SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 19.02.14

School number: 0128
School name: Elliston Area School

1. General information

Part A
Principal: Mrs Cynthia O’Neil
Address: C/- Post Office, Flinders Highway, Elliston SA 5670
District: Central Eyre Partnerships
Distance from GPO: 648kms
CPC Attached: No
Courier Address: NW Country
Phone: 08 86879167
Fax: 08 86879057

Part B
Coordinator – Australian Curriculum and ICT Mr Chad Fleming

- School e-mail address: dl.0128.info@schools.sa.edu.au

- Staffing numbers
  7.0 FTE
  There are currently 9 teachers (6 permanent teachers and 4 contracts), there are 6 part time SSO’s (3 of whom are permanent) and 2 grounds people.

- OSHC
  No

- Enrolment trends (based on Term 4)
  Enrolments fluctuate between 59 – 67 students from Reception to Year 12.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>6</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Year 6</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
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<td>Year 8</td>
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<td>Year 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>SECONDARY TOTAL</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>64</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Year of opening
  - 1921
- Public transport access
  There is limited public transport. There is a local Bus that can be accessed.

2. **Students (and their welfare)**

- General characteristics
  The students are generally a very happy group. There are minimal behaviour problems and they are very accepting of the four students with a diagnosed disability. They are an adaptable and conscientious group who benefit from composite classes and interaction with students of all ages.

- Pastoral Care programs
  Home groups in care of class teachers. Students often engage in fundraising activities to subsidise camps. A Student Counsellor provides support for all students and Child Protection policy in association with Program Achieve - Peer Mediation are our key social skills development programs.

- Support offered
  The Principal and Curriculum Coordinator provide Career Support for students.
A Step 9 teacher is released to work as a Student Counsellor with families and students at risk on a one to one basis as needed.

6% of student population are identified as Students with Disabilities with A and D levels of support
6% of students are Aboriginal
2% EALD

- **Student management**
  The school operates a clearly defined Student Behaviour management policy and code of success with corresponding structures and procedures. There is a Harassment and Bullying Policy. Student dress is informed by a uniform policy ratified by Governing Council and supported by the school community. The school has a strong focus on student engagement and wellbeing.

- **Student government**
  Student Representative Council (SRC) is inclusive of all year levels R-9. SRC student voice is evident throughout the school. SRC is involved with Regional Voice activities.

- **Special programmes**
  Extensive Special Education support by teachers and School Service Officers.
  The school has a strong environmental focus with an effective recycling program. Students are involved with Natural Resource Management and Greening Australia.
  Students Years 7 – 9 have access to laptops for use at school and home. Private music lessons can be accessed through the school and students are able to be part of a school band.
  Active After School Communities program.
  Aquatics program – snorkelling, kayaking, windsurfing, surfing, swimming

### 3. Key School Policies

- **Statement of Purpose**
  Elliston Area School strives for educational excellence and the vocational needs of the school community by working in partnership with staff, students and parents.
  The core business is:
  - To maintain and continue to develop the teaching and learning environment for staff, students and parents which is collaborative, supportive, safe and reflective of current education trends.
  - The development of a positive sense of self-worth and pride in achievements, caring and responsibility toward others, the environment and ourselves are principles underlying all of the schools practices.
  - To implement the Australian Curriculum.
  - To improve reading comprehension skills for all students.
- To focus on Literacy Numeracy in all learning areas.
- To promote and monitor positive attendance.
- To develop an effective collecting, monitoring, recording and analysing system for student achievement data.
- To integrate vocational and enterprise education across the curriculum R-9.
- To improve and integrate ICT across the curriculum.
- To promote employment opportunities through VET programs and special projects.
- Provide options at Senior School level.

- Recent key outcomes
  - “Seamless” transition program between the preschool and junior primary class, primary to secondary, post school options
  - Successful sub schools – Primary School and Senior School
  - VET initiatives
  - Collaborative curriculum planning between staff
  - Involvement of staff in valuable professional development in line with school priorities
  - Integration of the use of ICT across the curriculum
  - AC implementation across the whole school

4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings
  We offer the standard curriculum areas – English, Maths, History, Science, Health and PE, Food and Hospitality, Music, Spanish, Arts and Technology.
  NIT release for primary teachers means specialist primary classes in Technology, Art, Physical Education and Health and Spanish
  Students can access a range of SACE subjects, including VET training where appropriate

- Open Access
  Students are able to access these subjects in consultation with their teachers and counsellors

- Special needs
  Extensive support is available from trained teaching staff and from school service officers for Students with Disabilities, special learning needs and individual behaviour management.

- Special curriculum features
  School has a significant emphasis on Food and Hospitality and with regular catering across the school
• Teaching methodology
  - We integrate ICT across the curriculum. All students have access to the latest technology including DER wireless network.
  - There is a continual emphasis on collaborative integrated approaches
  - Staff maintains an awareness of learning design through training and development opportunities. Staff are encouraged to share methodologies both formally and informally.
  - We currently run composite classes in the following format. R/1, 2/3, 4/5/6, 7/8 and Year 9.

• Assessment procedures and reporting
  - Secondary students receive written reports at the end of each term
  - Primary students receive a written report at the end of Term 2, and Term 4
  - Parent / teacher interviews are conducted in Term 1 and Term 3 by request
  - Primary students receive a portfolio at the end of Term 1 and 3

• Joint programmes
  - Interaction with Port Kenny Primary School for CAP Performances
  - CAP Bus shared with four other hub schools
  - CAP Performing Arts program
  - CAP Video / DVD Scheme
  - A new Central Eyre Principals’ Partnership - Hub with Lock, Tumby Bay, Port Neill, Ungarra, Cowell, Cleve, Kimba, Wudinna and Cummins

5. Sporting Activities
• Students in Year 5, 6 and 7 have access to SAPSASA competitions in tennis, cricket, netball, football, hockey and surfing and secondary have access to SASSA.
• Annual interschool surfing, athletics and cross-country competitions
• We run a participation Sports Day and then the school competes at an interschool sports day against Streaky Bay, Miltaburra, Karcultaby, Ceduna, and Ceduna Crossways (WCIAC). If the students are successful at this day then they have the opportunity to compete at in the Far West team at WASSAC.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities
The students at Elliston Area School have the opportunity to be involved in a vast range of activities within the school and the community, some of these activities include music lessons provided at the school, fundraising activities within their class groups or with SRC, class involvement in school assemblies, whole school involvement in Come Out, Sculptures on the Cliffs, Harmony Day and others.
7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile
  There are 6 permanent teachers and 4 contracts with 3 permanent and 3 temporary School Support Officers and 2 grounds staff.

- Leadership structure
  Principal (A 3)
  1 Co-ordinator (B 1)

Staff support systems
  Staff are very supportive of each other and a positive atmosphere is evident at the school. Staff is small enough to work as one team for most activities but may meet as separate primary or secondary groups according to need.

- Performance Development
  All staff participate in Performance Development meetings with the Principal once a term. SSO’s meet with the Principal throughout the year.
  Team building activities occur through weekly staff meetings which are primarily for training and development. An admin staff meeting is held weekly before school. Leadership team meets weekly and SSO’s twice per term.

- Staff utilisation policies
  Teaching staff are well supported by SSO’s in administration, while the GSO maintains the grounds.

- Access to special staff
  The school has access to all DECD specialists including the guidance officer, speech therapist, disabilities service and student management services. There is also access to Outreach Staff e.g. dietician/ OT/ Youth Workers.

- Other
  Locality allowance and country incentives are provided for all staff.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Isolation placement points
  5.5

- Shorter terms
  Term 4 finishes one day early

- Travelling time
  1 day per year

- Housing assistance
  Rental subsidised through Real Estate Management
• Medical and dental treatment expenses
  DECDS Sick leave conditions apply
• Locality allowances and Country incentives
  Entitlements as per EB Award
• Relocation assistance
  Yes

9. **School Facilities**

• Buildings and grounds
  Excellent grounds include a playground, a small oval and a nature walk.
  There was a new brick administration building opened in 1987.
  All classrooms are hardiplank and in good condition
  4 new classrooms built from BER initiative opened in 2011
• Cooling
  All rooms have reverse cycle air conditioning
• Specialist facilities
  Comprehensive School Library
  Technical Studies facilities
  Food and Hospitality facilities
  Art Room
  Science Lab
  New computers, purchased through Investing in Our Schools Program and DER, including wireless network, running on latest Windows program. Also iPads are used by staff as a new initiative. Interactive whiteboards are installed in 5 classrooms
  Nature Trail
  Recycling Centre and school garden including chooks, and Wild Mint – endangered species propagation programme in conjunction with Natural Resource Management
  Access to Community Sports Centre, Oval, Netball and Tennis Courts and Community Hall and Children’s Playground
  Easy access to the front beach
  The school has an aquaculture tank.
• Student facilities
  Year 7 to 9 students have access to their own laptops for curriculum use
  Large grassed oval and hit up wall
  Access to emails and Internet
  Lunches can be ordered through local businesses
• Staff facilities
  Pleasant staff room
  Information Communication Technology, wireless Internet and email access
  There are Individual workplaces in classrooms and a separate teacher workroom with access to computers, printers, email and Internet.
  The school has a car that staff are able to access for school priorities and training and development programs.

• Access for students and staff with disabilities
  Toilet for disabled in main building
  Majority of classrooms have ramps to enable easy access for a wheelchair

• Access to bus transport
  Two DECDS Toyota Coaster school buses - Sheringa Bramfield and Colton
  CAP bus also available with notice (this is housed at Streaky Bay)

10. School Operations

• Decision making structures
  SRC
  YAC (Youth Advisory Committee)
  Class Meetings during Home Groups
  A weekly morning admin meeting and after school T & D meeting for teachers, combined all staff or split into primary / secondary and SSO meetings
  Governing Council meets twice a term – week 3 and week 8
  Finance Committee meets twice per term – Governing Council subcommittee
  Grounds staff meets with Principal regularly to set priorities

• Regular publications
  Weekly school newsletter, including community news
  Handbook for new enrolments
  Daily notices in staff room Day Book
  Email updates to all staff from Principal
  Annual School Magazine

• Other communication
  UHF radio links with community and school buses
  School phones have all families numbers in case of catastrophic or fire emergency
11. Local Community

- General characteristics
  The town and surrounding areas is predominantly Australian with a current population of approximately 300. There are very few EALD families within the community.
  Families within the community form five major groups:
  - Traditional farming families
  - Fishing families
  - Surfing population
  - Alternative lifestyles
  - Town business and service providers
  Aquaculture has become a major contributor to the town.
  Apart from farming and fishing, the major employers are the District Council, the Hospital, the School and Australian Bight Abalone.
  The township looks out upon the sea with breathtaking views of waves breaking on a reef, island and spectacular cliffs.

- Parent and community involvement
  Parental involvement through various levels of classroom involvement, electives, excursions, camps, assemblies
  Families and community support school working bees
  Good community involvement in the performing arts programme.

- Other local care and educational facilities
  The Elliston Memorial RSL Children’s Centre is separated from the school and runs two sessions per week - all day Tuesday and Thursday.
  There is also Playgroup at the Children’s Centre facilities on a Friday morning from 10am until 12noon.
  Family Day Care facilities exist within the town with experienced providers.

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  Elliston Bakery – baked at Wudinna featuring famous buns, bread, pies and pasties
  Garage including RAA
  Hotel (Eftpos facilities)
  Supermarket (Eftpos facilities) with meat
  Roadhouse (Eftpos facilities) with selected frozen seafoods
  Café
  IT Centre, Community Library and Tourist Information Centre located at local Hall
• Other local facilities
  The town boasts excellent sporting facilities with a Community Sports Centre that caters for tennis, netball, basketball, football, and cricket. Other sporting activities include Golf Club, fishing, surfing, swimming, water sports
  Elliston Caravan Park – near the jetty
  Waterloo Bay Caravan Park – in the town
  Community Hall
  District Council Offices
  Police Station
  Post Office
  Hospital
  Doctor
  Elliston Eco Tours Boat Charters
  Visiting Mid West Health providers
  Banking agencies within the town include Commonwealth Bank and BankSA
  Annual salmon fishing competition run by the local Information Centre Committee
  Bi annual Art festival – Sculpture on the cliffs
  3 churches offering services on a regular basis
  Wide ranges of facilities are available at Port Lincoln 1.5 hours drive away.

• Availability of staff housing
  There are two 3-bedroom teacher houses available if vacant.
  Private rental housing is also available

• Local Government body
  The Elliston District Council incorporates Port Kenny, Venus Bay, Lock, Sheringa, and Elliston and supports school activities

12. Further Comments

Elliston is a picturesque and popular destination for people with beach interests such as fishing, diving, surfing, touring, photography. Many people take advantage of this passing trade by renting accommodation and selling handcrafts.