



COMMUNITY | CONFIDENCE | RESPECT

*How high can our fish fly?*



Government of South Australia

Department for Education

## SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 27/07/2023

**School number:** 0356

**School name:** Port Elliot Primary School

**School Values:** Community, Confidence, Respect

### 1. General information

<b>Principal:</b>	Ms Cathy Knight
<b>Deputy Principal:</b>	Ms Kathy Turley
<b>Postal Address:</b>	4 Cameron Street, Port Elliot 5212
<b>Location Address:</b>	4 Cameron Street, Port Elliot 5212
<b>Year of Opening:</b>	1880 at previous site and 2007 at current site
<b>Region:</b>	Fleurieu
<b>Road distance from GPO:</b>	85 kms
<b>Phone No.:</b>	08 85543399
<b>Fax No.:</b>	08 85542444
<b>School e-mail address:</b>	<a href="mailto:dl.0356_info@schools.sa.edu.au">dl.0356_info@schools.sa.edu.au</a>
<b>School Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.ptelliotps.sa.edu.au">www.ptelliotps.sa.edu.au</a>
<b>FaceBook page:</b>	Port Elliot Primary School
<b>CPC attached:</b>	No, but the school is co-located with the Port Elliot Kindergarten
<b>OSHC:</b>	An OSHC service is provided before and after school hours on weekdays, as an outreach service managed by YMCA. Vacation Care is also provided.
<b>R-6 Enrolment in Feb 2023:</b>	371 students

<b>Enrolment trends:</b>	Enrolments peaked at 450 in 2020 and have recently decreased with Year 7's going to Highschools. A catchment area has been loosely implemented since 2018 from Hayborough in the East through to Middleton in the West. It is anticipated that enrolments will remain steady.
<b>2019 School Card:</b>	92
<b>NESB Total:</b>	7
<b>Aboriginal FTE Enrolment:</b>	20
<b>Staffing numbers:</b>	<p>The school has 15 classes in 2023.</p> <p>The school has an allocation of 0.6 Primary School Wellbeing Leader</p> <p>There are 16 (full and part-time) School Services Officers supporting the learning programs and administration of the school.</p> <p>The school has a part-time Pastoral Care Worker and a part-time Groundsperson.</p>
<b>Programs:</b>	Our swimming and aquatics programs are run by Victor Harbor Education Department Aquatics Centre.
<b>Public transport access:</b>	There is no regular public transport to the school. There is a local taxi service, and a bus service between Adelaide and Victor Harbor daily, with pickup in Port Elliot. Also Goolwa-Adelaide service. Students living in the Middleton area are able to access a school bus to attend Port Elliot Primary School.

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General characteristics:** From the beginning of 2012, Port Elliot Primary School is an Index of Disadvantage Category 5 School. The student body is quite diverse, with a significant transient population. A significant number of students come from complex and diverse family units. About 20% of the students of Port Elliot Primary School travel from the catchment areas of other schools to attend Port Elliot. This range is from Encounter Bay in the west, to Hindmarsh Island in the east.
- **Well-being programs:** Our school values of Community, Confidence and Respect underpin the behaviours that are positively promoted and explicitly taught. Supportive individual, small group, whole-class and whole-school programmes are provided both separately and with support. A range of supportive and pro-active programs are implemented across the school including Trauma Informed best practice.
- In 2023, the school has an Aboriginal Community Education Officer for 12 hours a week. Funding for the ACEO is dependent upon Indigenous enrolment numbers, which have increased in recent years. Our RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan) was launched in 2023 and we have a strong focus on First Nations perspectives and improved cultural awareness.
- **Support offered:** Individual student and family support programmes; access to psychological and other Educservices as appropriate, and usually provided through the Regional Portfolio. A number of students qualify for levels of teacher and SSO support through the IESP (Inclusive Education Support Program). All students learn about the 'Zones of Regulation' and are able to receive support in the 'Zone' where there is a 1:0 Intervention and Support teacher.
- **Student management:** Comprehensive and 1.0 effective Student Behaviour Management and Anti-Bullying policies and practices are in place, and consistently adhered to across the R-6 site.
- **Student Voice:** There is a strong SRC and Wellbeing Ambassador Representatives who attend regular meetings and activities. An annual SRC training program is held early in the year.
- **Parent Network:** There is a group of dedicated parents who contribute in a wide range of ways to the life of the school and to fundraising.

- **Volunteers:** There is approximately 150 approved and trained volunteers who provide assistance with breakfast club, classroom support, excursions and special days at the school.

### 3. Key School Policies

- The School had an External Review in 2019.
  - Direction 1 Develop processes to position and embed writing as a priority for whole-school improvement, including the acquisition of an assessment tool to track and monitor writing progress.
  - Direction 2 Ensure that all students are regularly challenged in their learning through the development and embedding of a whole-school approach in task design and a language for learning.
  - Direction 3 Support students to become equal partners in their learning through planned opportunities to co-design learning as a powerful means to strengthen authentic student influence.
- The school has appointed a Numeracy Coordinator, to support the mathematics programme, and to enhance student engagement and learning outcomes.
- **Subject offerings:** All subjects of the Australian Curriculum (Version 8.4) are offered. With specialist lessons in Indonesian, Physical Education and The Arts.
- **Special curriculum features:** Through the Student Services Team, a detailed and systematic exercise identifies and allows prioritisation of students with special or specific needs. These targeted students' needs are addressed via specific funds and programmes. Literacy and Numeracy support for identified students is implemented.
- **Special curriculum features:** The school has a 0.8 Literacy Mentor teacher to support high achievement in writing and reading.
- **Assessment procedures and reporting:** Reporting procedures comply with State and Commonwealth Government requirements.
- **Joint programs:** The School benefits from membership of the Fleurieu Portfolio. Staff regularly engage in Training and Development activities.

### 4. Sporting Activities

- The school and its students are active in an expanding range of sporting and physical activities. We participate in SAPSASA athletics and sports, and selected programmes where applicable for talented students.
- Swimming and aquatics are also part of our program. Inter-school surfing is a key activity.
- The school has four sports 'houses', and there is a very popular annual inter-house sports day.
- A range of local clubs offer extensive choices in sporting activities. Many Port Elliot Primary School students are junior surf life savers with the Port Elliot club.

### 5. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile:** Port Elliot Primary School staff members are a very experienced team. A number of staff members work part time and most staff members live locally in the Southern Fleurieu. The staff members are highly committed, providing a well-balanced and excellent education service. Fractional times are usually allocated to: Teacher-librarian, specialist Arts teaching and the Language teacher in Indonesian. Intervention and Support teacher and SSO time is used for student support.
- **Leadership structure:** The leadership structure consists of Principal, Deputy Principal, Student Well-Being Leader, and Coordinator.
- **Staff support systems:** There are regular meetings with line managers; DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION Complaint Resolution procedures; funded individual staff T&D budgets; and feedback procedures associated with the Site Self-Review process. Members of the Leadership

Team make every effort to meet the needs of staff members through negotiation and consultation. Funds are allocated for the employment of an IT technician, and for additional SSO time in the Library-Resource Centre.

- **Performance Development:** Regular meetings are held between line managers and staff members to discuss teaching and learning programs, Performance Development plans, and any workplace issues.
- **Staff utilisation policies:** Issues relating to staff utilisation are discussed by the Personnel Advisory Committee (PAC) and recommendations taken to staff, unless determined by fixed policies or regulations.
- **Access to special staff:** The School has access to a range of School Support Services.

## 6. School Facilities

- **School Relocation:** The school relocated to a new, larger, school and kindergarten complex in mid-2007. Each of the four classroom buildings has four classrooms around a central Shared Learning Area, with withdrawal and preparation spaces. The new school project has included a Primary School Hall, partly funded through a DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION loan to Governing Council. There is a Joint Use Agreement between DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION and the Southern Agricultural Society for the use of the oval space at the new site.
- **Building upgrades:** In 2009/2010 the school benefitted from Building the Education Revolution funding from the Commonwealth Government. This funded the third of the 4-classroom buildings referred to above, as well as a storage space adjacent to the existing Hall, and completion of plans for outdoor covered sandpit and play areas.
- **Cooling:** All rooms occupied by classes are air-conditioned.
- **Specialist facilities:** The school has an expanding IT inventory, a computer room, and 100% interactive whiteboards in regular classrooms. All teaching spaces are cabled and connected to servers and the internet.
- **Grounds:** There is a developing vegetable garden, a garden of Indigenous plants, nature play areas and playground space. In term 4 of 2017 the school officially opened a new garden space called "Hunter's Garden (Mathowalin)".
- **Student facilities:** The school has a new and well-equipped Resource Centre, and attractive grounds.
- **Access for students and staff with disabilities:** The site is flat, with easy access to all areas facilitated for students and adults with mobility difficulties and wheeled mobility.
- **Access to bus transport:** School buses bring students from Middleton. While some students travel from further afield by family choice, there is no public bus service to the school.

## 7. School Operations: Local Management, Governing Council

- **Decision making structures:** The school is strongly supported by a hard-working and dedicated core of volunteer members of Governing Council with a Finance sub-committee. There is an active Parent Network which raises funds for much needed equipment. Other decisions are made through staff meetings and sectional meetings, PAC, student services and School Services Officers. For students, forums of Class Meetings and SRC exist.
- **Regular publications:** Newsletters are produced 3 x per term. These are available on our website, in addition to being distributed to families on request. Staff members receive a weekly bulletin of information, which also includes a Student Bulletin. All classes share information and learning programmes using the 'Seesaw' app.
- **Other communication:** Whole School Assemblies are held every 3 weeks. Parents and caregivers are welcome at these events.
- **School financial position:** The school is in a sound position, and finances a number of specialised learning programmes and grounds improvements.

- **Special funding:** The school applies for and attracts a range of grant funds.

## 8. Local Community

- **General characteristics:** Port Elliot is a very popular South Australian recreation area for urban Adelaide dwellers as well as other country and interstate visitors. Tourism and population has increased markedly over the past decade. There is a broad mixture of self-employed, locally employed and commuting parents. Whale watching has developed quickly as a winter activity and is very popular.
- **School Community:** The school community is Index of Disadvantage Category 5, and services struggle to keep up with growing population and demand. The local population is a diverse one with a range of identifiable common interest groups. A significant number of parents have chosen a more alternative lifestyle.
- **Parent and community involvement:** Considerable parent/caregiver and community involvement exists through structured programmes like classroom support, and library reading programmes, and also through sporting and environmental projects and programmes. A small but hard-working Parent Network makes a significant contribution to the school, improving communication with parents and supporting class teachers in class activities and with fund-raising. Parents are very interested in their school and outcomes for their children.
- **Other local care and educational facilities:** Port Elliot Kindergarten shares the site and most Port Elliot Kindergarten children enrol at Port Elliot Primary School.
- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities:** Essential services and shopping facilities are available either at Port Elliot to a limited extent, or in nearby Victor Harbor or Goolwa. There has been steady growth in the size and range of shopping facilities available in both of these larger centres.
- **Other local facilities:** The area is well-served by a wide range of sporting, cultural, and service organisations.
- **Availability of staff housing:** There is no designated staff housing. There is a wide range of rental housing available privately along the Southern Fleurieu coast.
- **Accessibility:** The school on its current site is accessible on two street frontages, Cameron and Wright Streets, Port Elliot. There is limited access to Port Elliot and the school by Public Transport.
- **Local Government body:** Alexandrina Council.

## 9. Further Comments

- Excellent support exists for students with disabilities/targeted students through specific planning and implementation/support at leadership level, including Principal, Deputy Principal, Well-Being Leader and Intervention & Support staff. There are very effective support programs, planned and delivered by SSOs to targeted students. Port Elliot Primary School is a cooperative staff and community.
- Port Elliot Primary School has a focus on achievement and excellence, based upon implementing practices shown to have a positive impact upon the work of teachers and the performance of students.
- *'How high can our fish fly?'* remains our motto, arising from the story of local hero Agen Dent and his rescue of all on board in the 1860 wreck of the Flying Fish in Horseshoe Bay. This is a challenge to all members of the school community to do our best in all of our endeavours.