

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2019

School number: 0204

School name: Kersbrook Primary School

1. General information

Part A

School Name : KERSBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL
School No. : 0204 Courier : R 67/4 Verdun
Principal : Ms Jill Gurner
Postal Address : Bowden Street, Kersbrook 5231
Location Address : Bowden Street, Kersbrook 5231
District : Adelaide Hills
Distance from GPO : 43 kms Phone No. : 08 83893068
CPC attached : NO Fax No. : 08 83893346

February FTE Enrolment

| | | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Primary | Special, N.A.P. | | | | | |
| Ungraded etc. | | | | | | |
| | Reception | 9.0 | 3.0 | 10 | 11.0 | 14 |
| | Year 1 | 4.0 | 13.0 | 6.0 | 8.0 | 13 |
| | Year 2 | 15.0 | 6.0 | 13.0 | 5.0 | 7 |
| | Year 3 | 5.0 | 9.0 | 4.0 | 10.0 | 6 |
| | Year 4 | 9.0 | 7.0 | 19.0 | 5.0 | 10 |
| | Year 5 | 7.0 | 6.0 | 7.0 | 14.0 | 8 |
| | Year 6 | 9.0 | 4.0 | 10.0 | 7.0 | 14 |
| | Year 7 | 1.0 | 10 | 12.0 | 4.0 | 5 |
| Secondary | Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc. | | | | | |
| | Year 8 | | | | | |
| | Year 9 | | | | | |
| | Year 10 | | | | | |
| | Year 11 | | | | | |
| | Year 12 | | | | | |
| | Year 12 plus | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | 59 | 58.0 | 81 | 64 | 76 |
| July total FTE Enrolment | | 59 | 66 | 81 | 62 | |
| Male FTE | | 28 | 33.0 | 38.0 | 32.0 | |
| Female FTE | | 31 | 33.0 | 43.0 | 30.0 | |
| School Card Approvals (Persons) | | 18 | 12 | 16 | 10 | |
| NESB Total (Persons) | | | | | | |
| Aboriginal FTE Enrolment | | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |

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-si

Part B

Staffing numbers:

Principal 1.0

3.6 teaching staff

Approximately 112 hours ancillary time
Total Staff 12

School's email address:

dl.0204.admin@schools.sa.edu.au

OSHC:

OSHC was established as an independent service in 2005.
In 2018 Term 3 OSHC was outsourced to Happy Haven
and is now housed in the Old School Building.

Enrolment trends:

The school enrolment had fluctuated between 50 and 75 students over
the past 20 years.

Year of opening:

1868

Public transport access:

Nil

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics:

Kersbrook Primary School is a vibrant public school that is open to all students. We are situated in the heart of the Adelaide Hills' apple and cherry growing region. As a small school our staff pursue the highest quality education for all of our students.

Kersbrook Primary School is founded on the philosophy of inclusion and community. We aim to equip students with abilities both academic and social, for life in the 21st Century. Our students are inspired to the highest standards, encouraged to think critically and creatively, to work collaboratively, to act ethically and develop a commitment to contribute to their community.

Educating students since 1850, Kersbrook Primary is in an attractive setting, surrounded by grazing land in one of the most biologically diverse areas of South Australia. We take pride in our grounds with shady trees, a large oval and play areas. We have a large library where we encourage reading for learning and leisure.

Our families and community are engaged with our school in many different ways. We enjoy being an integral part of the township of Kersbrook and the support we receive ensures that we are always well resourced and have the ability to bring the best to our children's education. We are not zoned and invite you to come and visit our

school to meet the people who work here educating children to be confident, caring and articulate learners of the future. Please feel free to visit our website: <http://www.kersbrookps.sa.edu.au> for more information.

Care programmes and Support Offered:

The wellbeing of students is at the centre of everything we do at Kersbrook Primary School. Our staff use up to date methods of pedagogy and positive psychology to assist children to do their individual best and to shine in their own unique way. The Pastoral Care Worker assists with student wellbeing.

Student management:

The school's Behaviour Management Policy was reviewed and updated in 2018. The school enjoys a student body that demonstrates collegiate support R-7

Student governance:

Class meetings and the Student Representative Council are vital parts of the decision making structure. The SRC is trained annually to engage in major aspects of decision making as one of the three major decision making bodies in the school.

Special programs:

Special programs are run to cater for individual needs. These programs include Early Intervention and Special Education.

In 2018 after parent approaches to Adelaide Hills Council and the Minister of Transport, funding was approved for a new crossing with flashing lights on the main road, significant improvements to the carpark and a new crossing outside the school gate. The new designs were presented for community consultation in 2018 and works commenced April, 2019.

School assemblies:

There are 3 assemblies held per term in Weeks 3, 6 and 9. Each class has a turn presenting the assembly. In 2018 staggered days were introduced to give parents the best opportunity to attend.

3. Key School Policies

Vision statement:

We aim for academic excellence across our key learning areas of Maths, Science, Literacy, Geography, History, English, The Arts, Physical Education, Civics and Citizenship, Sustainability, Creative and Critical thinking. We have a vibrant active Choir and participated in a student exchange program hosting South Korean students in 2017. We understand that children bring a diversity of strengths and particular interests to their learning.

We build upon individual abilities and inspire students to achieve with a growth mindset. Included in our activities is Nature Play for the younger children, fitness for a healthy body and mind, a focus on reading for pleasure as well as learning and of course the core subjects of literacy, maths and sciences.

High quality teaching, good resources and an outstanding school environment contribute to maintaining educational excellence. Students are encouraged to the highest standards, to think critically and creatively, work collaboratively, act ethically and responsibly, engage productively with difference, and develop a commitment to contribute to the broader common good as well as their own personal development.

We believe these ideals meet the challenges of 21st century Australia.

Long Term Objectives:

Kersbrook Primary School 2019 – 2021 Site Improvement Plan outlines our long term objectives for literacy and numeracy. SIP includes goals, targets and challenges of practice. Please refer to www.kersbrookps.sa.edu.au

4. Curriculum

Learning Areas:

We report against the Australian Curriculum achievement standards for all 8 learning areas. We currently teach Japanese as our language other than English.

The Learning Areas are:

English (Language, Literature, Literacy)

Mathematics (Statistics & probability, Measurement & Geography, Number and Algebra, Fluency, Problem Solving, Reasoning)

Science (Science understanding – Earth & space sciences; Physical sciences – Biological sciences: Science as a human endeavor; Science Inquiry skills.

Humanities and Social Sciences

Civics and Citizenship (Years 3-8) Economics and Business (Years 5-8) Geography, History.

The Arts (Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music, Visual Arts)

Technologies (Design and Technologies, Digital Technologies)

Japanese – Open Access College

Health and Physical Education

Special needs:

The school has a number of children with special needs. They are supported through careful planning, appropriate resourcing and continued review.

Special curriculum features:

The school has interactive whiteboards in each of the classrooms and access to Wi-Fi throughout the school. Classes have a combination of iPads, Laptops and desktop computers that are used as an increasingly important part of our curriculum delivery. We have Spheros which are used for programming. In 2018 we purchased a 3D Printer. Technology is continually updated. In 2019 the school was offered dedicated, high speed fibre optic internet connection to update internet speed and efficiency.

Teaching methodology:

We currently have three multi-year level classes with student numbers in each class less than the Department for Education guidelines. SSOs support learning in each class for an uninterrupted literacy block each morning. SSOs also provide targeted and small group support.

Assessment procedures and reporting:

Parent Teacher Interviews occur in Term 1. A comprehensive written report is issued in Terms 2 & 4. Optional interviews are offered in Term 3. Teachers or parents may request an interview at any other time.

5. Sporting Activities

We have many visiting sporting clinics during the year including football, and Sporting Schools funding for Gymnastics, tennis, cricket and soccer with professional coaches or players.

The school is involved in an interschool sports day at the beginning of Term 4 with Paracombe and Gumeracha schools from the Torrens Valley Partnership. Children are also participating in SAPSASA sports.

We also have an annual aquatics program at the Elizabeth Aquadome for all students. This goes for a week in Term 4.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

The School Governing Council and fundraising committee runs events which have proved very successful including a Disco for students and special lunch days. Year 7s participate in the annual Canberra Trip as part of Civics and Citizenship.

Playgroup meet each Wednesday morning in the OSB.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile

The teaching staff consists of experienced teachers who bring a wide range of knowledge and skills to the school.

Leadership structure:

We have a full-time Principal and no other leadership.

Staff support systems:

Personnel Advisory Committee supports the Principal decision making regarding staffing and other matters.

Staff utilisation policies:

A 0.6 Teacher is employed for Health, PE and part of The Arts to provide NIT for Class Teachers.

Access to special staff:

Open Access College supports Japanese language instruction with their specialist bi-lingual teachers via interactive video link.

Performance Management:

The new Performance and Development Plans have provided an opportunity to better manage staff performance and improve outcomes for students.

Incentives:

Celebrations of achievement, recognition via the newsletter and other publications, acknowledgment at meetings (performance management and other), special 'celebration staff meetings' at the end of each term, Birthday celebrations for all staff and special lunches celebrating World teachers Day and SSO Week.

8. Incentives, Support and Award Conditions for Staff

N/A.

9. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds

Currently the Junior Primary Class occupies what was previously the schoolhouse. This has been converted to facilitate teaching and learning. This building upgrade was completed in March 2003. In 2018 the exterior of the Old School Building was repaired and repainted in preparation for our 150 Year Sesquicentenary Celebrations in November. The OSB is shared now by Playgroup on Wednesday morning and Happy Haven OSHC.

The main school building was built in 1980 and office upgrades were completed in 1998. Administration and staff facilities, toilets, a canteen,

resource areas and a wet area share this space with Year 5/6/7 class. This area was upgraded in 2011 with new stove, storage cupboards, sink, range hood and new tiling. The staffroom area was again upgraded in January 2007 with new kitchen facilities and tiled areas to cope with growing numbers and need for more practical working space.

In 2010 construction of our new library building began and was completed at the end of 2011.

Currently the Junior Primary (R/1) is housed in the School House; the Middle Primary (Years 2/3/4) are located in the Transportable; and the Upper Primary class (Years 5/6/7) are in the Main Building.

Staff facilities:

Self-contained staff room including kitchen and photocopying facilities, staff toilet and shower.

Access to bus transport:

All students travel to school using parent transport, push bike or walk. There is no school bus.

10. School Operations

Decision making structures:

The following groups are active in school decision-making:

Staff, Students (via class meetings and SRC), Governing Council and sub-committees.

The Principal and staff constantly check and review decision making. The school aims to ensure that all members of the school community have their views valued and included.

The contributions of the various groups are acknowledged where possible in the newsletter.

Regular publications:

A newsletter is produced fortnightly.

Other communication:

There is a policy booklet for parents and a school brochure. Regular formal and informal communication occurs between class teachers and parents. Teachers now use Class Dojo to communicate with families. School Stream is our communication app. We have a new website which is continually updated with calendar, news and information.

An Enrolment pack and colour booklet is available for prospective families to find out about the school as well as the opportunity to have an interview with the Principal, meet the teachers and have a tour of the school.

School financial position:

The school is in a healthy financial position.

11. Local Community

General characteristics:

Kersbrook Primary School is located in the Torrens Valley about 40kms from Adelaide. Although Kersbrook is an orchard and grazing area, subdivision has redeveloped the area into a small township surrounded by many hobby farms. The parents mainly commute out of the district to work. Most children continue with secondary education at Birdwood High School.

Parent and community involvement:

At Kersbrook Primary School we recognise that education is one of the major vehicles for the development of capabilities for active participation in civic life.

We have created structures and processes that give an authentic voice to all in the school community. Students are encouraged to have a say in their learning and parents are provided with opportunities to participate in their child's education and to play a role in the life of the school.

We encourage parental engagement which is a significant factor affecting learning outcome. Open and friendly communication between home and school ensures we are all working together to help students excel and attain their personal best.

In 2018 Governing Council decided to fundraise with a Quiz Night instead of the Annual Auction. This decision proved to be a great success and more money was raised with a lot less work. The Parent and community input the Quiz Night and other fundraisers is outstanding.

Feeder schools:

We receive new students from Torrens Valley Child Care, Gumeracha Kindergarten, Williamstown CPC and the One Tree Hill Kindergarten. There are also several students enrolled who reside in the northern suburbs.

Other local care and educational facilities:

Kersbrook Playgroup – currently in operation once per week (each Wednesday morning) providing a fruitful opportunity for non-school community members to become familiar and comfortable with the school environment.

Commercial / industrial and shopping facilities:

These facilities include a general store and petrol station, post office, equestrian centre, chemist, tavern, winery cellar door sales and a hardware and cold storage co-op.

Other local facilities:

Community facilities include a sports park, 1 church, a hall and a CFS station.

Availability of staff housing:

Rental housing is difficult to obtain.

Local Government body:

Adelaide Hills Council is the local government body.

12. Further Comments

The Kersbrook School Community is busy, energetic and focused on quality educational outcomes. The development of excellent facilities and resources and the implementation of exciting school initiated curricula have resulted from a high level of collaboration, planning, enthusiasm, engagement and professionalism.

In 2018 after parent approaches to Adelaide Hills Council and the Minister of Transport, funding was approved for a new crossing with flashing lights on the main road, significant improvements to the carpark and a new crossing outside the school gate. The new designs were presented for community consultation in 2018 and works commenced April, 2019.