.

The school Leadership Team consists of Principal and Leader Band 1 Wellbeing and Curriculum Development.

Collegiate support is very high at Hincks. All school staff supports one another in all aspects of school life. They work collaboratively promoting a positive feel between colleagues.

The specialist subjects of Health and Physical Education and HASS provide teachers with NIT. Performance & Development is shared between the Principal and Leader Band 1.

We are supported by Guidance, Disability Services, Hearing Impairment Consultant, Speech Pathologist, instrumental music teachers, Physiotherapist, Child development Unit, Behaviour Coach, Novita, Autism SA and Occupational Therapist.

Our site has a new Aboriginal Children & Family Centre – Gabmididi Manoo – which was completed in May 2013.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

Government housing is available to contract and permanent teachers and all removal expenses are paid for tenures of one term or more.

There is a locality allowance of \$26 per year paid as a monetary amount since beginning of 2003.

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9. School Facilities

The school has enlarged teaching areas. All classes are double the area size of traditional classroom.

Whyalla's climate is such that air-conditioning is essential. All buildings are both heated and cooled by reverse cycle air conditioners or split systems.

All classroom blocks are accessed both by steps and ramps. There is disabled bathroom situated near the basketball court.

Each learning space has an interactive whiteboard, either Polyvision or Smartboard. Each student has a laptop/tablet called an XO.

Through the federally funded BER project we were able to build a 'Macdonald Park' Hall, the school painted throughout.

Ample play areas are available within the grounds. A large oval, cricket pitch, refurbished basketball court, tennis and volleyball court and 4 separate adventure play areas exist.

There is no canteen on site, however, students & staff are able to order lunches from Stuart High School Canteen on Tuesday and Thursday.

10. School Operations

Hincks Avenue Primary School recognises that all members of the school community have the right and should have the opportunity to participate fully in decision making.

We believe that informed decision making involves the people affected by the decision, respects individual input and expects all to abide by the group decision.

Key decision making groups are parents through the operations of the Governing Council and affiliated committees (Fundraising, Grounds & Facilities, Finance, Community Participation, Aboriginal Parent Voice).

Staff members make up other important decision making groups such as: -

- P.A.C.
- Leadership Team
- A.E.U.
- Year Level Team s
- Site improvement Team
- Events committee
- WHS
- ICT

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Staff and parents are kept informed about the procedures and policies through various handbooks.

A parent information book is updated and given to all families at enrolment.

A staff induction handbook (available on the intranet) summarises important procedures and policies relevant to successful practice. This is supplemented with a policy folder that explains in detail the beliefs and management of the school.

An on-line Staff and Student Bulletin through Learnlink is used to keep staff and students informed about current information.

Whole school assemblies are held regularly on a Friday or for special occasions, hosted by individual classes. The parent community is encouraged to attend.

Hincks Avenue Primary School has a large number of school card holders and is recognised as a disadvantaged school, category 2.

Our financial practices are sound.

11. Local Community

The Hincks Avenue Primary School community is multicultural, socially and economically diverse. Most of the housing is Housing Trust double unit accommodation with some private housing. Many of our families have limited income due to unemployment or other personal difficulties. The school is well supported by the local community and the schools facilities are used regularly by local organisations.

A pre-school facility exists on our school grounds but is managed autonomously. Special programs occur to promote orientation and transition opportunities.

Students bus daily from Iron Knob, which is approximately 50 km away.

The education/care facilities consist of child-care, occasional care, day care, and respite care services established in a range of settings and locations.

There are six pre-schools, seven primary schools, and a secondary college consisting of two Year 8 – 10 campuses and a senior secondary campus.

There is also a TAFE and a campus of the University of SA in Whyalla.

There is a base hospital, large numbers of GPs and several dentists. Most specialist services are available – some on a part time basis. Most medical facilities are available in the city with support from Adelaide specialists. The city is serviced by Air Ambulance. A wide range of sporting/fitness activities are available including water sports, organised team sports and aerobic/circuit and other keep-fit activities. There is a recently upgraded health and leisure centre, including an indoor pool.

Arts activities include theatre groups, dance groups, a thriving craft community that holds monthly fairs and many music groups covering a range of styles.

The main shopping centre, Westland, is situated quite close to the school.

With recent renovations and extensions this provides a wide range of shopping facilities.

Other shops are located in smaller centres. Regional Express Airlines and a Stateliner bus service run multiple daily bus trips and flights to Adelaide.

The Office of Government Housing supplies teacher housing, both furnished and unfurnished, for permanent and contract staff.

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The Whyalla City Council (phone 86457422) runs the local bus service and supports two community libraries. It has a strong interest in the environment and in supporting the local community (e.g. local festivals such as The Snapper Fishing Competition, the Whyalla show etc). The Whyalla Newspaper annually produces a comprehensive guide to services.

12. Further Comments

Our school is unique, in that all classrooms are of double size, the ideal physical environment for a range of teaching methodologies. There is a high level of support for staff and students.

Although we are a school of significant disadvantage, staff movement has been minimal over the last few years.