

# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2017

School number: 0571

School name: BLANCHETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

## 1. General information

### Part A

School name : BLANCHETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL  
School No. : 0571 Courier : R32/6  
Principal : Mr. David Ness  
Postal Address : Godley Street, Blanchetown  
Location Address : Godley Street, Blanchetown  
District : Riverland  
Distance from GPO : 130kms Phone No. : 08 85405041  
CPC attached : NO Fax No. : 08 85405115

February FTE Enrolment		2014	2015	2016	2017
Primary	Special, N.A.P.	0	0	0	0
	Reception	0	5	5	5
	Year 1	2	1	5	6
	Year 2	1	4	1	3
	Year 3	1	2	4	1
	Year 4	1	1	2	2
	Year 5	2	2	1	2
	Year 6	2	2	2	1
Year 7	1	2	2	3	
Secondary	Special, N.A.P.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Year 8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Year 9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Year 10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Year 11	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Year 12	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Year 12 plus	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10.0</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>23.0</b>
School Card percentage		40%	40%	45%	43%
NESB Enrolment		00	00	00	00
Aboriginal Enrolment		00	00	02	00

### Part B

- Deputy Principal's name, if applicable  
:N/A

- School website address  
:www.blanchtnps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address  
:dl.0571\_admin@schools.sa.edu.au
- Staffing numbers
 

	Male	Female
:Principal	1.0	
Teachers		2.0
SSO		2
GSE	17 hours(includes bus run)	
- OSHC  
:N/A
- Enrolment trends  
:increasing
- Special arrangements:  
Blanchetown Primary School is a member of the Riverland West Small Schools Network and is committed to the Professional Learning Community (PLC) established with Morgan, Ramco and Cadell Primary School. Teachers meet regularly to develop their skills and enhance student learning outcomes. Some activities during PLC time includes examining teacher instruction, analysing data, conducting action research, moderating student work, and meeting DECD priorities.
- Year of opening  
:1868 \*New buildings 1981 \*Upgrade of administration area 1997
- Public transport access  
:No access for students

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics:  
Blanchetown Primary School is an exciting, safe and family orientated school that is made special by the strength of the relationships that have been developed within our community. The school's excellent reputation reflects its commitment to continuous improvement, professional and dedicated staff and providing students with a comprehensive curriculum that caters for different styles and rates of learning.  
(Pastoral) care programs  
: Pastoral Support Worker(Thursday and Friday)
- Student management  
: A Student Behaviour Management Policy has been negotiated between students, parents and teachers. The code emphasises the rights for everyone to feel safe in a supportive environment, be treated with dignity and respect and learn to the best of their ability. Everyone has the

responsibility to ensure that the rights of all individuals are observed at all times.

- Student Voice

: There are 2 year 7 student leaders, and all students are involved in planning activities and maintaining various aspects of the school including; Fundraising, Planning and Improvement, Environment and Catering. Students implement ideas and actions as devised by the student body and each student takes on some element of a leadership role.

- Special programmes

: Data is collected and analysed for all students from R-7. Students identified as not meeting The DECD Standards of Education Achievement (SEA) are given priority for intervention support.

### **3. Key School Policies**

- Site Learning Plan and other key statements or policies

Motto: Together We Achieve

Mission Statement

: Blanchetown Primary School, in partnership with its community, provides a supportive and challenging learning environment. We have a success orientated culture, where all students are confident, independent, 21<sup>st</sup> century learners, who are empowered to strive for personal excellence.

Site priorities

: Literacy – Improve student achievement in Reading and Writing.

: Numeracy – Improve student achievement in Numeracy

: Attendance- 95% attendance for the whole site

Student Values

: As a whole school community, we devised the following five values which underpin the work that we do at Blanchetown Primary School.

- \* Respect
- \* Responsibility
- \* Resilience
- \* Trust
- \* Excellence

## 4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings

Blanchetown Primary School is passionate about delivering all the key learning areas of the Australian Curriculum, using high quality teaching and learning approaches. We aim to develop expert learners, by fostering deep understanding, and promoting dialogue as a means of learning. We create safe conditions for rigorous learning and challenge our students to achieve at high standards.

The school has a strong Literacy focus. Explicit Literacy teaching is implemented in classrooms for at least 90 minutes per day in reading, writing, spelling and oral language. We design learning, starting with the curriculum and include current approaches to differentiate and scaffold learning. Our whole school genre focus links reading and writing components, allowing for collaborative planning and consistent data collection and analysis, in order to improve student outcomes.

Children's wellbeing is central to all we do, because we know that being mentally healthy is vital for learning and leading a rewarding life. We use the KidsMatter framework to nurture happy, balanced kids through mental health promotion, prevention and early intervention and planning.

We use a variety of assessment tools to monitor learning and Parents/Caregivers are kept informed of student's progress through interviews, written reports and frequent informal conversations.

- Joint programmes

: Blanchetown Primary School is part of the Riverland West Small Schools Network, as part of this partnership we are involved in many Interaction days throughout the year.

## 5. Sporting Activities

- : Participation in a variety of sports is encouraged, to supplement the weekend sports of netball, football and tennis. We encourage participation in SAPSASA. Students are also involved in a range of coaching clinics in various sports throughout the year.

## 6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- General

Bookweek Activities

The whole school camp is a highlight each year

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile

: There is a small staff number.

- Leadership structure
  - : The Principal is the only leadership position within the school.
- Staff support systems
  - : All staff work together as a team. Often teaching time is shared team teaching. Staff Professional Development and Training & Development is supplied through the Riverland West Small Schools Network. Staff are encouraged to visit other schools in both the neighbouring and outside areas.
- Performance Management
  - : The policy is developed in line and new DECD Performance Development Guidelines.
- Staff utilisation policies
  - : The number of students at Blanchetown Primary School is growing, at a fast rate, due to the popularity of the school and the increase of job opportunities in our area. In 2017, we offer three class groupings from R-7. This includes a R/1, year 2-4 and year 5/6/7 class.
- Access to special staff
  - : Support agency staff are accessed through The Berri Educational Office

## **8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff**

- Complexity placement points
  - :0.00
- Isolation placement points
  - :3.0
- Shorter terms
  - :n/a
- Travelling time
  - :n/a
- Housing assistance
  - :Government subsidised rent
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance
  - :n/a
- Additional increment allowance
  - :n/a
- Designated schools benefits
  - :n/a

- Aboriginal/Anangu schools  
:n/a
- Medical and dental treatment expenses  
:There is some travel allowance for medical / dental treatment
- Locality allowances  
:n/a
- Relocation assistance  
:Standard relocation of costs, associated with placement may be claimed.
- Principal's telephone costs  
:Entitlement of reimbursement of basic rental and official calls.

## 9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds  
: Buildings and Grounds: The school is located on very attractive grounds which include an oval and tennis/netball courts. The main buildings consist of:-
  1. The main solid brick flexible space building that includes two classrooms (with a moveable wall between), a Resource / Library area, a wet area, administration offices and a staff room / kitchen. The office / administration area was upgraded in 1997.
  2. A small weather-board building is used as a Play Centre.
  3. Grounds include an above ground swimming pool, extensive grassed playing areas, playground equipment , three tennis courts with markings for two netball courts, a large oval, sports shed and groundsperson's shed.
  4. A new library / general learning area (with a kitchen) was installed in 2010 as part of the BER project.
- Cooling  
:The school has evaporative cooling through the main building and split system cooling in the transportable classroom.
- Student facilities  
:There is provision to warm up lunches each Friday. Lunch orders are made once a week through the local store.
- Staff facilities  
: A small staff room is available for staff and also serves as a cooking area.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities  
:There is a small step into all buildings.
- Access to bus transport  
: A private bus run, managed by the school, travels to Murbko Rd and back to Morgan-Blanchetown Rd. Three families and seven students access the service.

- Other
  - : The Blanchetown Play Centre is adjacent to the school grounds. It is open on Wednesday from 9-12 and Thursday from 9:30-10:30, during school times.

## 10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
  - : The:Governing Council has 2 sub-committees, Finance and Grounds, Assets & Facilities. Staff and Professional Learning meetings are held weekly.
- Regular publications
  - : The school Newsletter is distributed fortnightly. The Blanchetown Bulletin (a community newsletter) is distributed monthly.
- Other communication
  - :A term planner is used in the staffroom along with a weekly bulletin.
- School financial position
  - : The school is in a sound financial position.

## 11. Local Community

- General characteristics
  - : The Blanchetown School Community is involved in a cross section of employment including grape, citrus and stone fruit growing, grazing and grain farming, tourism and small business. The school and town population is increasing due large investments, in the local area, in chicken farming.
- Parent and community involvement
  - : The school is seen as a focal point for the community and is very well supported by the Parents and wider community. The school grounds are used for sporting events on the weekends.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  - :General Store, Post Office, Hotel
- Other local facilities
  - :Aged Care & Health Centre – Doctor visits twice per week.
- Accessibility
  - :A Stateliner bus runs to Adelaide twice daily and a Mid Murray Council funded bus runs to Waikerie and Barossa various times in the month.
- Local Government body
  - :Mid Murray Council phone 85691600

## 12. Further Comments

- : The Governing Council is a very active committee who helps oversee the school's education program, finance, grounds, facilities, sport and fundraising. A strong sense of pride for the school exists in the community. This is something that the staff work hard to maintain.
- Blanchetown is a small robust community that works hard to improve the town and support and improve the local facilities which remain. Families are generally supportive of each other and there is a definite sense of the school being a large family.
- Staff are very supportive of each other and work very hard to improve the learning outcomes of all students. Staff work as a team and share responsibilities. The school is very well resourced. All curriculum computers are networked which means all students have access to the internet. Our current ratio is 1 student per computer and iPad.
- There are opportunities to participate in recreational river activities, and district football, netball and lawn bowls competition.