

# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 01/06/2012

**School Name:** Littlehampton Primary School

**School Number:** 0225

## 1. General Information

### Part A

School name : LITTLEHAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Pre school No. : 1829  
School No. : 0225 Courier : Adelaide Hills  
Principal : Ms Jenny Lewis  
Postal Address : 16-32 Baker Street, Littlehampton 5250  
Location Address : 16-32 Baker Street, Littlehampton  
District : Adelaide Hills  
Distance from GPO : 35 kms Phone No.: 08 83911194  
Fax No. : 08 83982154  
Website: [www.littlehaps.sa.edu.au](http://www.littlehaps.sa.edu.au)

### PRESCHOOL (CPC)

February FTE Enrolment

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
TOTAL	24	37	40	63	63

### SCHOOL

February FTE Enrolment

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Special etc					
Reception	31	22	32	32	52
Year 1	47	32	29	40	49
Year 2.	43	45	40	40	41
Year 3.	41	38	41	38	41
Year4.	53	39	39	48	39
Year 5.	38	51	42	32	49
Year 6.	23	35	50	43	35
Year 7.	36	23	34	46	48
TOTAL	312	284	307	319	354

School Card Approvals (Persons) 39 - 46 each year.(17% -22%)  
ESL Total (Persons) nil  
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment 3 FTE

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 the departmental CD-ROM or web-site.

### Part B

#### Deputy Principal

Ms Margie Sarre

**Staffing numbers** (Jan, 2012) 40 staff, including 6 in Preschool, 1 OSHC Director

**Staff in School 24 teachers and 9 ancillary staff:**

Principal and Deputy Principal

Teacher/Librarian 0.8

Co-ordinator Level 2. – Teaching and Learning (Numeracy & Mathematics focus)

French Teacher

PE Teacher

Art Teacher

Music Teacher

17 Classroom Teachers (FTE 14) (14 classes with a 15<sup>th</sup> to start in Term 4 2012)

Special Education 0.35 (converted to SSO hrs).

**12 Ancillary Staff** – total in school of 145 hours hrs per week.

8 SSOs in Admin and student support

Groundsman

Kitchen Specialist

Garden Specialist

**Staff in Preschool**

2 Teachers.

4 School Services Officers 4 (51 hours per week )

**Staff Gender Profile**

4 male, 36 female

**School Based Preschool**

The preschool provides full day sessions of preschool to children for one year prior to their 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday. From 2013 there will be a single intake in January. In Term 2 2012 we moved to provision of 15 hours of Preschool program for children. This is provided to children in two groups. **Group A** children attend access the program on Monday, Tuesday and every second Friday, **Group B** children attend on Wednesdays, Thursdays and every second Friday. Children are able to begin one pre-entry session per week for the term prior to their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Preschool is located in a new purpose built facility which was officially opened in Nov 2010.

**Playgroup**

A playgroup operates in our Out of School Hours Care building on Friday mornings for parents and children under the age of 5.

**Out of School Hours Care**

Our OSHC service commenced in 2009. We operate a before school program, after school program and vacation care program. We provide care to children in the preschool as well as school children. A special care program for preschool children commences on Fridays at 1:45, the time the preschool program ends. Regular hours of operation are 6:30 – 8:30 for Before School Care 3:15 to 6:30 After School Care and 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. for Vacation Care. The director is Kathryn Schultz.

**Enrolment trends**

There has been a steady increase over the past 10 years with increased housing developments in the Littlehampton area. School numbers are expected to stabilise at a maximum of 400 students.

**Special Arrangements- Zone of Right**

The school has a zone of right, which restricts enrolment to a specific geographic area around the township of Littlehampton.

## **Year of opening**

The school opened in 1900 in the original stone school building. This 1900 sandstone building has been included in the development of the main Administration and classroom block.

## **Public transport**

A bus service is available to and from Adelaide from North Terrace Littlehampton.

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

### **General characteristics of the student body**

As Littlehampton is a zoned school the majority of students live in the Littlehampton area and move together from playgroup and preschool to the R-7 section of the school, enabling good transitions and a sense of belonging. This continuity of schooling is valued by parents. While largely a monocultural school, there is a diverse range of individual values and attitudes.

### **Pastoral Care and Leadership**

Class teachers have the major role in pastoral care. The majority of classes are composite classes and each class has a buddy class which they work with for some activities. While our school has no school counsellor, the deputy principal role includes a 0.1 component for counselling students. A Christian Pastoral Support Worker will be employed in 2012.

### **Student Behaviour Management**

Our Student Wellbeing Policy was reviewed in 2006. Its focus is in developing a positive climate and supporting students in self managing their behaviour and learning effective skills for productive work and play. Student Behaviour Management processes are based on restorative justice principles, and a counselling approach to improving student behaviour.

### **Student Governance - Student Forums**

Classes hold regular class meetings to make decisions on classroom issues. Since 2007 the school has provided a Student Forum model replacing the SRC. Students from Years 2 – 7 join Student Action Teams in an area of interest. Year 6 & 7 students apply to lead forum groups of their choice. The Forum Leaders spend 1 hour a week with the Mentor teacher organising activities for their Student Forum members.

## **3. Key School Policies**

**School Vision:** We aim to develop creative, confident learners who can adapt to and participate effectively in a rapidly changing world. We will value and promote personal excellence, a love of learning and quality relationships between the students, staff, parents and wider community.

**Core Business:** The core business of Littlehampton P.S. is teaching and learning in a supportive environment. Students are supported by explicit whole school and classroom actions to ensure our shared 'Super 7' values are upheld: Respect, Kindness, Being Trustworthy, Including Others, Valuing Others, Fairness and A Positive Attitude.

**School Priorities: The Site Learning Plan for 2012 to 2014 is currently being developed.** Our priorities for whole school improvement in 2012 are:

- National Curriculum & National Quality Standard (for the Preschool)
- Assessment for Learning
- High Expectations for All Learners
- Valuing and Building our Community

## **4 A. Curriculum and Key Features of Preschool**

### **Recent Key Outcomes-Preschool**

- Project based inquiry learning
- Provision of 15 hours for each child
- Quality Standard introduction
- Working towards National Quality Accreditation
- Continued links with Early Years section of the school
- Strong response from Preschool Parent Survey

## CURRICULUM Preschool

Preschool education is play based and is guided by the five Learning Outcomes of *The Early Years Learning Framework*:

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of well being
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

### Key Features of the Preschool

- Focus on *belonging being becoming*, which is fundamental to the Early Years Framework, is used when assessing children through Learning Stories
- The preschool environment is stimulating, safe and facilitates learning through play.
- The outdoor learning environment has become a focus of our Preschool Improvement Plan
- Programming, assessment and communication with parents about the curriculum and their child's learning is based on "The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia"
- A high focus is placed upon the development and assessment of students' oral language as part of the early assistance plan

## 4 B. Curriculum and Key Features of School, Reception to Year 7

### Key Features and Highlight Programs - School

- **Environmental Education:** Our school has a strong commitment to environmental education over many years. The school played a role in developing Coppins Bush reserve in 1981, and continues to work with the community in developing and caring for this valuable area. Student Action teams (Student Forums) which work on sustainability are "Power Savers," "Wipe out Waste" "Garden Saviours", "Recycling" and "Vegetable Garden"; Sustainability initiatives include solar panels, rain water tanks, water saving taps, toilets & urinals.
- **Student Forums**
- **Music:** Music is a highlight program for our school and is supported by regular classroom music lessons for Reception to Year 5. Children learn to read, write and perform music. We also offer choir for students in Years 5, 6 & 7. Instrumental lessons in a range of brass and woodwind instruments, piano and guitar are provided by private instrumental teachers at the school.
- **The School Band** is conducted by Ray Sadler and includes teachers and students. The quality of the band draws favourable public comment.
- **Physical Education:** supported strongly through daily lessons, a specialist PE program, participation in SAPSASA, swimming and aquatics programmes, sporting clinics and Active After School Program.
- **Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program:** where children are involved in planting, and growing food, followed by preparing and cooking food, and enjoying eating food together in the dining room. began in Term 2 of 2011. Students participate in a garden lesson and kitchen lesson supported by a kitchen specialist and garden specialist.
- **Early Years Literacy & Numeracy Plan:** During 2011 our early years teachers investigated Jolly Phonics, improved their knowledge and skills in Phonological Awareness, investigated spelling programmes, and worked on Early Years maths. Jolly Phonics was introduced in 2012.
- **Wellbeing** this involves the development of Anti-bullying policy and regular Bully audits; Student Behaviour Management processes based on restorative justice principles and a counselling approach to improving student behaviour;
- **Superseven values** with strong ownership of students, developing shared understandings and practising these values through student wellbeing and forum groups:  
***Respect, Kindness, Being Trustworthy, Including Others, Valuing Others, Fairness, A Positive Attitude***

## Curriculum - School

Our school is currently implementing the Australian Curriculum in these learning areas:

- **Mathematics**
- **Science**

Other areas of study follow the South Australian Curriculum Standards and Accountability (SACSA) Framework:

- English
- Health and Physical Education
- Society and Environment
- Arts
- Technology
- Languages – French

## Pedagogy

Our school uses an agreed Inquiry Framework for teaching science, society & environment and health. This includes:

- an agreed Inquiry Scope and Sequence,
- an agreed methodology guided by the Inquiry Framework
- an agreed planner, the *Inquiry Backwards Planner*.

The Scope and Sequence is currently being reviewed to include history and science from the Australian Curriculum as well as Health and Physical Education.

## Special Needs- Student Support Programs

The school provides support for student learning through:

- **Special Education** for students identified with Special Education needs through a Psychology or Speech report. The principal coordinates this program and individual or small group assistance provided by School Services Officers.
- **The Learning Assistance Programme (LAP)**. Parent and Community members who would like to assist are invited to do so. Our LAP program has been operating continuously for 18 years under the leadership of Pauline Bolto.
- **Gross Motor Skill Coordination Programme**. (Fun & Games)
- **Early Assistance** screening and assistance in oral language and phonological awareness at 5 and 6 years of age.
- **Multilit**, a catch up program for students from Years 2 – 5 falling behind in literacy.
- **Quicksmart**, a program for students in Years 5 – 7. This program teaches number facts to automaticity, and our data shows that students on this program made almost 3 years growth in maths in one year.

## Reporting

Reporting Timeline:

Term 1 Week 3 Teachers meet with parents in an Acquaintance Night

Term 1 Week 9 Parent Teacher Interviews

Term 2 Week 10 Written Reports

Term 3 Weeks 1—3 Parent Teacher Interviews on request.

Term 4 Week 8 Final Written Report.

## 5. Sporting Activities

**At School** students participate in a wide range of sporting activities including school Sports Day, Swimming Carnival and Cross Country. House Captains show great leadership during these events.

**SAPSASA** Students in Years 4 – 7 also participate in SAPSASA events.

**After School** The school operates an Active After School Communities Program: This is held in our Gymnasium after school on two afternoons a week, with different sporting activities offered each term.

**Community sporting associations** provide many opportunities, and student participation in these groups is high: Littlehampton Tennis and Netball Clubs, Hahndorf Football Club and Soccer Club.

## **6. Staff (and their welfare)**

### **Staff Profile**

Many of our staff have children in our school, play sport with local sporting organisations, and have firm friendships with other school families. This very much contributes to the community feel to our school and encourages a valuable partnership of parents, students and staff.

### **Performance Development**

Littlehampton Primary School is a school which embraces innovation and looks to the future with a positive approach. Teachers are supported in pursuing areas of interest, specialisation or study and encouraged to utilise their skills within the whole school context.

Staff have a right to planned and constructive feedback about their performance. School leaders share this responsibility.

### **Staff Social Club**

Staff social events include Lunch Club and Happy Hours and other social occasions.

### **Access to Special Staff**

Speech Pathologists, Behaviour Support Unit personnel, Guidance Officers and other DECS support personnel are available to support teachers and their programmes through negotiation with the Principal.

## **7. School Facilities**

### **Building & Grounds Redevelopment**

In recent years the school has had almost continuous development.

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2012 | Completion of vegetable gardens provided through a DEEWR SAKG grant.  |
| 2011 | Completion of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen and Dining Room with five fully equipped kitchens for student learning.   |
| 2010 | Completion of new preschool, library resource centre and double classroom block. Provided through BER funding and SA Capital Works Grant.   |
| 2009 | Work commenced on our new preschool, new library resource centre, and new double classroom block (the old demountable wooden building was demolished).  |
| 2008 | New 4 classroom block. This involved shifting a 2 classroom transportable building developed in 2005, construction of a second 2 classroom transportable building, veranda area, ramps, steps and pathways  |
| 2007 | New Gymnasium   |
| 1998 | New Molly Meils building, a 4-class building with a central foyer, art room, two computer areas, office and withdrawal room. Included was a further redevelopment of the original Sandstone building with redesign of the Administration and staffroom. |
| 1982 | Redevelopment of the original sandstone school building to provide classroom space for 150 students.  |
| 1900 | School opened in original sandstone building  |

### **Key Features of our Grounds & Facilities**

- Well maintained facilities include a computer suite, music room, two art rooms, French room, a fully equipped cooking centre with 5 full kitchens and gymnasium.
- Attractive and well maintained grounds for student use include play equipment, oval, grassed play area, vegetable garden and orchard and basketball court.
- Staff room with a dishwasher and courtyard with pergola. Staff toilets located in 3 areas.
- Wheelchair access for students and staff with disabilities via extensive paths to all classrooms, completed in 2009. Toilet and shower facilities in main building.

- Our school community adjoins “Coppins Bush” a 3-hectare area of the last remaining natural vegetation in this area. The school played a role in developing this reserve in 1981, and continues to work with the community in developing and caring for this valuable area. Classes utilise Coppins Bush as a focus for environmental education.

## **Gymnasium**

Our new Gymnasium is used extensively for school P.E. lessons, Active after School Programs, OSHC, assemblies, performances, Arts Showcases (concerts) and school community events. It is available for hire by groups within our community, and is currently used by Taekwondo, Karate K2M (Martial Arts), Trinity church and Littlehampton Netball Club juniors.

## **8. School Operations**

### **Decision Making**

Governing Council sets direction, approves policy and operates the OSHC service.

Main staff decision making is through the staff meeting.

Staff also contribute to whole school development and decision making through active involvement in Year level “Learning teams” and School Development committees. These Committees are:

- Governing Council & sub-committees (Finance Committee, & Grounds and Facilities);
- Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare;
- Personnel Advisory Committee;
- Events Committee;
- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program Committee
- Progress Committee (curriculum renewal committee);
- the Extended Leadership Group which deals with planning and management

**Regular publications:** staff use of an on-line wiki, weekly staff notes and fortnightly School Newsletter.

**Other communication:** Staffroom whiteboard, Term Calendar sent home to all families, staff pigeon holes, phone communication to all areas. A School Handbook is available to all new staff, new and prospective parents. The school is implementing an email contact with every family in order to give families the option of receiving newsletters and information electronically.

## **9. Local Community**

### **Parent and community involvement**

A key feature of our school is strong community involvement. There is a high level of parental support in classroom and student support programs. Our school also has a strong involvement with Littlehampton community organisations. Our students and school choir are involved in Remembrance Day and Anzac Day services and our school has a regular column in the Littlehampton Community Newsletter. The *Friends of Coppins Bush* group meets regularly at the school with involvement of the principal. Our school benefits enormously from the sponsorship of Mt Barker and Blakiston Rotary Clubs. Littlehampton Community Association currently has representation on our Governing Council, and our school is regularly involved in activities planned by this organisation

### **General characteristics of the township**

Littlehampton is a growing township with one hotel, a supermarket, a large family medical clinic, a pharmacy, a restaurant and café, one deli and an Australia Post outlet. There is a Community Hall and tennis courts, CFS, and two childcare centres. Spring Park Farm and other developing housing estates have dramatically increased housing available for families in the town.

### **Feeder schools/Kindergartens**

Almost all Receptions come from our own preschool and playgroup.

### **High Schools**

Mount Barker High School is our feeder high school. Students also move on to Oakbank Area School, Heathfield High School and city schools such as Glenunga, Urrbrae and Mitcham Girls High.

### **Other Local Care and Educational facilities:**

The Adelaide Hills Region of DECD is located nearby in Mt Barker.

Littlehampton Child Care Centre, Matildas Child Care Centre,

**Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities:** Mount Barker offers a good range of shopping and industrial centres. Littlehampton has recently seen more businesses establish in the township, with a Foodland supermarket, bakery, chemist, a large doctors' surgery, Australia Post outlet, hairdressers and other social organisations.

Other local facilities: Mount Barker Library, recreation centre, Wallis Cinemas, wetlands, swimming pool, fitness centres, sporting facilities, Mount Barker hospital, Government Offices and social services.

Local government body: Mount Barker Council, Phone: 8391 1633.

## **10. Further Comments**

We are proud to have had Garth Boomer as an old scholar. Our library resource centre is named in his honour, the *Garth Boomer Resource Centre*. Our highest achievement award, the *Garth Boomer* literacy award, is given each year to the Year 7 student with the best portfolio of writing. The school holds the Garth Boomer Trust fund, established by old scholars in honour of Garth Boomer. With financial support from DECD and community organisations, the school is planning a memorial to Garth Boomer outside the library.