

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 02/17

School Name: Port Neill Primary School

School Number: 0361

1. General Information

Part A

Schoolname	: PORT NEILL PRIMARY SCHOOL	Courier	: North West Country
School No.	: 0361		
Principal	: Dave Elson		
Postal Address	: Box 64, Port Neill 5604		
Location Address	: Wallis Street, Port Neill 5604		
Partnership	: Central Eyre		
Distance from GPO	: 580 kms	Phone No.	: 08 86889029
CPC attached	: NO	Fax No.	: 08 86889128

		2014	2015	2016	2017
February FTE Enrolment					
Primary	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.				
	Reception	0.0	3.0	1.0	3.0
	Year 1	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0
	Year 2	2.0	2.0	0.0	0.0
	Year 3	3.0	3.0	2.0	0.0
	Year 4	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Year 5	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
	Year 6	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0
Secondary	Year 7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.				
	Year 8				
	Year 9				
	Year 10				
	Year 11				
	Year 12				
	Year 12 plus				
TOTAL		7	12	8	4
Male FTE		3.0	5.0	3.0	1.0
Female FTE		4.0	7.0	4.0	3.0
School Card Approvals (Persons)			2	2	0
NESB Total (Persons)					
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment					

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

- Staffing numbers
 - 1.0 Principal
 - 0.8 Teacher
 - Finance 24 hours permanent SSO2
 - Admin/Library 16 permanent (+2) SSO1
 - Playcentre Coordinator 3.75 hours per week (Friday).
 - 10 HPW Christian Pastoral Support Worker - 3 days per week
 - Cleaner - Millennium High Tech.
- **OSHC:** No OSHC is provided
- Enrolment trends

Enrolments have fluctuated and are very dependent upon employment opportunities that may arise in Port Neill. The school has promoted itself very strongly and have gained some additional enrolments in recent times. The large staffing reduction in a nearby aquaculture company has seen a number of families lose work and move in at the the beginning of 2013, caused a sudden reverse in enrolment trends.
- Special arrangements

Port Neill is a member of the Eyre Region Small Schools Hub Group established in 2000. This group encourages Leadership opportunities for older students by holding 'Leadership Camps' and Leadership experiences each year. It also provides Principals with a support network relevant to small schools, and promotes the many positive aspects of Small Schools. Six Small Schools are involved coming from across Eyre Peninsula (Penong is the furthest school from Port Neill, about 550kms away). Port Neill is also part of a more local network of small schools called the SEEP Network (Schools of Eastern Eyre Peninsula). This group meets each year for a Tabloid Sports Day and Beach Sports Day. Recent closures of Wharminda and Karkoo Primary Schools have reduced this group to just Ungarra and Port Neill schools. Poonindie Community learning Centre has joined the tabloid sports day in 2013
- Year of opening

Port Neill School was opened in 1911 as Carrow School. The name changed in 1941. The present admin building was opened in 1983.
- Public transport access

Public transport includes a daily bus service (Stateliner) to/from Adelaide and Port Lincoln from Port Neill and Regional Express and Qantaslink air services from Port Lincoln, approximately 45 minutes drive from Port Neill.

2. STUDENTS (AND THEIR WELFARE)

- General characteristics

A 'Family Atmosphere' is evident within the school, due to the number of students. There is also strong and productive rapport between staff, students and parents. The school enjoys a high level of parental involvement and both students and parents are directly involved in decision making at various levels throughout the school.

Port Neill PS currently has a single class structure. Student numbers are spread evenly between Year 1 to Year 5. The students come from 6 families. The student population all live in the township of Port Neill. There is no school bus service supporting the school and this has contributed to a loss of enrolments in recent years, forcing a number of farming families to enrol their children at more distant schools supported by bus runs.

- Care programs

Students at risk are identified and offered specialised programmes. Social skills are developed during daily group class time, regular class meetings and Student Executive meetings.

- Support offered

SSO hours are used to provide support to students with identified needs. Support is available through professionals from Port Lincoln or Whyalla. Classroom teachers, with SSO support, run their own Special Needs program.

- Student management

Student behaviour management strategies focus on students taking responsibility for their own behaviour. The school focuses on positive behaviour management through acknowledging student successes. Students have a Code of Conduct to guide their behaviour using the behavioural guidelines and consequences negotiated with classroom teachers.

- Student government

Due to the small numbers and age of the students student voice will be via class meetings

- Special programmes

Special support is given to students as required

3. Key School Policies

- Statement of Purpose
 - Port Neill Primary School is an organisation whose business is learning and teaching in a positive, safe and secure environment, particularly:
 - improving Information Technology resources and skills for both students and staff
 - teaching and learning in a family orientated environment and equality of opportunity and social justice for students
 - Delivery of the curriculum R-7 in 8 areas.
 - a range of programs that address the social justice issues of geographical isolation
 - expectation of knowledge and understanding of Early Childhood learning
 - strategies to promote a culture of success and lifelong learning
 - SSOs providing regular classroom support including 1:1 work with special needs students
 - sharing resources within regional and SEEP cluster of schools
 - Co-operative arrangements with Cluster Schools for training and development.
 - Three school families and a Playcentre rep are currently involved on Governing Council.

4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings

Port Neill delivers the Australian Curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science, Geography and History. The school is implementing the full range of Australian Curriculum as it is released over a 4 year transition from SACSA Curriculum. The major focus currently is the use of data to determine individual learning programs and goals for students. The size of the school allows teachers to plan for individual student needs.
- Open Access

Facility is available to be used. Video Conferencing technology enables students to participate in Indonesian language lessons delivered from Port Lincoln.
- Special needs

The school receives close support from the Port Lincoln Regional Office for students on Individual Education Plans. We negotiate the required needs for a student with a disability. Outside agencies are involved ie Allied Health and Special Needs team and Child Development team.

- Teaching methodology
 - The use of teaching methodologies which recognise the particular needs of R-7 students from rural and isolated areas
 - Teachers use the DECD Teaching for Effective Learning Framework to design their learning according to student needs
 - Knowledge and understanding of contextual learning, particularly promotion of Information Technology.
 - IT is used in the classroom as a ready source for research, publishing or presenting work.
 - Students with identified needs work with SSO's individually or in small groups.
- Assessment procedures and reporting

The school reports to parents in terms 2 and 4 through a formal written report. Parent interviews are conducted in term 1 and 3. All Staff use a variety of assessment techniques and procedures.
- We attend drama/music performances with other nearby schools.
- We coordinate transition programs with the two nearest Area Schools – Cleve and Tumby Bay.

5. Sporting Activities

We join with one other small school (Ungarra) for a beach sports day and also with Poonindie for tabloid sports day. Students are encouraged to participate in the Lower Eyre Peninsula district for various SAPSASA sports.

The community provides opportunities for students to be involved in a number of team sports including Netball, Football, Cricket, Tennis and Lawn Bowls.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- General

Port Neill Primary School is a feeder school to regional Area School.
- Special

SEEP Network – Port Neill Primary School joins with Ungarra Primary School to form the SEEP network. This network shares common resources purchased over many years. These resources provide for the mutual benefit of all SEEP schools in order to improve learning outcomes. This is accomplished by combining our numbers to provide opportunities and experiences to students and staff not possible as individual small primary schools. Other SEEP projects include combined sports days, swimming carnivals, culture days, artistic performances, camps, environmental projects and staff training and development. Principals from each of the respective schools currently manage the SEEP network.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile

Port Neill PS has a Principal and one part time teacher.

It is desirable for new staff to have an understanding of:

- issues affecting country schools and their communities particularly small rural primary schools
- students living in rural and isolated area
- understanding and knowledge of early childhood learning
- understanding and knowledge of Contextual learning, particularly information technology and environmental studies
- processes for continuous school improvement regarding student learning program
- a knowledge of strategies to successfully manage a R-Year 7 Primary School, and Playcentre
- strategies to promote a culture of success and lifelong learning
- ability and willingness to work effectively with the community
- financial management of small primary school

- Leadership structure

The school has a Band A1 Principal and the option of a key teacher.

- Staff support systems

Port Neill is a member of the Central Eyre Local Partnership with 10 schools and 8 preschools. Due to the small nature of the school, staff members support each other as one team. Principal attends Hub meetings for peer support. Staff members participate in Professional Learning Communities with teachers from other schools within the Central Eyre Partnership.

- Performance Management

Staff members meet formally with the Principal each term. As a team we develop a shared understanding of our priorities and directions; a focus of achievements; improving learning outcomes for students; student and staff well being and develop a culture of continuous improvement and feedback.

- Staff utilisation policies

The whole staff make-up the PAC and utilisation of staff ideas are discussed at this forum.

- Access to special staff

Regional Office staff including Speech Pathologists, Disability Coordinator, Educational Psychologists, Behaviour and attendance support staff.

8. Incentives, Support and Award Conditions for Staff

- **Housing assistance**
No government housing in Port Neill. Rental, however, is subsidised and can be arranged through the Office for Government Employee Housing Officer based in Port Lincoln.
- **Cooling for school buildings**
The Administration block and all learning areas are air-conditioned with reverse cycle air-conditioning.
- **Country Incentives Payment**
Teachers at Port Neill receive the Zone 4 Country Incentives Allowance for the first five years of their appointment
- **Medical and dental treatment expenses**
Staff that serve in this location may be eligible for reimbursement of travel to receive medical and dental treatment for the first seven years of their appointment (the non-metro award).
- **Locality allowances**
All teachers and School Services Officers are paid a locality allowance.
- **Relocation assistance**
Teachers at Port Neill receive relocation assistance if required.

9. SCHOOL FACILITIES

- **Buildings and grounds**
The school has two transportable classrooms, a multi-purpose room, a solid administration block which houses reception area, Principals office, staff room and an extensive well-stocked library; a solid student toilet/shower and disable toilet/shower block; and newly constructed large outdoor learning area for school community use.
- **Cooling**
All learning and administration areas have reverse cycle air conditioning throughout.
- **Specialist facilities**
A Playcentre operates in the multi purpose room one day per week, currently Fridays.

- Students bring lunches to be heated. Staff heat lunches in the school's microwave/oven.
- Students and staff may buy their lunch from the local take-away on Mondays. There is a modified menu available for the school.
- Staff facilities
Staff has a staffroom and access to the staff curriculum computer and the Internet.
- There is access for students and staff with a disability and a disabled toilet/shower.

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
The school has a very active Governing Council that meets twice a term. A Finance Committee comprising of a Principal, SSO and parent representatives meets once a term to review the budget. OHS&W meetings occur weekly as part of staff meetings.
- Regular publications
A school community newsletter is published fortnightly. Each class can contribute, general information included and community notices along with school diary dates. A daybook system for staff information operates.
- Other communication
School events are publicised in the local newsletter, posters in the shop or key personnel are contacted by telephone.
- School financial position
Pt Neill PS Global Budget is managed in conjunction with a finance committee and the Governing Council.

11. Local Community

- General characteristics
The community is predominantly farming and associated services. There is a general store, hotel, daily postal service, Caravan Park and Take-Away shop. The closest medical/dental facility is at Tumby Bay. The sports offered in Port Neill are football, netball, cricket, golf, tennis and bowls. Basketball, volleyball and mixed netball are played at Tumby Bay and Cleve and squash is played at Arno Bay and Tumby Bay. Many other sports are available in Port Lincoln which is 90km from Port Neill.
- Parent and community involvement
Parent and community involvement is very strong with many joint events held such as Clean Up Australia Day, Environmental projects, Bookweek activities, school camps, parental transport for excursions and camps, catering for school functions and activities etc.

- Feeder schools
Students from Port Neill Primary School can attend Tumby Bay Area School or the Cleve Area School for their secondary education.
- Other local care and educational facilities
Playcentre on school site and a local kindergarten at Tumby Bay and Cleve.
- Community Facilities
Excellent boat-ramp, District Hall, Community Library, Uniting Church, Progress Association.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
General Store with Hardware and a Post Office, Hotel, EFTPOS facilities, Caravan Park.
- Other local facilities
Bingo, Library
- Availability of staff housing
There is no government housing and limited local housing is available for short-term rent.
- Accessibility
Port Lincoln is approximately 90kms away and has regular air services. Tumby Bay is 40kms from Port Neill, and Cleve is 70kms. Port Neill has a daily Stateliner service.
- Local Government body
Port Neill is in the Tumby Bay District Council area – phone 8688 2101.
- The Port Neill Progress Association has a 12 seater Community Van that is available for hire. The school can access it for excursions. Currently the van provides a service for remote students to attend the school.

12. Further Comments

Port Neill Township is situated on a picturesque bay with ample opportunity for fishing, swimming, and boating activities.

Information, Welcome pack available.