

External School Review

Port Elliot Primary School

Across our education system, we seek growth for every student, in every class, and in every school. The external school review value-adds and supports schools to raise student achievement and sustain high performance by providing an expert external perspective on school performance by verifying or challenging:

- a school's improvement planning and processes and its impact on student learning
- the impact of previous external school directions
- the rigour of a school's improvement practices
- the school's capacity to achieve or sustain learning improvement over time.

The external school review lines of inquiry focus on:

- quality school improvement planning
- expert teaching
- quality leadership
- conditions for optimal learning.

The overarching question in every external school review is: How well does the school improve achievement, growth, challenge, engagement, and equity?

Reported impact of directions from the previous External School Review in November 2019.

The school has developed consistent pedagogical approaches to promote writing as a priority. The writing focus within the school improvement plan has aligned staff professional learning to improved classroom practice, resulting in a cohesive approach to writing programs.

A literacy mentor with a writing focus, supports teachers to differentiate and extend student achievement. This includes intervention processes for students who require additional support, as well as specialist programs for high achieving students in writing.

Students throughout the school have writing goals embedded into their learning tasks and they are reviewed regularly. Staff use data informed moderation processes to track and monitor student growth in writing. As a result, there has been steady improvements in student learning outcomes in writing since the previous external review.

The school is in the early stages of developing consistent approaches to task design in other curriculum areas, with teachers using the department units of work. Collaborative team meetings ensure pedagogical approaches are shared amongst teachers.

Supporting students to be equal partners in their learning through planned opportunities to co-design tasks with authentic student influence continues to be an area of focus. Staff use a range of formative assessment techniques to support high impact teaching strategies. There are embedded student leadership initiatives with inclusive wellbeing structures in place.

Outcomes from the External School Review held in August 2023.

The principal will work with the education director to implement the following directions:

- Direction 1** Strengthen feedback processes that support students to reflect on the intended success criteria as a means for future learning.
- Direction 2** Strengthen staff capability and consistency of practice, by refining PLC structures that involve reviewing student learning progression.
- Direction 3** Strengthen student agency through increased opportunities for student voice, purpose and self-efficacy in learning.

These directions are published on the school improvement plan and will support the school's ongoing improvement work. **Based on the school's current performance, Port Elliot Primary School will be externally reviewed again in 2026.**



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