

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: May 2016

School number: 1018

School name: Flagstaff Hill R-7 School

1. General information

Part A

School name : Flagstaff Hill R-7 School
School No. : 1018 Courier : Southern Adelaide
Principal : Peter Scragg
Postal Address : Black Rd., Flagstaff Hill, S.Aust. 5159
Location Address : Black Rd., Flagstaff Hill, S. Aust. 5159
District : Southern Adelaide
Distance from GPO : 16 km. Phone No. : 08 82701744
CPC attached : No Fax No. : 08 83705748

February FTE Enrolment		2013	2014	2015	2016
Primary	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Reception	47	55	66	72
	Year 1	44	68	58	72
	Year 2	51	43	66	61
	Year 3	46	55	43	68
	Year 4	59	49	60	48
	Year 5	48	58	51	65
	Year 6	42	48	58	47
	Year 7	47	41	51	63
TOTAL		384	417	453	496
School Card percentage		15%	15%	15%	9%
NESB Enrolment		43	45	47	44
Aboriginal Enrolment		5	7	10	13

Part B

- **Deputy Principal**
Mrs. Jane Waltham
- **School website address**
www.flagstaff.sa.edu.au
- **School e-mail address**
dl.1018_info@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Staffing numbers**
 - ✓ Principal
 - ✓ Deputy Principal

- ✓ Teachers – 26 FTE
- ✓ SSO Allocation – 265 hours per week

Flagstaff Hill R-7 School is a professional learning community that engages 496 students from Reception to year 7 with all but one of the 19 class in single year levels. Since its merger 6 years ago the school has grown by more than 100 students with positive trends of improvement especially in the core areas of Literacy and Numeracy.

Our School theme

“Learning is at the Core of Everything we do”.

The school has a strong learning and teaching improvement cycle embedded in the Art and Science of Teaching. This is whole school platform for improvement links learning from Reception to Year 7 with very explicit teaching, building high student ownership of their achievement, using data effectively and by making learning visible, consistent for ALL.

Developing the whole learner

Our student body are engaged in their learning with high participation of over half of the students playing in Out of Hours School Sports teams as well as over a third of students engaged in Instrumental Music and Choir and ranking highly in the state for learning the Japanese language. To support the learning across all the disciplines Flagstaff Hill offers specialist subjects of Music, Physical Education, and Japanese. More importantly whether it's in the year level classroom or a specialist subject, students know what they are learning and how they can achieve at the highest level expected for their year level.

The school is set in large tree filled grounds and playing areas which border the Flagstaff Hill Community and the Sturt Gorge.

- **OSHC**

Provides both before and after school care. Vacation care programmes are also offered.

- **Enrolment trends**

Demographically, Flagstaff Hill is a maturing suburb. Over the next 2-3 years the school expects to average the enrolment at 500 students.

- **Year of opening**

1977

- **Public transport access**

Bus service has a pick up and drop off directly outside the school gate.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General characteristics**

The school enrolment is characterised by diverse cultural and socio-economic status.

Included in this are:

- Approximately 9% school card holders
- Double income professional families

- Single income families
- Small business owners and managers
- Corporate management
- Students from non-English speaking backgrounds
- Students with disabilities
- Parents studying at schools, TAFE and University.
- Migrant families from UK.

- **(Pastoral) care programs**

The school has a strong focus on emotional and social intelligence. A range of programmes contribute to this focus, including Programme Achieve, Values Education, Protective Behaviours, Peer Mediation, Anti Bullying and Harassment and Social Skills Programmes. These programmes support the school's behaviour development policy. Staff are encouraged to explicitly teach and develop values, social and work skills with students. Resources available include "You Can Do It", Friendly Kids/Friendly Classrooms, Friendly Schools and Families and Programme Achieve. Tolerant/caring attitudes towards all children are fostered throughout the school nurturing a strong sense of 'community'.

Flagstaff Hill R-7 School is fortunate to have the services of a School Pastoral Support Worker (PSW) who provides a service of pastoral care for students and their families.

- **Support offered**

Cross-age tutoring and buddy classes operate. There is strong encouragement provided for students to participate in competitions both State and National in English, Mathematics, Computing and Science.

School uniform is compulsory including the wearing of broad-brimmed or Legionnaires' hats in Terms 1 and 4.

- **Student management**

A school-wide behaviour development policy is adopted for classrooms and yard. The school's policy is based upon values of fairness, responsibility and respect and incorporates the capabilities within Programmes Achieve. The school community is encouraged to follow Restorative Justice Principles in dealing with unacceptable behaviour. Adoption of the school's values and Programmes Achieve by staff, students and parents is of high priority. Classroom programmes provide support and skill development for students in taking personal responsibility and ownership of their behaviour and in making positive choices as a result. Staffs develop class codes of behaviour, incentive programmes and explicitly teach and develop social/emotional skills. Class cultures focus on positive aspects of student behaviour. Intensive T&D has been undertaken in looking at new ways to manage student behaviour. This has been based around "Programme Achieve, Randall Clinch, Mark LeMessurier and Restorative Justice models.

- **Student government**

A well developed Student Voice structure is offered across the R-7 classes. This has communication links through class meetings.

A Peer Mediation programme is also in operation R-7.

- **Special programmes**

Tournament of Minds, Pedal Prix and Festival of Music are learning programmes offered to the students. The school also provides tuition in various musical instruments through private providers and a DECD Instrumental music teacher.

3. Key School Policies

- **Site Learning Plan and other key statements or policies**

Our Site Plan strongly emphasises:

- ✓ Literacy and Numeracy skills
- ✓ Maths, Science and History
- ✓ Introduction of Australian Curriculum
- ✓ Art & Science of Teaching
- ✓ High Reliability Schools

- **Recent key outcomes**

The introduction of learning teams to develop and implement school and DECD policy initiatives. Whole school training is provided as well as optional professional development activities.

4. Curriculum

- **Subject offerings**

Our school offers instruction for all students in the eight areas of study.

- ✓ English/Literacy has been a major focus and will continue to be so. Jolly Phonics for R-2, Words Their Way 3-7 and Daily Café Reading Program R-2 was implemented during 2011. Significant priorities have been identified for improvement. This focus has continued since then, with regular Professional Development provided to new staff.
- ✓ Mathematics/Numeracy has been and continues to be a major school and DECD priority.
- ✓ To assist in meeting our improvement goals a Coordinator was appointed in 2010 in the areas of Literacy, Maths & Science.
- ✓ e-Learning is identified as ongoing areas for consolidation. An SSO Technician and e-Learning Committee work together to manage improvements and organise T&D opportunities across the site.

- **Special curriculum features**

Middle Schooling Programme

After Hours Sports Programmes

Physical Education

LOTE (Japanese)

SAPSASA

Pedal Prix

Tournament of Minds

Leadership Community Work Experience Programmes

Student Voice

Choir/Music

- **Teaching methodology**

Staffs are supported in using a broad range of teaching methodologies to cater for student needs. The staffs continue to work towards teaching programmes that are student-centred and include high levels of student participation and negotiation of learning goals. Staff work in year level teams with team teaching and joint curriculum sharing and planning encouraged. Learning teams in focus/interest areas provide opportunities for teachers to identify common learning goals and support each other. SSO's support staff with classroom programmes, including special education support and Intervention.

An SSO trained as Classroom Technical Support offers programme assistance for both staff and students in the classroom and professional development activities.



2016 Site Learning Improvement Plan (SLIP)

Using the High Reliability School Framework in 2016, we will realise the expectation of high achievement for ALL students through the use of these Art and Science of Teaching signature practices:

Establishing and maintaining a safe and organised learning environment

Ensuring learning is visible, consistent and clear

- Teaching learners to learn more deeply and effectively

Assessment procedures and reporting

Throughout the year, parents receive information about their children's achievement via:

- ✓ Acquaintance Night
- ✓ Parent/Teacher Interviews
- ✓ Student Learning Profiles
- ✓ Peer Assessment/Evaluation
- ✓ Self Assessment/Evaluation
- ✓ Assessed Work Samples/Take Home of Curriculum Area Work Books
- ✓ Descriptive Reports
- ✓ The assessment and reporting procedures are under constant review. Mandated Commonwealth/State Government reporting formats have been trialled since 2008. Reporting formats will continue to reflect the change to Australian Curriculum.

• Joint programmes

Transition programmes exist with the two major feeder kindergartens of Flagstaff Oval and Flagstaff Hill. Staff share in training and development opportunities through the Southern Adelaide District and incidentally at other organised professional development sessions.

Transition programmes are also in place with several of the feeder secondary schools, including Aberfoyle Park High, Blackwood High, Mitcham Girls High, Pasadena High and Seaview High School.

5. Sporting Activities

There is a wide range of sporting activities available to the students of Flagstaff Hill R-7 School.

Out of school hours sports are offered in both the "Summer and Winter Semesters."

These include:

- ✓ Athletics
- ✓ Cross Country
- ✓ Netball
- ✓ Football
- ✓ Soccer
- ✓ Basketball
- ✓ Softball
- ✓ Cricket
- ✓ Kanga Cricket
- ✓ Milo Have a Go Cricket

The number of teams nominated is dependent upon registrations received and the availability of volunteer convenors and coaches.

The school has a specialist teacher working with all classes R-7. Integral to this programme is the provision of specialist clinics, in varied sports, offered to students throughout the year to encourage greater participation and offer wider choice to individuals and families.

- ✓ SAPSASA
- ✓ Pedal Prix

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- **General**

There are numerous excursions and school camps based around teaching and learning programmes, environmental sustainability, community service and civics and citizenship foci.

- **Special**

- ✓ Tournament of Minds
- ✓ Aquatics Camp and Swimming lessons
- ✓ Pedal Prix
- ✓ Choir
- ✓ Orchestra/String Ensemble
- ✓ School Band

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Leadership structure**

- ✓ Principal
- ✓ Deputy Principal
- ✓ Business Manager

- **Staff support systems**

SSO's provide support in e-Learning management, learning assistance programmes, classroom support, camps and excursions, management, administration and finance.

SSO's are supervised by a Level 3 Business Manager.

- **Performance Management**

Performance management strategies are negotiated with the Principal. The school operates on a 5 team structure of R-2, Primary Years 3-5, Middle School 6-7, Specialist Teachers and SSO's. Regular meetings with written feedback are negotiated. Agenda is arranged around current DECD and school priorities.

- **Access to special staff**

The school uses the support services of Instrumental music teachers, Guidance Officers, Behaviour Support Personnel, Speech pathologists, DECD Social Workers and other Interagency Support Personnel.

8. School Facilities

- **Buildings and grounds**

The school comprises:

- ✓ A brick administration area, shared staff facilities and courtyard area
- ✓ Resource Centre
- ✓ Gymnasium
- ✓ Multi Purpose Hall
- ✓ 4 x 6 classroom units which also include, computing suite, art and science facilities
- ✓ A teacher space for LOTE teaching
- ✓ Large school oval with cricket pitch and nets
- ✓ Netball Courts
- ✓ Extensive well maintained grounds with a large 'natural bush setting' called the "gully". This area is home to three sets of playground equipment and some man-made water ways. It is also an environmental focus area with extensive areas of student initiated revegetation. This area is adjacent to the Sturt Gorge, which provides ready access for environmental and outdoor education teaching and learning opportunities.

- **Cooling**

All teaching areas are provided with reverse cycle heating and cooling.

- **Specialist facilities**

The multi-purpose hall provides limited access for small group activities, indoor P.E. in wet or hot weather and other indoor activities.

The Gymnasium is utilised for specialist PE programs, whole school assemblies, sports team practices, wet or hot weather activities and student tournaments.

There are also designated facilities for Before School Care, After School Care and Vacation Care.

- **Student facilities**

- ✓ Out of School Hours Care and Vacation Care Programmes
- ✓ School Canteen
- ✓ 1 x Computer Network Room
- ✓ Computer pods in all areas
- ✓ Multi Purpose Hall
- ✓ Gymnasium
- ✓ Computerised Resource Centre
- ✓ Netball Courts
- ✓ Hard Play areas

- **Staff facilities**

- ✓ Offices
- ✓ Work and preparation spaces

- ✓ Access to E-Learning including e-mail and Internet
- ✓ Access to EDSAS
- ✓ Staff email addresses
- ✓ Staffroom
- **Access for students and staff with disabilities**
 - ✓ There is some ramp access available
 - ✓ Disabled toilets are available in two of the buildings.
 - ✓ Extensive stair access makes for limited access to many of the buildings. Assisted access is available in most of the ground floor buildings.
- **Access to bus transport**
 - ✓ Public transport directly outside the school grounds.
 - ✓ Private contractor bus companies for excursions and camps

9. School Operations

- **Decision making structures**

The school has clearly articulated decision-making structures. Participatory decision-making is encouraged through R-7 staff meetings, team meetings, committee structures, PAC, SSO, Leadership Team, Governing Council, Parents and Friends and Student Voice. Staff, parent and student opinions are valued and acted upon. Regular feedback is sought from the community through surveys, newsletter and interview.

- **Regular publications**

An electronic newsletter (e-news) is emailed out to parents in weeks 3, 6 & 9 of each term. A parent booklet is available for new and prospective parents. A staff handbook is available for all new staff, TRT's and Student Teachers and provides the basis for all induction programmes.

- **Other communication**

School Diaries/Communication Books and class blogs are used for communication between school and home. Staff morning meetings and emails are used for communication, information and planning. School information can now be accessed through the schools webpage.

- **School financial position**

School fees are set in October each year. It is made up of two parts the first is mandated by the Department of Education and Child Development (DECD) and the second part is approved by the School's Governing Council. An E-Learning Levy is also charged to families, however this payment is voluntary.

The school's financial situation is sound.

10. Local Community

- **Parent and community involvement**

Governing Council comprises of 16 parents, 2 staff representatives and the Principal and meets twice per term. The Council also comprises of the following sub-committees:

- ✓ Finance
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Out of School Hours Care/Vacation Care
- ✓ Canteen
- ✓ Sport
- ✓ Marketing
- ✓ Parents & Friends

We have a group of parent volunteers many of whom are on the Parent's and Friend's Committee.

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**

The school is located close to a shopping centre and the Flagstaff Hill Sporting Complex. It is only 15 minutes away from the Westfield Marion Complex.

- **Feeder Centres and Pre-Schools**

- ✓ Aberfoyle Hub Pre-School
- ✓ Flagstaff Hill Kindergarten
- ✓ Flagstaff Oval Kindergarten

- **Secondary Options**

- ✓ Blackwood High School
- ✓ Mitcham Girls High School
- ✓ Seaview High School
- ✓ Aberfoyle Park High School
- ✓ Pasadena High School

There are also numerous private secondary schools available in neighbouring suburbs.

- **Local Government body**

- ✓ Onkaparinga Council