



SPALDING PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT Updated: July 2015

School number: 0407

1. General information

Part A

School name : Spalding Primary School:
School No. : 0407 Courier : Clare
Principal : Dianna Jarman
Postal Address : Edgware Avenue, Spalding 5454
Location Address : Edgware Av, Spalding
District : Flinders
Distance from GPO : 176 Km Phone No. : 88452139
CPC attached : Play centre Fax No. : 88452039

February FTE Enrolment

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Reception	3	3	3	2	6
Year 1	1	4	4	5	3
Year 2	3	1	4	2	8
Year 3	2	3	2	2	2
Year 4	3	2	3	2	4
Year 5	4	1	2	3	
Year 6	3	3	1	2	3
Year 7	0	1	1	0	1
TOTAL	19	18	21	19	27
School Card percentage	24%	33%			52.9%
NESB Enrolment	0	0	0	0	0
Aboriginal Enrolment	0	0	0	0	3

Part B

- Deputy Principal's name, if applicable
: None
- School website address
: www.spaldingps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address
: dl.0407.info@spaldingps.sa.edu.au
- Staffing numbers
: 2.5
- OSHC
: There is a Play centre on site which operates on Monday and Wednesdays Mornings from 9am to 12.00pm during the School Term.
- Enrolment trends
: Enrolments are steady for Reception for the next year.
- Year of opening
: 1884

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics
: Students come from the surrounding rural properties and the local township. All are from English speaking backgrounds.
- (Pastoral) Care programs
: Supportive individual care strategies and social justice principles are used to help students participate in a wide range of school activities. We have a Pastoral Care Worker who works for 10 hours a week.
- Student management
: A Student Code of Behaviour is in place to support the students. Students are generally very well behaved and well mannered.
- Student government
: SRC meets fortnightly as a whole school. The Chairperson and Secretary run the meetings. Students can put items for discussion on the agenda which is posted on the SRC notice board.

Students in Year 6 and 7 have the opportunity to attend the Young Leaders Day in Adelaide.

3. Key School Policies

: Contextual Influences

Spalding Primary School is a place where learning is the focus of our activities. Here teaching and learning are enjoyable pursuits to be valued and shared.

Spalding Primary School's community perceives the school to have:

- Some isolation from areas of pursuit such as arts and drama
- Goals for high academic achievement
- A largely mono-cultural population
- A high level of sporting involvement through SAPSASA participation in Community Sports such as lawn bowls netball, tennis, football, basketball, table tennis and golf.
- A high level of awareness surrounding local and global environmental issues
- Increasing influence in the whole community
- An expectation that the student's learning is a home-school partnership
- A strong relationship with the cluster schools.
-

These perceptions are seen to impact upon the curriculum in the following ways:

- Literacy and numeracy in all year levels remains a high priority
- A focus on access to information technology by all students –Reception to Year 7. There are interactive whiteboards in each learning area.
- Access to cultural activities and specialist programmes.
- Access to career awareness activities
- recognition of the participation in sporting, cultural and community events are indicators of students' self-esteem THROUGH A Career Awareness Camp- Year 7
- Recognition participation in Sporting, cultural and community events are indicators of Students' self esteem
- Environmental issues are recognised in cross-curriculum pursuits that are school and community driven
- Access and participation in "academic" competition and testing are important indicators for individual student's development

Core Business

The core business of Spalding Primary School is to provide quality education from Reception to Year 7 that is built around a success oriented environment.

We provide this through quality teaching and learning programmes which promote and develop:

- Literacy
- Numeracy

- Citizenship and leadership skills
- Communication
- Environmental Appreciation
- Research Skills/Internet Use
- Skills for Social Living
- Technology.

Spalding Primary School values and has a commitment to:

- A focus on achieving personal best in all endeavours
- Equitable access to the curriculum
- Enjoying learning
- Community support for education
- Parental involvement
- Staff development
- Increasing opportunities for students.

We support our values and commitments through:

- A strong and supportive Code of Behaviour
- An active Student Representative Council
- A workable Decision Making Statement
- An informed and effective Governing Council
- A welcoming atmosphere within the school
- Clearly documented role statements.

Monitoring and Review:

Staff and the Governing Council monitor current priorities.

Student learning is monitored through a variety of assessment strategies used by each teacher.

These include:

- Teacher observation.
- NAPLAN results.
- Diagnostic testing.
- Peer assessment and self assessment
- ICAS Testing

Student achievements are reported to parents in a number of ways:

- School Newsletters
- Parent/ Teacher Interviews Term 1 and 3
- Formal Written reports Term 2 and 4

- School Assemblies
- Informal discussions
- School diaries
- National Literacy and Numeracy Test Results.
- The local newsletter "The Scribe"
- School Notice Board

Current Information Sources:

- Student reports
- Teachers' assessments
- Attendance records
- Parent-teacher anecdotal records
- Running records
- Observations
- Diagnostic tests
- Externally set academic competitions, e.g. ETC Maths, Science, English, Computing and Australian (Wespac) Maths Competitions

Additional Information:

Spalding Primary School is supported by the following School and Department for Education and Children's Development documents:

- Education Act
- Administration Instruction and Guidelines
- Parent Information Booklet
- Role Statements
- DECS Policies
- DECS Strategic Directions 2011
- Performance Management Policy Statement
- School Policy Statements
- Behaviour Management (including Code of Behaviour & Bullying Policies)
- Reporting and Assessing Procedures
- Emergency Procedure Statements
- Bushfire Policy
- Sun smart Policy
- Quality School Relationships Policy (Grievance Procedures)
- Decision Making Processes and Procedures
- Sports Day Policy
- Same Start: Reception Entry Policy
- Internet Users Policy

4. Curriculum

- **Subject offerings**

: Access is provided to the eight areas of study.

- **Special needs**

Met by teachers, SSOs and Principal in running individual programs.

Programs include

- Reading Doctor
- Toe by Toe

- **Special curriculum features**

: NIT is provided through The Arts, German and Program Achieve.

There is also a high level of SSO support for student learning each day.

The students currently have access to fifteen computers. All computers have dedicated Internet access through a server. Small banks of computers are each classroom and the Resource Centre. There are 15 i pads available in the school for use by students.

School Concert is a Community Concert and is held in the District Hall in Term 4.

Swimming instruction takes place in the town's well-maintained swimming pool during Term 4.

School excursions and a biannual school camp are seen as enhancing the curriculum and assisting to develop the student's views of the World.

Combined Days are held with two of the neighbouring schools at least once a term to provide students with greater social interaction. These days also enable the 3 schools to access a greater number of resource people from the Arts, Literacy, Science and Pe by sharing the costs.

Fundraising events are held during the year. The community strongly supports the school and fundraisers are very successful.

School working bees are very well attended; with many parents, high school students and students attending and working together to accomplish tasks.

The students are involved in an annual bowls tournament, taking place at the Bowling Club.

The JP class and the Play Centre children visit one another numerous times throughout the term.

The school has a strong environmental focus:

- Roadside Cleanup
- Gardening - The students work in small vertical groups for gardening. Each group has its own plot and they work as a team to plan their garden and determine what they grow.
- Recycling - Garden and lawn waste is composted. Cans, drink bottles, ink cartridges are collected.
- In the past, propagating and planting native trees and shrubs - A plant-propagating nursery was developed in 2000 within the school.
- Landcare days held in conjunction with our local Landcare group

An annual trip to Canberra is held in Week 4 of term 4 for the Year 7 students. This is a combined camp with Year 7's from a number of schools in the Lower North.

A Career Awareness camp is also held each year in Adelaide for the Year 7's from Spalding, Koolunga, Blyth and Booborowie schools.

- **Teaching methodology**

: We run two classes with multi-year levels in each. The teaching in each class requires that the teachers are able to accommodate a wide range of skills, knowledge and abilities. Teachers use a wide range of methodologies, but cater well for individual learning often using research-based strategies and Information Technology to assist student learning.

- **Assessment procedures and reporting**

:Parent-teacher interviews are held in Terms 1 & 3 and comprehensive written reports are sent home towards the end of Terms 2 and 4. Parents are encouraged to discuss student progress as the need arises. Staff are also proactive in approaching parents when issues arise.

- **Joint programmes**

:We work closely with Booborowie PS and Koolunga PS, sharing performances, resources and hold Combined days once a term to allow for greater social and academic interaction. Joint training and development for staff is also held as the need arises.

5. Sporting Activities

:Students are involved in fitness programs, regular skills based lessons, after school team practices and games (tennis, football, Friday night football, netball, basketball, table tennis, T-ball and lawn bowls) and there is strong support for SAPSASA sports through District Hubs. Our focus hub group is at Clare.

We combine with Brinkworth PS, Koolunga PS and Blyth PS for Sports Day each year.

The town has a well-maintained swimming pool that students use regularly in season.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

Instrumental Music (piano and guitar) is through private lessons which are conducted in the school's Play centre each Monday morning during school hours.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile**

2.5 Staff that includes one ½ day a week for LOTE – German.

All staff are committed to providing quality educational programs that cater for the needs of each individual and their particular learning needs.
- **Leadership structure**

:Principal. However, due to the small staff numbers, all staff are involved in all aspects of the school and decision making.
- **Staff support systems**

:Developing Negotiated Performance Management Plans in consultation with all staff.

PAC includes 2 teaching staff and 1 SSO.
- **Staff utilisation policies**

:We negotiate and seek to support and encourage staff to make use of special interests and abilities.
- **Access to special staff**

We have access to staff based in the Education Office at Clare and Kadina. These include Guidance, Speech, Behaviour Management, Attendance, Hearing Impaired, Social Worker and Disabilities Coordinator.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Housing assistance
:One Government house is available with subsidised rental.

9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
:1 large brick building, air-conditioned and heated – Junior Primary Classroom.

4 wooden buildings housing the Primary Class, Resource Centre, Office, Art/Tech room and Staffroom.

1 transportable building housing the Play centre and fenced off from the rest of the grounds.

Kitchen

Large all-weather shelter between the brick building and Office which allows for fitness activities and play during very hot or wet weather.

Gazebo

Playground

Sandpit with secured fenced playing area.

A COLA structure (Covered Outdoor Learning Area) was completed on April 2010 as a result of BER funding.

Large oval
- **Specialist facilities:**
:Well-equipped sport and Physical Education store.
A 'hot house' and shade house for the propagation of plants.
A special purpose Play Centre on site.
- **Staff facilities**
:Staff have access to computers that are cabled to the EDSAS network, E-mail and Internet access. Staff also have access to i pads.

- **Access for students and staff with disabilities**
:All rooms have disabled access and there is a toilet for the disabled.
- **Access to bus transport**
:A DECS contract school bus transports high school students to the local high school in Clare.
- **Other**
:Spalding Primary School is in the town of Spalding on a well-kept and delightful setting. The school has an abundance of trees, lawn play areas and a lawned oval. An on-site Play Centre operates Monday and Wednesday mornings.

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
:Principal.
PAC
Governing Council – Governing Council has ten members and meets twice a term, usually the second Wednesday of the month.

The Council strongly supports Local Management, uses the flexibility available well and is supportive of staff driven initiatives.

Current members are forward thinking, have drive and a desire to see the school develop in a positive manner.

Sub committees of the Governing Council are: Finance Committee, Facilities Committee, Fundraising Committee, and Sports Day Committee.

Student Representative Council.
- Regular publications
:Induction booklets for new parents and new staff.

Fortnightly Newsletter to Parents (Hard copy or emailed and also published on our web site).

A school article is placed each month in the local town publication- The Scribe.
- **Other communication**
:Diaries.

E-mail facilities for those with Internet access.

School Times – 8:50 a.m. – 3:25 pm (3:00 pm on Thursday), recess 20 minutes from 11:00 am, lunch 40 minutes from 1:00 pm.

Staff Meetings – Thursday from 3:15 pm.

School Facebook page

- **School financial position**

:The school is in a healthy financial position.

- **Special funding**

:Spalding Primary School is a Category 4 disadvantaged school and receives a Rural and Isolated allowance.

11. Local Community

- **General characteristics**

:Spalding is 176 kms north of Adelaide, 40 kms north of Clare and 36 kms south of Jamestown. It is situated close to the River Broughton and Freshwater Creek.

- **Parent and community involvement**

:Parents have the opportunity to be actively involved in many aspects of school life including Governing Council, transporting students to events, School assemblies and other special events such as KESAB, Tree Planting, and Jump rope for Heart. Etc

Parents are very supportive of their children's learning programs, the staff and the progress of the school generally.

Canteen is available one day a week and is outsourced to the Spalding General Store.

Feeder schools

Children attend Pre-school in Clare at the Clare Valley Children's Centre or at the Jamestown Preschool.

The high school of right for Spalding PS students is Clare High School.

- **Other local care and educational facilities**

:The Spalding Play centre has been on site since 1997 with transition programs taking place.

Mobile Community Library visits fortnightly.

Nearby hospitals are located at Clare and Jamestown.

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**

:The town has police, general store including café, book store, fuel, gas bottle refill and dine in / take away, hotel, newsagency, post office, engineering works, transport depot – bus to Adelaide pick up point, bus company – school buses, clothing and school uniform supplies, swimming pool, Spalding Quarry, Coles Gun Supplies, Northern Areas Council – Spalding Office, emergency services (CFS and SES and first response ambulance), shearing contractors, visiting doctor, hairdresser, accommodation, gym, Spalding Sports Association.

- **Other local facilities**

:Sport plays a big part of life in the district. Included is basketball, netball, football, cricket, tennis, lawn bowls, darts, table tennis, shooting (rifle and pistol), Northern Trail Riders Club (Horses), golf, Mawson and Hysen Trails and Fly Fishing in the River Broughton.

The hotel has a very active social club known as ‘The Klub’. ‘The Klub’ is a generous financial supporter of the school.

- **Availability of staff housing**

:A comfortable house of three bedrooms is available in the town and within walking distance from the school.

- **Local Government body**

:Northern Areas Council.

12. Further Comments

:Spalding Primary School is a special place with very supportive students mixing freely in a large family atmosphere. The community is very supportive of the school. Parents value the teaching and learning that goes on and promotes the learning ethos at home.