

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: June 2013

School Name: SNOWTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Number: 0742

General Information

Part A

School Name - SNOWTOWN AREA SCHOOL
Courier - Yorke and Mid North
Principal - Ms Fione LOVE
Postal and Location Address - 31 Glen Davidson Drive,
Snowtown 5520

District - Yorke and Mid North
Distance from GPO - 150km north
Phone No. - 08 8865 2006
Fax No. - 08 8865 2082

Term 1 Census FTE Enrolment

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
PRIMARY									
Reception	6	12	4	4	7	12	6	3	10
Year 1	11	4	12	11	5	5	5	7	4
Year 2	7	13	4	11	11	5	11	5	7
Year 3	10	6	11	4	9	11	3	9	6
Year 4	6	9	6	8	4	10	11	3	9
Year 5	3	6	9	5	6	6	7	10	2
Year 6	11	4	4	6	5	8	6	7	8
Year 7	14	11	4	4	5	4	9	7	5
SECONDARY									
Year 8	12	12	9	4	3	7	5	5	
Year 9	16	11	10	8	6	3	4	4	
Year 10	8	14	14	10	7	10	2	2	
Year 11	13	8	9	7	8	4	6	2	
Year 12	11	8	7	9	5	7	3	5	
Year 12 plus	3.8					1	3	2	
TOTAL	131.8	118	104	91	81	93	81	71	51

Term 3 Census FTE Enrolment

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
July total FTE Enrolment	122.6	93.6	93.59	87.56	79.94	76.98	80.29	71	
Male FTE	58	44.6	44.61	43.96	37.64	35.52	46.23	43.8	
Female FTE	64	49	49	43.6	42.3	41.46	34.06	27.2	
School Card Approvals (persons)	63	42	36	45	43	48	38	35	
NESB Total (persons)	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	1	1	1	4	4	5	5	9	

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 DECS web-site.

Part B

School email address dl.0742-info@schools.sa.edu.au

Staffing numbers In 2013, teaching staff numbers are 7.0 (FTE). SSO hours are worked by 6 people. We have 19 grounds hours and a Christian Pastoral Support Worker. No staff identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Year of opening 1879

Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics

The student population is complex and reflects a diversity of socio-economic backgrounds ~ living in Snowtown or coming from farming areas. The school is serviced by one air-conditioned DECD school bus. The school is rated as Category 2 on the DECD Index of Disadvantaged Schools. In 2013 the school has 3 classes/home groups – R/1, 2/3/4 and 5/6/7/2.

Support offered

Our Christian Pastoral Support Worker (6 hours per week) is also well connected to the community and provides an added layer of support to students and their families.

Support from the Regional Office is available for students with disabilities, along with behavioural concerns, attendance and wellbeing issues.

School Behaviour Management

The goal of all Behaviour Management strategies is to have students, in classes, engaged in meaningful learning experiences, as soon as is practicable within the school setting.

Student Voice

All classes from R-7 are involved in Student Council. Student Leaders chair Student Council meetings and participate in the decision-making and organisation of school events.

We continue to look for ways to include genuine student voice in our school decision making processes.

Special Programmes

All students with disabilities have Negotiated Education Plans that are updated regularly.

Aboriginal students Integrated Learning Plans are updated each term.

All students have access to a number of break-time options and activities offered throughout the year. These include -

- ✓ Various craft sessions with Christian Pastoral Care Worker.
- ✓ A variety of sporting practices, lunch time sports, activities and games facilitated by students and staff as members of the H&PE Committee.

Vision

All students will use higher order literacy, critical thinking and problem solving skills amidst a culture of engagement and achievement in all curriculum areas

School Values

Respect, Honesty, Trust, Kindness and Listening.

Site Improvement Plan 2013

Priority – Reading Comprehension

Targets –

- Students show an increase of 5% in their individual scaled score for PAT-R comprehension from Term 1 to Term 4.
- 20% of students in Year 3, 5, 7 to be in the upper 25 percentile growth band in reading comprehension.
- Running Records
- 70% of year 1 student levels 11 – 15, 10% either end, other 10% on the spectrum by the end of the year.
- 80% year 2 students to be level 15 of higher.

Curriculum

Subject offerings

The school offers a range of subjects R-7. Seven areas of study are offered R-7.

Special Curriculum Features

A transition program exists between the Pre-school (Kindy) and R-1 class. The R-1 class has a play-based program in operation.

Assessment and Reporting

Student written reports, are prepared at the end of each semester, and collated electronically and compliant with all Federal requirements. Parent/student/teacher three way interviews are held in Term 1 and 3 as an integral part of our reporting processes.

Sporting Activities

A strong Health and Physical Education curriculum is taught R-7. The school conducts an Annual Sports Day with Port Broughton Area School. Snowtown Primary School competes as one team and Port Broughton Area School as two teams. Students attend and compete in a number of SAPSASA activities during the year. In Term 4, all students take part in a Swimming programme in the school pool.

Other Co-Curricular Activities

Students are given the opportunity to be involved in a comprehensive range of activities, including excursions, camps, cultural and artistic events, which are linked to learning programs.

Staff (and their welfare)

Staff support systems

Staff wellbeing is a priority. The Principal is available to staff in an ongoing manner. The Christian Pastoral Support Worker also supports staff when the need arises.

An annual psychological health assessment is undertaken: the results are examined by the OHSW committee and follow-up actions determined.

If the Principal is out of the school, teachers have the opportunity to be Teacher-in-Charge.

A Day Book, weekly Staff Connect, regular emails and staff meeting administration time, including a proposals system, are primary forms of communication.

Performance Management

Regular scheduled meetings with line managers occur at least once per term, with written feedback twice a year. Performance Management foci are closely linked with the Site Improvement Plan and informed by Self Review recommendations. Personal Development Plans for teaching staff are developed with the support of line managers and form the basis of the School Performance Management process, which is in accord with DECD policy. The Principal line-manage teacher performance; the Finance Administrative Officer line manages SSOs.

Incentives, support and award conditions for staff

Travelling time

Snowtown is 150 km from Adelaide (approximately 1.5 hours), 90 km from Port Pirie, a 30-minute drive from Clare and a 45-minute drive from Kadina.

Housing assistance

Government Housing is available in Snowtown, Clare, Kadina and some other nearby smaller towns.

School Facilities

Buildings and grounds

The school is situated on 4.5 hectares, together with an additional 10 hectares of Agricultural Studies land with out-buildings.

Air Conditioning

All school buildings are air conditioned.

Specialist facilities

Specialist teaching areas include the following fully equipped areas -

Home Economics, Tech, Art

We also have a School Community Library and Community Use Swimming Pool on school grounds.

Student facilities

The school is moving towards updating its approach to elearning.

Staff facilities

There are good staff room and administration areas, including internet access. Teachers also have access to the administration computer network in teacher preparation areas close to class teaching areas.

Access for students and staff with disabilities

Wheelchair access is available to the Community Library and Administration Area, class teaching areas and School Hall. There is a disabled toilet in the School Hall. We do not have wheelchair access to the specialist teaching areas.

Access to bus transport

Daily 'Premier Stateliner' buses to and from Adelaide service Snowtown, arriving at the roadhouse on the highway mid-morning from Adelaide; and to Adelaide at 4.00am.

School Operations

Decision making structures

Decision-Making Forum	Members	Meetings	Key Goals	Links to
Staff Meetings	All teaching staff and 2 SSO reps	Tuesdays.	Agreed Purposes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Learning Sharing Practice Short Administration 	Site Improvement Plan Governing Council
Personnel Advisory Committee	Principal or nominee, AEU reps, staff reps.	Meetings scheduled each two weeks.	To advise Principal on personnel matters. To formulate and review Site HR plan.	Staff Meetings, Leadership Team
OHSW Committee	Principal, Kindy Director, OHSW rep, SSO rep.	Two meetings scheduled each term.	To oversee and provide advice on OHSW practices in the school.	Staff Meetings,
Finance Advisory Committee	Principal, Finance Administrative Officer, staff rep, parent rep, Governing Council treasurer.	Once per term, prior to a Governing Council Meeting.	To oversee and provide advice on financial management and budgetary decisions.	Governing Council
SSO meetings	All SSO staff	As required	To ensure SSOs have a formal forum to influence decisions and provide advice relevant to their roles.	Staff Meetings, Leadership Team
Governing Council	Principal or delegate, 1 staff rep, Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, community rep, parent reps, student reps.	Twice a term	To provide advice to the Principal as representatives of the whole school community. There are a number of sub-committees linked to Governing Council including Finance, Bus, Assets and Grounds, Concert & Presentation Night, ICT, Dress code.	Parents and school community, Leadership Team, Staff Meetings, Student Council
Student Council	Students from each home group, R-7	Meet weekly for one lesson.	Develop student leadership from R-7. Help students understand a working model of democratic decision making. Opportunity for students to model school values. Forum for students to have a genuine voice in the school.	Student body, Staff Meetings.

All decision making bodies are consulted for relevant decisions. Accepted decision-making process is by consensus.

Regular publications

- ✓ A quality and informative newsletter in weeks 3, 6 and 9 each term.
- ✓ Weekly Staff Connect for all staff
- ✓ Annual Magazine and Annual Report
- ✓ Site Improvement Plan

Other communication

- ✓ Special School Celebrations and Events
- ✓ Class newsletters
- ✓ Whole-school assemblies
- ✓ School Diaries or Communication Books
- ✓ Parent-Teacher interviews
- ✓ Occasional Parent Informal gatherings

School financial position

Sound

Local Community**General characteristics**

The Snowtown community is complex in its mix of long-established farming families and those providing services to the local area. There is also a constantly-changing transient population, the appeal of low rental and purchase prices for housing, along with the town's close proximity to Adelaide being drawcards.

The Snowtown community is resilient and has active community service committees, including the Lions Club, Snowtown Community Development Committee and Progress Association.

Parent and community involvement

Governing Council is well supported and attendance at school events and functions, including assemblies, is good.

Feeder sites

Snowtown Kindergarten is our only feeder site.

Other local care and educational facilities

Snowtown Kindergarten is located adjacent to the school. Strong and well-developed links between the school and Kindy are in place, facilitating effective transition from Kindy to school.

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

Township facilities include supermarket, butcher, chemist, hotel, community club, stock agency, roadhouse, hairdresser, café, newsagency, and some other small retail businesses.

Other local facilities

- ✓ Lutheran, Uniting, Anglican and Catholic Churches all operate within the township
- ✓ Snowtown Institute
- ✓ Sporting Complex
- ✓ Community Club
- ✓ Golf course
- ✓ Gun Club

The town is serviced by Police and a health service, and there is a Doctor available three days each week.

Local Government body

Wakefield Regional Council