

REGION: SOUTHERN ADELAIDE 2023 SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Part A

Principal's Name: Josh Anderson
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		2017 (Feb)	2018 (Feb)	2019 (Feb)	2020 (Feb)	2021 (Feb)	2022 (Feb)	2023 (feb)
Primary	Reception	24	17	27	24	26	30	24
	Year 1	25	28	17	30	29	29	29
	Year 2	26	28	27	17	32	33	30
	Year 3	32	26	29	30	21	33	34
	Year 4	25	33	24	27	35	24	33
	Year 5	23	34	32	26	29	33	24
	Year 6	26	24	33	29	24	25	34
	Year 7	28	17	18	19	16		
	TOTAL	219	207	207	202	212	207	208
Total FTE Enrolment		219	207	207	202	212	207	208
Male FTE		115	107					
Female FTE		104	100					
School Card (Persons)		19	21	20	25	30	30	30
NESB (Non English Speaking Background) Total (Persons)		0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Part B

■ Staffing numbers: as at January 2023

Teaching Staff: 13 female, 4 Male
 Total Teaching FTE: 12.2 (inc. 2 x Leadership)
 SSOs (Admin/teacher support) approx. 160 hrs/wk
 Grounds/handyperson: GSE 10 hrs/wk

Leadership positions

Principal Band A3, 1.0 Admin. Time
 Deputy Principal Band B2, 1.0 Admin includes Student Wellbeing Leader Role 0.2
 Autism Inclusion / IESP Teacher (0.2)

- **OSHC (Out of School Hours Care):** is provided on site each morning and afternoon and also includes a vacation care program.
- **Enrolment trends.** McLaren Flat Township is experiencing growth within the township's boundary. It is expected that enrolments will continue to stay steady over the next 3-5 years, but there is potential for significant growth with a proposed housing development happening adjacent the school which is expected to deliver a further 70 homes within the town boundary.
- **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 Children's Centre	Aldinga B-7 School
Aldinga Community Kindy	Clarendon Primary School
Clarendon Preschool	Kangarilla Primary School
	Myponga Primary School
	Kangarilla 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**

Very limited metro 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 and note that the service is quite limited.

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 maintain this tradition, but also look towards a contemporary inclusive and dynamic future. There is a strong sense of community and pride in the school among the students, parents and staff.

- **(Pastoral) Care programmes**

The school has a Pastoral Support Worker for 9-10 hours per week provided through the Schools Ministry Group (SMG).

- **Support offered**

There is monitoring of all aspects of each student's learning and wellbeing. Student support is provided by teachers and specialist 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 which are underpinned by positive relationships and behaviour for learning and also Restorative Practice. Students and staff are aware of behaviour expectations and there is a strong emphasis on positive reinforcement, logical consequences and restorative justice. Responses to inappropriate behaviour are consistently applied with close communication/liaison with parents/caregivers if required. The school's Behaviour Policy is based on common values and the school's vision supports student wellbeing.

■ Reconciliation Action Plan

Our Vision for reconciliation at McLaren Flat Primary School (MFPS), located on Kaurna country, is to actively acknowledge and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Nation's first peoples. At MFPS we are committed to honesty and critical reflection. We understand that to move forward together we must acknowledge and reflect on injustices past and present, as well as celebrate the resilience and strength of the First Nations community. We aim to create a space that allows Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices to be heard and are committed to actively seeking guidance from the First Nations community to support this vision. We are committed to promoting cultural diversity, ensuring that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives are integrated into our teaching and learning, and ensuring our First Nations students are given the tools they need in order to succeed in their education. We are dedicated to sustaining and developing MFPS as an inclusive community of students, parents and staff who support and enable healing as a means of reconciliation. We commit ourselves to being a community who listen, learn and provide equal and equitable opportunities. We proudly walk together as Australians for a better future.

■ Student Leadership

Students are actively involved in a range of decision making processes including regular class meetings and a senior student leadership team. Senior student leaders support the school in a range of ways including managing portfolios such as Sports, Reconciliation, Environment, Community Links, Performing Arts and Student Wellbeing and Inclusion.

■ Special Programs

Specialist programs are provided in PE (r-2/3) Science, Music, Performing Arts and LOTE (Japanese) R-6 to provide release time for class teachers. Students also have access to the Festival of Music Choir and ukulele lessons.

■ 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 also 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 Improvement Plan identifies the following priority areas for improvement. This document is available on the school website, alongside other key policy documents.

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).

Inclusive Education

- Inclusive Education Support funding supports students with Negotiated Education Plans with 0.2 Autism Inclusion and IESP teacher and significant SSO time. The deputy principal liaises with the IESP team and coordinates intervention and enrichment programs.

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. Class parent forums are held at the beginning of Semester 1. Staff are available year round to connect with families in relation to learner wellbeing and achievement.

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 Sporting Schools SA (Formerly SAPSASA) 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 a 'Whole School Activity' times on Thursday afternoons on a rotational basis.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- Excursions/camps. Opportunities are provided for student participation in excursion/camp programmes-such as Kuitpo Nature Play Day, assorted class excursions and aquatics and swimming.
- Performances and Incursions - Students have access to visiting performances as well as opportunities to be performers.
- Special Events – Harmony Day, Sports Day, Reconciliation Week, Book Week, Science Week activities.

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. Instructional leadership and class room observations and walk through protocols form a key part of the PDP process.

8. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds

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

Over the last 15 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 LED digital display.

Four classrooms are equipped with REDCAT audio systems to support hearing impaired students. All of our facilities are accessible via ramps or at ground level.

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 DfE 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:

Staff Meetings- Professional learning and administration – Tuesday afternoons.3.30-5.00pm.

General business staff meeting held weekly - All staff - Thursday 8.15-8.30am

Leadership Team and PAC

Governing Council and sub-committees:

Finance Committee

Community Links

Fundraising

Outside of School Hours Care Management Committee

Grounds Committee

Student leaders and Class meetings

- **Regular publications**

- The school newsletter is published online fortnightly on Tuesday 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.
- The school web site provides a major source of information also.

- **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 General Store- Delie, 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. McLaren Vale and McLaren Flat are linked by the Flat to Vale trail – a shared used bike/walking between the two towns.

- **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.