

REGION: SOUTHERN ADELAIDE SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Part A

Principal's Name: Stuart Hage
School Name: MCLAREN FLAT PRIMARY SCHOOL
School number : 0250
Courier: Southern Adelaide
Telephone : 83830143
Fax : 83830225
Partnership: Sea and Vines
Road distance from GPO : 44 kms

May FTE (Full Time Equivalent) Enrolment		2014	2015 (Feb)	2016 (Feb)	2017 (Feb)	2018 (Feb)
Primary	Reception	27	24	25	24	17
	Year 1	31	29	26	25	28
	Year 2	25	34	30	26	28
	Year 3	27	25	34	32	26
	Year 4	27	24	23	25	33
	Year 5	27	29	28	23	34
	Year 6	27	25	29	26	24
	Year 7	13	25	24	28	17
	TOTAL	204	215	219	219	207
Total FTE Enrolment		204	215	219	219	207
Male FTE		107	108	112	115	107
Female FTE		97	107	107	104	100
School Card (Persons)		15	13	16	19	21
NESB (Non English Speaking Background) Total (Persons)		0	0	0	0	0

Part B

■ **Staffing numbers: as at January 2017**

Teaching Staff: 11 female, 5 Male

Total FTE: 12.7 (inc. 2 x Leadership)

SSOs (Admin/teacher support) females/male: 158 hrs/wk

Grounds/handyperson, male: GSE 10 hrs/wk

Leadership positions

Principal, male 1.0 Admin. Time

Deputy Principal, 1.0 Admin including Counsellor Role 0.2

- **OSHC (Out of School Hours Care):** is provided on site each afternoon
- **Enrolment trends.** McLaren Flat township is experiencing growth within the township's boundary. It is expected that enrolments will continue to gradually increase over the next 3 - 5 years.
- **Special arrangements - nil**

McLaren Flat Primary School is a member of the Sea and Vines Partnership which includes a range of local sites including :

Madge Sexton Kindergarten	McLaren Vale Primary School
Willunga Kindergarten	Willunga Primary School
Aldinga Childrens' Centre	Aldinga R-7 School
Clarendon Preschool	Clarendon Primary School
	Kangarilla Primary School
	Myponga Primary School
	Willunga High School

- **Year of opening** 1855

In 2005 The McLaren Flat Primary School celebrated 150 years of community education.

- **Public transport access**

Bus transport is available via the Adelaide Metro bus service.

McLaren Flat to Colonnades Noarlunga Centre: Bus 752A & 752

Colonnades Noarlunga Centre to McLaren Flat: Bus 752

*See adelaidemetro.com.au

2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General Characteristics**

The student body is drawn from families living within the McLaren Flat township and the surrounding rural area, with a smaller number of families from further afield. Set within the heart of the Southern Vales grape-growing region, McLaren Flat Primary is a small school with a strong rural tradition. In spite of its close proximity to the outer metropolitan area of Adelaide, the school's values and climate continue to essentially maintain this tradition. There is a strong sense of community and pride in the school by students, parents and staff.

- **(Pastoral) Care programmes**

The school has a Pastoral Support Worker for 9 hours per week.

- **Support offered**

There is monitoring of all aspects of each student's wellbeing. Student support is provided by teachers and SSOs and is supported by the leadership team, with external agencies drawn upon as required.

- **Student behaviour**

There is a strong commitment by the school community to the school's behaviour development policy and procedures. Students and staff are aware of behaviour expectations and there is a strong emphasis on positive reinforcement. Responses to inappropriate behaviour are consistently applied with close communication/liaison with parents/caregivers if required. The school's Behaviour Policy based on common values and the school's vision supports student wellbeing.

- **Student Government**

Students are actively involved in a range of decision making processes including regular class meetings and a senior school leadership team. Senior student leaders support the school in a range of ways including helping manage class meetings in the younger years.

■ **Special Programs**

Specialist programs are provided in Science, Music, Digital Technologies and LOTE (Japanese) to provide release time for class teachers. Students also have access to the Festival of Music Choir.

■ **School Dress Code**

Governing Council and parents strongly support the school dress code. A large majority of students wear clothes associated with the dress code. Clothing is available for purchase from the school. The school's colours are royal blue and yellow. Broad brimmed or legionnaire hats are worn for the majority of the year (Winter is the only exception).

3. Key School Policies

The Site Learning Plan identifies the following priority areas for improvement:

- Strengthening the Learning
- Wellbeing
- Attendance

4. Curriculum

Subject offerings:

- The school follows the Australian Curriculum for students R-7 and covers all required curriculum areas including English, Mathematics, Technologies, Humanities and Social Sciences, Health and Physical Education, The Arts, Science and LOTE (Japanese).

Special Needs:

- Special Education salary and SSO time supports students with Negotiated Education Plans.

Assessment and Reporting:

- Interviews with parents are conducted in conjunction with written reports. The written reports are distributed at the end of Term 2 and Term 4.

5. Sporting Activities

- *Physical Education*, a regular fitness programme is provided for R-7 students. Access and support is provided for McLaren Flat District and State SAPSASA (South Australian Primary Schools Amateur Sports Association) participation. Sporting bodies are regularly invited to conduct sports clinics to further develop children's sporting skills and aspirations. The district provides a wealth of sporting opportunities for students and accordingly, there is broad based participation. Such sports include soccer, basketball, cricket, netball, Tag Rugby and football. Swimming (R-5 students) and aquatics (6-7 students) are integral components of the physical education programme. The whole school participates in 'Play is the Way' games and a 'Whole School Run' on alternate Thursday mornings.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- Excursions/camps. Opportunities are provided for student participation in excursion/camp programmes
- Performances. Students have access to visiting performances as well as opportunities to be performers

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile:

- A stable profile with a mix of full and part time staff exists.
- Leadership structure - Leadership is provided through the Principal and Deputy in consultation with the PAC (Personnel Advisory Committee) and also at staff meetings. Staff take leadership responsibility for a range of curriculum and administrative requirements.
- Performance Management - Meetings with all staff occur to oversee teaching and learning programmes and to provide support to staff on individual issues. Meetings with SSO staff are conducted regularly.

8. School Facilities

■ Buildings and grounds

The faithfully restored school stone building is the centrepiece of school facilities and houses the school's library / information technology centre. The well maintained and air-conditioned prefabricated classrooms, provide effective learning areas and include a general purpose room with a fully operational kitchen.

Over the last 10 years the school has been significantly upgraded including new administration building, several new classrooms, large activity room and new toilet block.

Of the remaining old portable buildings, most are in sound condition with the Japanese Building recently being refurbished in early Term 2, 2016.

All classrooms are air-conditioned and include an IWB or data projector.

The school boasts gum studded grounds that are both attractive and practical. It incorporates basketball and netball playing courts, extensive grassed area, adventure playground and adequate shelter areas. The McLaren Flat oval and the netball and tennis courts are leased by DECD from the Recreation Ground Committee for the use of the school.

■ Access for students and staff with disabilities

Ramp access is provided to a number of areas including administration, activity room, library and toilets, including disabled toilet facilities as well as all classrooms.

■ Access to bus transport

A school bus provides daily transport for students, particularly for those children living to the north of the township. Bus transport is readily available for student excursions, although cost is a limiting factor for extensive use.

9. School Operations

■ Decision making structures

Following is an overview of the school's committee structure:

Governing Council and sub-committees:

Finance Committee

Community Links

Fundraising

Outside of School Hours Care Management Committee

Grounds Committee

Staff Meetings

General business staff meeting held weekly

Student leaders and Class meetings

■ **Regular publications**

- The school newsletter On the Vine is published fortnightly on Thursday of even weeks.
- Newsletters and general notices are available via the website or our Skoolbag app.
- A Parent Handbook and Information Pamphlet provide an overview of school operations.

■ **School financial position**

The school is in a sound financial position.

10. Local Community

■ **General characteristics**

Students are drawn from a rural/semi-rural community context with a significant number of parents working outside the immediate community. The McLaren Flat township is experiencing housing development and the enrolment growth is coming from this development. English is almost exclusively the language used at home for students attending McLaren Flat Primary School.

■ **Parent and community involvement**

There is a strong base of parent and community involvement, ranging from active participation in Governing Council and parental support and involvement within classrooms and Resource Centre. The McLaren Districts Lions Club and the McLaren Flat Recreational Ground Committee support the school.

■ **Feeder schools**

The Madge Sexton Kindergarten at McLaren Vale is the main feeder pre-school, with Willunga High School being the local state high school. Other students also come from the Willunga Kindergarten. There is close liaison with local education facilities to maximise student transition.

■ **Other local facilities**

In addition to adjacent Bakery, Motor Repairs / Post Office, Institute Hall, Community Club and extensive recreational facilities, the township of McLaren Vale, 5km from McLaren Flat, provides extensive commercial, shopping and medical facilities.

■ **Local Government body**

City of Onkaparinga

11. Further Comments

■ **Key features which make the school and community professionally rewarding for and attractive to prospective staff:**

The rural context of this near metropolitan school provides a unique teaching/learning opportunity. Strong parental involvement in all facets of the school exists.

■ **150 year celebration**

One of the oldest public schools in South Australia, McLaren Flat Primary School celebrated its 150th Birthday during the 2005 school year.

An enthusiastic group of people formed the 150th Celebrations Committee at the beginning of 2005 and oversaw all of the 150th celebrations throughout the anniversary year. Photographs of this historic year are featured on the "150th Yearbook" page.

■ **Yearbook**

The McLaren Flat Primary School yearbook is published and distributed to families in February each year.