



# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 03/2017

**School number:** 1134

**School name:** East Para Primary School

## School Profile:

The East Para Primary School's RITCHR values of respect, integrity, trust, caring, honesty and responsibility are integral to our learning. The school provides a challenging, supportive environment that engages learners as a community of global thinkers.

Teachers co-construct the learning with children in a context that is meaningful, challenging and rigorous. We immerse children in real-life contextual experiences that provide them with the understanding and skills to shape the future. Our children are able to transpose their knowledge and skills to a range of learning situations where they are expected to have an opinion and be able to justify that opinion.

Our strong emphasis on the use of Information Communication Technology, with a ratio of 1:1 iPads in Year 6/7 and 1:2 across Year R to 5, enriches learning opportunities.

East Para Primary School has specialised Arts, L.O.T.E.(Languages Other Than English - Japanese), and Physical Education teachers. The school is proud of and recognised for the many and varied opportunities it provides children within the Arts, namely Festival of Music, Wakakirri, School Concerts, and the School Rock Band.

East Para Primary School students can also access private music tuition.

Students are encouraged and supported to participate in a variety of S.A.P.S.A.S.A. competitions during the year.

Supportive parents, engaged students, passionate teachers and skilled School Services Officers make up our learning community.

Our excellent resources are available to both students and parents.

# 1. General information

- School Principal name: Ros Frost
- Senior Leader, Well-being: Aaron McPherosn
- Year of opening: 1971
- Postal Address: P.O.Box 76, Para Hills SA 5096
- Location Address: 12 Caroon Avenue, Modbury Heights 5092
- DECD Region: Montague Partnerhsip
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km):16km
- Telephone number: 8264 3944
- Fax Number: 8396 1916
- School website address: [www.epps.sa.edu.au](http://www.epps.sa.edu.au)
- School e-mail address: [dl.1134.admin@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.1134.admin@schools.sa.edu.au)
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: No
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: Yes
- February FTE student enrolment:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<i>Rec</i>	63	50	54	58	52
<i>Year 1</i>	49	73	55	51	52
<i>Year 2</i>	63	51	68	57	49
<i>Year 3</i>	60	57	48	70	52
<i>Year 4</i>	51	61	62	51	69
<i>Year 5</i>	73	53	61	62	41
<i>Year 6</i>	59	70	53	60	60
<i>Year 7</i>	54	55	68	55	63
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>438</b>

### **Student enrolment trends:**

- The enrolments have shown minimal variation over many years. In 2017 the enrolments were 25 less than anticipated.

### **Staffing numbers (as at February census):**

- The staff comprises of 21 x R-7 teachers, 2 x S.S.O.3 (Front Office and Resource Managers), 1 x S.S.O.2 (Finance Officer) and 1 x G.S.E. (Grounds person) . In 2017 we have 10 x temporary S.S.O.1s.
- There are 17 classes.
- 'Outcomes For All' teacher ( F.T.E. 1.4).
- A.C.E.O. (Aboriginal Community Education Worker) who works with our families to support successful student learning outcomes for ATSI students.
- Pastoral Care Woker (P.C.W.), 8 hours per week.
- N.I.T. (Non Instructional Time) programs during 2017 will focus on Japanese, Physical Education and The Arts.
- Public transport access: Public transport (bus) is available.
- Special site arrangements:

East Para Primary School is part of the Montague Partnership and as such works closely with the 16 sites to implement the Partnership Vision 'Empowering everyone to be the best learner they can be.'

Our collaborative work focusses on the implementation of the Partnership Plan, consistent transition processes from preschool to primary school, primary school to high school and planning shared professional learning to build capacity across the Partnership.

The Montague Partnership has 3 data informed projects, namely

- The facilitation and promotion of Student Voice to drive pedagogical change.
- Building teacher capacity to better meet the needs of E.A.L.D. (English and Other Language Dialects) learners.

- Tracking and monitoring A.T.S.I. learners' growth with a focus on achievement of and retention in higher bands.

In 2017 the East Para Primary School senior students and teachers are involved in the Collaborative Science Project in which primary and secondary teams collaboratively plan science activities and the DECD 3D Printing in Primary Schools Project.

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

- **General characteristics**

Approximately 24% of the students receive school card benefits.

Approximately 10% of our students are from non-English speaking backgrounds.

- **Student well-being programs**

The Senior Leader, Well-being position focuses on a 'developmental approach.' The Senior Leader works alongside staff to build student resiliency and well-being (DECD Well-being for Learning and Life Framework). The Senior Leader works with staff to implement strategies through workshops, coaching, mentoring and peer teaching.

In 2017 our wellbeing programs include 'What's the Buzz' (small groups and whole classes), exploring Positive Psychology in the Primary years and the Well-being classroom and Kimochis in the Junior Primary classes.

- **Student management**

Our School Values program underpins everything we do at East Para Primary School, for example

- Our Values and Peer Support Program (VAPS) is a yard mediation program where students support their peers to build capacity to solve yard issues.
- A Values Shield has been aligned to our Sports Day Teams with children scoring points towards an annual shield. School Captains manage this program and progressive scoring is announced at weekly assemblies.

- School staff have the opportunity to nominate a student, each week, who has demonstrated School Values. These awards are announced at the weekly assembly and the students are featured in the Weekly Newsletter.

The consistent implementation and expectation that the School Values permeate all aspects of our school R-7 proactively supports student behaviour management.

Staff regularly review student behaviour management issues and site policies and procedures.

- **Student government**

Our School Captains (elected annually) support and initiate student programs.

Our School Ministers (elected annually) have a portfolio and an electorate (several classes).

Ministers liaise with their electorates to take ideas/suggestions from the classrooms to the school Parliament for deliberation and appropriate enactment.

- **Special programmes include**

- Senior and Junior Choir.
- Footsteps (dance), Swimming lessons, Tri-Skills and Aquatics for Senior Students, available annually.
- Sporting clinics such as basketball, cricket, softball, table tennis, offered when coaches are available.
- All classes participate in Cross-Age Tutoring (CATs)
- Before and After School Hours Care and Vacation Care programs are available and are well utilised by the community. Phone 8264 3283 to book.

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

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

Our Priorities for 2017 are Data, Planning, Pedagogy and Intervention

## **DATA**

- All teachers will use data to inform their teaching and learning program, including tracking, monitoring and responding to every learner's growth in achievement and engagement in numeracy and literacy at least 4 times per year.

## **PLANNING**

- Whole School Literacy and Numeracy Agreements which embed high yield Literacy and Numeracy strategies to support and develop stretch for all learners, R-7.

## **PEDAGOGY**

- Gathering and responding to feedback from students to co-construct pedagogy that facilitates and promotes authentic student voice in their learning.

## **INTERVENTION**

- Build capacity of all at EPPS to identify processes which enable a differentiated approach to teaching.
- The East Para Primary School Site Improvement Plan 2017 can be accessed in full from the school website.

- **Recent key outcomes:**

The East Para Primary School Site Annual Report 2016 can be accessed in full from the school website.

## **4. Curriculum**

- **Subject offerings:**

- **Literacy** – whole school approach includes dedicated, uninterrupted Literacy time, R5 Reading Initiative and Jolly Phonics in the Junior Primary classes.
- **Numeracy** - whole school approach including Mental routines, Problematised approach and student sharing and reflection time.

- **Japanese** - is offered as a 1.0 NIT curriculum area.
- The Arts - is offered as a 1.0 NIT curriculum. As well as the implementation of a classroom Arts program we have implemented:
  - A junior and senior choir
  - Community performances
  - A school band
  - 60+ students involved in learning an instrument ( private)
  - Annual concerts
- **Physical Education and Health** –a Specialist Teacher (1.0)
- **Special needs:**

Support is provided to Aboriginal Students, EALD students and for students with identified disabilities.

SSOs work with the ‘Outcomes For All teacher’ to implement SMARTA goals as identified in the individualised One child, One plan.
- **Special curriculum features include:**
  - Local Kindergartens – PerformanceTour
  - School Concert Series
  - Pedal Prix
  - Class Camps
  - Book Week
  - Environment Projects
  - Garden Area
  - Paper, cardboard, can and food scraps recycling
- **Teaching methodology:**

Teachers co-construct learning with students in a context that it is meaningful, challenging and rigorous. There is a strong emphasis on the use of ICTs to enrich

learning opportunities. Year 6/7 students have 1:1 access to ipads while classes with students from Reception to Year 5 have a ratio of 1:2.

All teachers have an Administration and a Curriculum Laptop connected to their Smartboards, a data show and digital cameras in addition to the ipads

There is also a media room which houses a pod of 20 laptops, video recording facilities, and Lego robotics in the General Learning Area (G.L.A.)

- **Student assessment procedures and reporting**

East Para Primary School's assessment and reporting includes an acquaintance evening, interviews and written reports in Terms 2 and 4.

In 2017 East Para Primary School and the Montague Partnership work includes collaborative moderation processes to further develop our teachers' skills in the design and assessment of learning, focussing on

- building the quality and consistency of teachers' learning design and assessment practices.
- developing consistency of teacher judgement in the assessment of student work. This ensures that the allocation of A-E grades is valid and reliable.
- cross-school moderation in which teachers from different schools compare student work and their judgements of this work against the achievement standards.

## **5. Sporting Activities**

- Full time P.E. Teacher
- Whole School Sports Day
- Organised lunch time activities
- Football and Netball teams with parent coaches play on weekends
- SAPSASA - swimming, athletics, cross country, soccer, rugby
- School Facilities
  - The school has extensive grounds with safe playing areas for R/2 and 3/7 and a school hall / gymnasium



## 6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

We have a Senior and Junior Choir. The Senior Choir performs at the Festival of Music and at local community events. The school also promotes and supports student participation in Wakakirri, School Concerts, and the School Rock Band.

East Para Primary School students can also access private music tuition.

All students participate in the school's Sports Day and Year 5-7 students are encouraged and supported to participate in a variety of S.A.P.S.A.S.A. competitions during the year.

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile**

The school has a very stable teaching staff group.

- **Leadership structure**

The Principal, Senior Leader - Well-being, 'Outcomes for All' teacher, 2 x S.S.O.3s and the Finance Officer form the leadership team.

- **Staff support systems**

The Personnel Advisory Committee (PAC) meets regularly with the Principal.

Staff meetings occur weekly. N.I.T. lessons are structured to provide teachers with the opportunity to plan in year level teams.

All staff belong to Partnership P.L.C. teams in which staff share ideas and seek feedback about Learning Design and Moderation.

- **Performance Management**

The East Para Primary School's Performance and Development structures include formal meetings, observations and written feedback.

- **Staff utilisation policies**

The 'Outcomes for All' teacher coordinates the deployment of ancillary staff. Data driven targeted intervention programmes support Students with a Disability, A.T.S.I. students and E.A.L.D. students. S.S.O.s also implement a range of specialised

program such as Quicksmart, Too Smart, Early Years Literacy Program and Speech Intervention.

- **Access to special staff**

The Pastoral Care Worker (PCW) supports the well-being of our students, their families, school staff and the school community.

The PCW runs programmes from 'What's the Buzz' to specialised targeted programmes about grief and loss.

Parent permission must be given for the PCW to work with individual students.

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

N/A

## 9. School Facilities

- **Buildings and grounds**

The school consists of the main double storey building, a General Learning Area (G.L.A.), Discovery Centre, Hall, Library and Canteen.

The school has extensive grounds including a large oval, and with safe playing areas for all students.

- **Heating and cooling**

All buildings are airconditioned.

- **Student facilities**

The canteen operates 5 x days per week.

The Media Room (G.L.A.) houses a pod of 20 laptops, video recording facilities and Lego Robotics.

The school library is a brilliant learning space for both students and staff

Our hall provides space for PE, assemblies and performances.

- **Staff facilities**

The staff room is air-conditioned.

- **Access for students and staff with disabilities**

Wheel chair ramps are located at each end of the double storey building and a disabled toilet is provided within this building. The G.L.A. also has wheelchair access and a disabled toilet. There is wheelchair access to the Library.

- **Access to bus transport**

Public transport is available.

## 10. School Operations

- **Decision making structures include**
  - Children's Parliament
  - Governing Council with sub committees for Finance, Out of School Hours Care
  - Grounds and Community Service.
  - Affiliated Committees - Netball, Pedal Prix, Football, Playgroup
  - Governing Council portfolio groups established on a needs basis
  - Agreed staff Decision Making Policy
  - Committees established on a needs basis – eg. Graduation Committee
- **Regular publications**
  - Weekly school newsletters published Thursdays.
  - School Website – Notices, Calendar, Newsletters, parent information
  - Parent Induction Folder and conducted tours.
  - 'Skoolbag' app is also used to communicate to parents.
- **Other communication**
  - Class teachers use Class Do-Jo and See-Saw apps.
- **School financial position**

Fundraising is incorporated in Material and Service Charges. Any events run by the school are charged at a rate only to redeem costs.

# 11. Local Community

- **General characteristics**

Students come from a range of socio-economic backgrounds. Many people participate in part-time work.

Approximately 10% of our school population comes from a variety of non-English speaking backgrounds.

- **Parent and community involvement**

Parents play an active role within a range of school programs. They are supportive and have high expectations of their school.

Governing Council, sub-committees and affiliated committees support the school.

Parents coach the netball and football teams.

Volunteers often help the Canteen Manager.

All Volunteers have a D.C.S.I. Clearances and have undertaken R.A.N. training.

- **Feeder or destination schools**

Local Kindergartens include Valley View, Modbury North, Modbury, Ingle Farm and Lieberman. A transition program at the end of the year, including teacher visits, ensures a successful transition.

Year 7s move to a range of High Schools: - nearest being Modbury, The Heights, Valley View, Banksia Park and Para Hills.

- **Other local care and educational facilities**

The Playgroup and the East Para Primary School OSHC operate on site. Close schools are – Modbury, Modbury West and Para Vista Primary Schools.

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**

Para Vista Shopping Centre is the nearest shopping centre, whilst Tea Tree Plaza is 12 minutes by car.

- **Other local facilities**

Medical, dental sporting and recreational facilities are all within easy distance from the school.

- **Accessibility**

Public transport (bus) is available.

- **Local Government body**

City of Salisbury

## **12. Further Comments**

Uniforms are available from the Clovercrest Shopping Centre.