

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: Term 3 2021

School number: 0467

School name: Warooka Primary School

Warooka Primary School and School Based Preschool (Warooka Schools) have a strong commitment to providing a wide range of relevant learning experiences for students. The School Based Preschool (SBP) is an integral part of the school and appears as another classroom. The students are in 5 classes: SBP, Reception/Year 1/2, Year 3/4, Year 4/5 and Year 6/7. Many students (approx 85%) travel on buses to attend school via one of 3 bus routes (Marion Bay, Corny Point and Point Turton).

There is a strong emphasis on student voice, with all students being encouraged to help in leading their school, from ideas for improvements to negotiating their learning. Students have access to a range of learning tools, including cameras, tablets, laptops and data projectors, and video / film production facilities. There is a strong emphasis on environmental initiatives. A strong commitment to the Sporting Schools program exists at Warooka, inclusive of students from SBP – Year 7.

In 2018 our School Based Preschool underwent its assessment and rating by the Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority (ACECQA). Our service was rated as meeting the National Quality Standards in Quality Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7, and exceeding in Quality Area 5, which is relationships with children. This means that overall we were rated as meeting the National Quality Standards.

Students continue to enjoy learning in our natural play space, which now includes a fire ring. Students also participate in a variety of experiences that include Year 6/7 aquatics and Mylor camp, Year 3/4 & 4/5 Adelaide camp, R - 5 swimming lessons, combined learning days with other preschools, and Science Week activities. Students and staff members are involved in caring for the environment through an environment group, tending the school garden, planting trees, and working with community groups.

General information

Part A

School name : WAROOKA PRIMARY SCHOOL
School No. : 0467
Principal : Beth Purdy-Dart
Postal Address : PO Box 186, Warooka 5577
Location Address : Main Street, Warooka 5577
Courier : Minlaton Region
Phone No. : 08 8854 5034
Fax No. : 08 8854 5018
School email address : dl.0467.info@schools.sa.edu.au
School web address : <http://www.warookaps.sa.edu.au>
Partnership : Southern Yorke ECD Local Partnership
Road distance from GPO : 225 kms
School Based Preschool attached: YES

February FTE Enrolment

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
School Based Preschool	8	15	9	12	6
Primary					
Reception	12	8	8	7	11
Year 1	13	9	6	8	7
Year 2	12	14	7	8	8
Year 3	9	13	12	8	8
Year 4	15	10	9	12	8
Year 5	10	10	10	11	13
Year 6	11	9	7	10	10
Year 7	10	9	9	6	11
Total (Primary)	92	82	68	70	76

2020 School Card (Persons)	15
2020 NESB Total (Persons)	0
2020 Born O/S & in Aust less than 1 yr (Persons)	0
2020 Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	8

Part B

- Deputy Principal: nil
- Staffing numbers (2020): 4.4 FTE teachers (2 male, 5 female), 120 hours per week SSO time (4 female) & 8 hours per week grounds and maintenance (1 male).
- OSHC: nil
- Enrolment trends: Slight decline in recent years.
- Year of opening: 1879
- Public transport access: No local public transport.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics: A strong family atmosphere exists, stemming from being a School Based Preschool to Year 7 School. There is a very strong culture of caring, cooperation and integration of all students across SBP to Year 7. To extend student interaction across the school, formal activities are organised which focus on fostering co-operation and interaction across SBP – 7.
- (Pastoral) Care programs: within classes
- Support offered: through access to Student Support Services personnel
- Student management: Common whole school expectations have been developed; this is strongly supported by parents. A continuing focus is the maintenance of programmes to acknowledge positive behaviours.

3. Key School Policies

- Site Priorities: Increase student understanding in number sense and use of operations in R -7, and increase student ability to interpret inferred and explicitly stated information from a range of texts.

4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings: Australian Curriculum is used for teaching and learning in Reception to Year 7 while the Early Years Learning Framework is used in the Preschool.
- Open Access: nil
- Special needs: intervention and support programmes for identified students.
- Special curriculum features
 - Additional support programs (including for Students with Disabilities) are provided in a range of ways across the whole school.
 - Laptops and iPads are available for student use.
 - Staff are encouraged and supported to update their skills. Each staff member is allocated a laptop for their use.
 - The Resource Centre uses the Bookmark system.
 - Language (Spanish) is taught across Reception to Year 7.
 - Whole school assemblies are held (usually twice a term) with students from each class, in turn, acting as hosts.
- Assessment procedures and reporting
 - For preschool children, goal-setting conversations are held with families early in Term 1, and written statements of learning are provided at the end of Term 4.
 - For primary students, parent-teacher interviews are held near the end of Term 1, and written reports are provided at the end of Terms 2 and 4.
- Joint programmes
 - Occasional joint student programmes are held with local schools such as Yorketown Area School and St Columba's Memorial School. This includes arts performances and environmental education initiatives.
 - A Year 7 – Year 8 transition program occurs between Warooka Primary School and Yorketown Area School.

5. Sporting Activities

- Students access and participate in school sporting activities including clinics, competitions and SAPSASA events.
- Various sports are offered by local clubs such as basketball, football, tennis, cricket, lawn bowls, golf, table tennis, netball, Little Athletics and hockey.
- S.Y.P. Combined Primary Sports Day and Warooka Sports Day both take place annually, usually around March. The Warooka day focusses on participation and enjoyment for all, with representatives then selected to participate in the interschool event.
- Many students undertake informal 'recreational' activities associated with water sports (e.g. surfing) as well as a range of dance and drama activities.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- A strong commitment to the Sporting Schools program exists at Warooka, inclusive of students from SBP – Year 7.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile: Some staff members tend to remain at the school on a long term basis. In recent years a number of contract positions have existed at Warooka Schools. Team work and shared leadership is encouraged, supported and prevalent.

- Leadership structure: The principal is responsible for the leadership of both the primary school and SBP. A SBP teacher takes on the role of leading and managing many aspects of the SBP. The principal is supported by the Personnel Advisory Committee.
- Performance and Development: The principal has responsibility for the school's performance and development program. Performance and development conversations occur between staff members and the principal, and all staff members are expected to develop a performance and development plan. Staff members are encouraged to 'manage up'.
- Access to special staff: on a needs basis, usually from the Kadina Education Office.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Isolation placement points: 3.5
- Cooling for school buildings: refer to School Facilities section below.
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance: Yes
- Medical and dental treatment expenses: Some assistance with travel under the Non-Metro Award.
- Relocation assistance: as per Department policy
- Principal's telephone costs: Principal is entitled to reimbursement of the cost of basic rental and official calls.

9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds: Two stone buildings, one utilised as the administration block with offices, staffroom, etc and the other utilised as the student resource centre. Four timber buildings utilised as classrooms: the School Based Preschool, a three-classroom 'open space' area, a single classroom, and a double classroom. A full size gymnasium was constructed in 2011.
- Cooling: All classrooms, the resource centre and the admin/staff/community area have reverse cycle airconditioners.
- Student facilities: Classrooms and the SBP building are carpeted and air-conditioned.
- Staff facilities: The staff facilities are comfortable with adequate work areas and access to teacher preparation areas.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities: Access is available for staff and students with disabilities with ramps to several buildings and a toilet.
- Access to bus transport: The school is serviced by 3 bus runs that originate from Marion Bay, Corny Point and Point Turton. Privately owned buses are available to hire for daily excursions.
- Other: The SBP provides a service for pre-school students and presently operates 2 days in the 'odd' school weeks (Tuesday and Thursday) and 3 days in the 'even' school weeks (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday).

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures: Effective communication, participative decision making, delegated responsibility and shared leadership are features of the school's organisation structures. Governing Council has two committees: Finance and Parents & Friends. These Committees are comprised of parents and staff members. Committees report to Governing Council regularly. Whole staff meetings and SBP staff meetings are each held weekly for organisational and professional learning discussions.
- Regular publications: Fortnightly newsletter that includes some community items, Parent Information Handbook and Staff Induction Folder.
- Other communication: Parents and Friends Committee meets once per month.
- School financial position: The school has been in a sound position for a number of years.

11. Local Community

- General characteristics: The community comprises primarily farming families, fishing families, fly in - fly out workers, and families who have employment in local businesses, some self-employed. The community has four major 'hubs': families who live at or associate with Marion Bay, Corny Point, Point Turton and Warooka. The largest percentage of students comes from the Marion Bay region, with relatively few families actually living in the Warooka township.
- Parent and community involvement: Parents are involved in the school in a range of ways from classroom support and participation on various committees through to assisting with school programs such as sports coaching.
- Feeder schools: Warooka Primary School has a School Based Preschool and children make the transition to the R-7 section of the school according to "Same First Day" regulations after a transition program. Children from Warooka Primary School usually transfer to Yorketown Area School for secondary education (21km by bus from Warooka).
- Other local care and educational facilities: Local playcentres operate once a week at both Corny Point and Marion Bay.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities: one IGA store, hairdresser, pharmacy, hardware, plumber, refrigeration & air conditioning service, garage, hotel, post office, and electronics repairer. Medical services and a hospital are situated at Yorketown, and medical services at Minlaton. More extensive shopping is available in Yorketown and Minlaton.
- Other local facilities: Town oval complex includes football/cricket oval and clubhouse, bowling green and clubhouse, tennis / netball / basketball courts and clubhouse, public playground and BBQ area, and 18-hole golf course and clubhouse. Town Hall and doctor's consulting rooms. Uniting, Anglican and Catholic churches.
- Availability of staff housing: There is no government housing available locally, with the nearest located in Yorketown or Minlaton. Limited private rental is available.
- Local Government body: Yorke Peninsula Council