



# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT Updated: March 2020

**School number:** 0361

**School name:** Port Neill Primary School

## School Profile:

Port Neill Primary School is a small, seaside, R-7 school and is located 86km north of Port Lincoln.

Port Neill Primary School, values the wellbeing of students, staff and school community members. We strive to provide a safe, caring, inclusive and supportive teaching and learning environment, and are continuously working to further develop the positive wellbeing culture that exists throughout the school community.

Our school values of respect, kindness, resilience and teamwork are taught, modelled, practised and positively acknowledged by staff and students. The staff are committed to offering a holistic education. We strive to educate the whole child; empowering each student to be the best versions of themselves with positive wellbeing and reaching their individual academic and personal goals. Staff are continuously developing their own learning to provide high quality teaching, using evidence-based practices. We provide support for individual needs of students, and staff are trained in MultiLit Reading Tutor programme and TooSmart Maths.

The school incorporates and highly values Playcentre, which is held Friday mornings for parents, caregivers and their children aged between 0-5 years. Playcentre is a quality program which provides an opportunity for parents and caregivers to meet, and young children to play and interact with each other as well as the school children.

The school encourages Student Voice and has an active School Representative Council (SRC) which has a focused on fundraising for national charities and local groups. The SRC are consulted in issues relating to teaching and learning, and the grounds. They are also actively involved in Kindness Projects with our PCW.

Being actively involved in our local community is immensely important to the Port Neill School. We seek opportunities to work and learn with community members and groups and constantly strive to contribute positively to the community.

# 1. General information

- School Principal name: Lisa Masters
- Year of opening: 1911
- Postal Address: Post Office Box 64, Port Neill, SA 5604
- Location Address: 2 Main Access Road, Port Neill
- DECD Region: Central Eyre
- Geographical location: 580 kms from Adelaide GPO
- Telephone number: 86889029
- Fax Number: 86889128
- School website address: [www.portneillps.sa.edu.au](http://www.portneillps.sa.edu.au)
- School e-mail address: [dl.0361.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0361.info@schools.sa.edu.au)
- February FTE student enrolment: 13
- Student enrolment trends:

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Students	8	4	12	14	10
ASTI			1	1	1
School Card %	25%	75%	25%	25%	50%

- Staffing numbers (as at February census):

Principal	1.0
Teacher	.8
SSO 2	24 hours permanent
SSO 1	34 hours (16 permanent)
PCW	11 hours
Cleaner	Millennium High Tech

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General characteristics:**

A positive culture and well-built connection to community is evident within the school, as well as a strong focus on educating the whole child. Port Neill Primary School currently has a single class structure with student numbers currently spread between Reception to Year 5. The student population come from the township of Port Neill as well as surrounding farming properties, within and beyond the Port Neill community. There is no Department bus service supporting the school and this has contributed to a loss of enrolments in recent years, forcing a number of families to enrol their children at more distant schools supported by bus runs. Parents, however have chosen to use the option of the paid service of the local Port Neill Community Bus, which is operated separate to the school. Both students and parents are directly involved in decision making at various levels throughout the school.

- **Student well-being programs:**

There is a timetabled lesson each week for students to be explicitly taught social skills, expected behaviours, and Positive Education character strengths and pillars. These are further explored throughout the week during structured learning and break times.

The school has a Pastoral Care Worker (PCW), who provides engaging activities for students to participate in during lunchtime. The PCW is also involved in the Student Representative Council (SRC), and encourages students to think of others within our school community, and globally.

A Breakfast Program is held each Wednesday morning, this is coordinated by our PCW. This program is free to students and provides them with the opportunity to sit and eat a healthy breakfast together, to get their bodies ready for learning. This time is more than having a healthy breakfast; it is a lovely time to meet, sit around a table and chat with each other, and students are develop skills in food preparation.

Each day a set time is programmed into the timetable for students to participate in Mindfulness or Relaxation activities.

Students are supported by our PCW and our caring staff. We also access and work with DfE and external agencies to ensure students and families receive support.

- **Student support offered:**

We strive to educate the whole child and to meet the needs of individual students. Staff work with parents and students to ensure a holistic education is being provided for each individual student. Staff collaborate with other staff members and utilise the skills of DfE and other support agencies. The school values and invests in extra SSO time, which is used to support students in the classroom and to implement intervention programs to meet the needs of individual students.

- **Student management:**

A whole school approach of implementing the principles of Positive Behaviours for Learning is embedded at Port Neill Primary. Expected behaviours are taught, modelled and practised. A consistent approach to behaviour management exists and is based on procedures developed and reviewed with staff and students. Students are taught with the guidance of staff to take responsibility for their own behaviours.

- **Student government:**

All students are represented on the Student Representative Council (SRC), with the executive positions rotating each term. The SRC have a focus on teaching & learning, improvement of school grounds, fundraising, raising awareness of community and global issues and kindness projects. SRC collaborate with staff and the Governing Council and report at each Governing Council meeting.

### 3. Key School Policies

- **Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:**

Our School Site Improvement Plan (SIP) goals are to improve the reading competencies of each individual child and to improve decoding skills of all students. The SIP can be accessed at the school website along with other school policies.

[www.ptneill.sa.edu.au](http://www.ptneill.sa.edu.au)

- **Recent key outcomes:**

Recent key achievements for our school can be accessed by reading our Annual Report which is published on our website.

### 4. Curriculum

- **Subject offerings:**

Port Neill Primary implements the Australian Curriculum, and in conjunction uses the South Australian Teaching for Effective Learning (TfEL) Framework to guide us with designing and implementing quality teaching and learning. We use the Guide Books as a reference to ensure we are implementing high impact strategies and evidence based practices. We implement the Australian Curriculum using the DfE guidelines, and have a strong focus on teaching students the skills they need for life long learning.

- **Open Access/Distance Education provision:**

Students participate in an Indonesian lesson once per week through the Open Access College (OAC), using video conferencing technology. The OAC Indonesian lesson is supported by a parent volunteer, who teaches the students an additional lesson, providing students with two Indonesian lessons each week.

- **Special needs:**

Students identified as having a disability or learning difficulty are supported by all staff and catered for in our school with additional SSO support either in the classroom and/or by accessing appropriate intervention programs. Resourcing is spent on additional staffing and resources to meet the needs of individual students. Staff consult with parents, students, colleagues, DfE and external agencies to meet the needs of the child. Staff, students and parents collaborate to develop the One Plan.

- **Special curriculum features:**

The school strives to provide students with a variety of experiences that broaden their learning experiences. These include travelling to other schools and townships on Eyre Peninsula to access art/drama, cultural, sporting, and ICT opportunities. Our upper primary students have attended camps with Ungarra Primary School students. Students participate in the Premiers' Reading Challenge, and participate in Harmony Day and sports days with neighbouring schools.

- **Teaching methodology:**

The teaching methodology is unique at Port Neill Primary as we currently have one classroom for all enrolled students. Port Neill Primary School staff collaborate effectively with each other to provide high quality teaching that is differentiated for students. We invite and welcome feedback on our teaching from our SLLIP, LET & LID, and engage with other schools and colleagues in regards to planning and teaching. We constantly strive for improvement and this is evident through our current work with our PC and development of staff personal improvement plans and teaching and learning sprints. Staff and students are together beginning to explore Visible Learning strategies. Our school has identified Science as a focus discipline for teaching of STEM.

We plan and implement teaching and learning based on individual student needs and student goals, which relate to our SIP. Staff regularly attend training and implement what they have learnt to ensure best evidence-informed practices are being implemented. Teachers use Interactive whiteboards within the classroom to assist them with their teaching and learning. Students have access to laptops and Ipads which operate from a wireless system and the school strives to keep technology up to date.

- **Student assessment procedures and reporting:**

The school reports to parents as per the DfE Curriculum, Pedagogy, Assessment and Reporting for Reception – Year 10 policy. Written reports are sent home in terms 2 & 4. We strive to have these sent home one week prior to the end of term to give parents the opportunity to meet with staff to discuss the written report, if they wish. Parents are invited to attend Parent/Teacher interviews during terms 1 & 3, and any other time throughout the year as required.

- **Joint programmes:**

Port Neill Primary School incorporates the Port Neill Playcentre. The ECW of the Playcentre works closely with the classroom teacher to provide educational experiences through play for children aged 0-5 years.

Port Neill Primary also works with Ungarra Primary. Staff collaborate to offer students at both schools shared learning experiences. These include RE sessions, visiting artists, camps etc. Both schools participate in the Port Neill Beach Sports Day and Small Schools Tabloid Sports Day.

## **5. Sporting Activities**

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

Port Neill Primary School encourages students to participate in the SAPSASA sports, either individually or through combining with another team from a nearby school.

Our school highly values the funding we receive through the Sporting Schools Grant. We use the funding to access specialised coaching for students in sports they cannot usually access locally such as gymnastics, volleyball, and athletics.

Students participate in swimming lessons at the Port Lincoln Leisure Centre each year. Also, each year we join with Ungarra Primary School for a Beach Sports Day and Ungarra and Poonindie schools in a Tabloid Sports Day.

## 6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

At the end of each year the school hosts an end of year celebration. In the past this has consisted of a school concert, Christmas carols evening, community market and formal presentations. Last year the school invested in a week of specialist Arts education. This involved teachers from the Theatre Bugs company, working with the school for five days, teaching students singing, dancing and drama. The outcome of the intensive Arts week was a well polished musical “Giants in the Sky”, which students performed for the community.

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile**

**Teaching staff** currently consists of a 1.0 Principal and a contract .8 teacher.

**Non Teaching Staff** currently consists of:

SSO2, who has the role of school finances, WHS, ICT and implementing intervention programs. This is a 24 hour permanent position.

One SSO1, permanent position with an entitlement of 16 hours. Currently this position has been increased to 20 hours/week and the role encompasses admin, library, school newsletter & magazine, implementing intervention programs & school improvement. An additional 15 hours contract SSO time is used for classroom support, intervention and school improvement.

- **Leadership structure**

Port Neill Primary School attracts funding for a Principal Band A1 position. As we are a small school collaboration, team work, flexibility and a positive school culture is highly valued as roles, responsibilities and accountabilities are shared with teaching and non teaching staff. A positive school environment, collaboration and working as a team are vital and evident in everything we do.

- **Staff support systems**

All staff are encouraged to participate in training and development that meets their needs, the needs of the school and aligns to the SIP. Due to the small nature of the school, staff members support each other as one team. We highly value and utilise Student Free Days for the whole school to collaborate and work together to improve our skills and knowledge for the betterment of the school and student achievement. Staff also participate in training and development with the Partnership, and work with colleagues from other schools. We conduct whole school staff meetings, which involves teaching and non teaching staff and training and development is incorporated into these. Also teaching staff meet regularly to discuss teaching sprints, student goals and planning. The Employee Assistance Program is available for confidential professional assistance. Port Neill is a member of the Central Eyre 2 Local Partnership.

- **Performance Management**

All staff members meet formally with the Principal to develop and document a Performance and Development plan. These are reviewed throughout the year. Teaching staff are to align their PDP to the AITSL standards and the SIP. The Principal completes a PDP and shares this with the Education Director. The PCW completes a PDP with the Principal and also with the SMG Regional Manager.

- **Staff utilisation policies**

The PAC is made up of the Principal, Teacher and permanent SSO staff. Utilisation of staff are discussed at PAC meetings, careful consideration is given to SIP, student needs, student numbers, and school priorities beyond the SIP.

- **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.

- **Locality allowances**

Locality allowance can be claimed once appointed to school.

- **Relocation assistance**

Refer to DfE website for updated information.

## **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 disabled toilet/shower block, and an outdoor learning shelter. The grounds are currently undergoing change with a nature play space and pick and play garden being planned and developed. The front yard of the school is also currently undergoing a transformation.

- **Heating and cooling**

All learning and administration areas have reverse cycle air conditioning throughout.

- **Specialist facilities and equipment**

The school works closely with the Tumby Bay Community Library and offers the One Card Library service and hosts community Book Club every month.

A Playcentre operates in the multi purpose room one day per week, currently Fridays.

- **Student and staff facilities**

Students and staff are able to bring lunches to be heated in the school's microwave/oven. Students and staff may buy their lunch from the local store on Mondays. There is a menu specifically for school students and staff, which need to be pre-ordered. There is access for students and staff with a disability and a disabled toilet/shower. Staff have a staffroom and access to the staff curriculum computer and have allocation of individual work spaces.

- **Access to bus transport**

Port Neill Primary School does not have access to a DfEd bus service, however some parents choose to utilise the Port Neill Community Bus. The school uses the Port Neill Community Bus and private vehicles to transport students on school excursions.

## 10. School Operations

- **Decision making structures**

The school has a Governing Council which meet twice a term. Along with the Governing Council, the SRC are actively involved in decision making with the staff.

The staff have regular staff meetings which involve teaching and non teaching staff. The meetings have an agenda, and include sharing of training and development. Teaching staff meet weekly to discuss and collaborate planning, teaching and learning matters. PAC meet when required, usually at least once per term. The Principal and Finance Officer meet on a regular basis to discuss and analyse school finances. The Principal and WHS rep meet regularly to ensure OHS&W requirements are fulfilled and OHS&W is on the staff meeting agenda.

The school currently has a variety of committees including; fundraising, grounds, finance and special event committees which consist of parent & community volunteers.

- **Regular publications**

A school community newsletter is published fortnightly and is available on our website and School policies are available on the school website.

- **Other communication**

Regular communication is maintained with parents and caregivers through ClassDojo, phone calls, emails, letters and notes in student diaries. The school communicates to the wider community through our school newsletter, Facebook page, posters at local community outlets or contacting key personnel via telephone.

- **School financial position**

Ongoing planning for curriculum, training and development, student needs and facilities is done in conjunction with the staff and Governing Council.

- **Special funding**

Special funding is allocated within the annual Resource Entitlement Statement. The funding varies from year to year and is based on specific criteria.

## 11. Local Community

- **General characteristics**

The Port Neill community has a very active Progress Association, which is constantly striving to improve and beautify Port Neill. Other community groups include; CWA, Art group, Grape & Grain committee, Hall committee and the Hotel Social Committee, plus others.

The community is predominantly farming and associated services. There is a general store/daily postal service, hotel and caravan park. There is a local RAA service and a separate local mechanic located just out of the township. The closest medical/dental facility is at Tumbly Bay.

The sports offered in Port Neill are football, netball, cricket, golf, tennis and bowls, all of which have enthusiastic members and are proactive clubs. In addition to these Port Neill has a fitness group that meets weekly and a monthly book club. Basketball is played at Tumbly Bay and Cleve. Softball at Cleve and squash is played at Arno 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, Biggest Morning Tea, school



camps, parental transport for excursions, working bees, catering for school functions and activities etc.

- **Feeder or destination 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**

There is a Playcentre on our school site, which meets on Friday mornings. Kindergarten is available at Tumby Bay and Cleve.

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**

There is a small general store, known as Post & Trade, which also trades as the local Post Office. Post & Trade also sell hardware, giftware, fuel and have EFTPOS facilities. The town also has a hotel and caravan park. The community is serviced by a local RAA and there is an additional mechanic not far from town.

- **Other local facilities**

Excellent boat-ramp, District Hall, Community Library, Sporting Complex, Tennis Club, Bowls Club, Golf Club, Art group and beautiful foreshore with playground, and outdoor exercise equipment. There is a jetty for fishing and swimming, and the town has an active Progress Association.

- **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 south of Port Neill and has regular air services. Tumby Bay is 40kms south of Port Neill, and Cleve is 70kms in a northerly direction. Port Neill has a Stateliner service.

- **Local Government body**

Port Neill is in the Tumby Bay District Council area – phone 8688 2101.

## **12. Further Comments**

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

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.