SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 31st May 2016

School number: 0297
School name: Mundulla Primary School

School Profile:

Located in the historic town of Mundulla, Mundulla Primary School offers a quality Student-centred curriculum in a small school setting. Students are provided with opportunities for challenge balanced by experience of success, within the new Australian Curriculum Framework.

Mundulla School is characterised by positive partnerships where students, staff and the school community come together in a safe, secure learning environment. Student wellbeing is a feature of our school, with student support programs funded annually by Governing Council. A strong beginning to schooling is provided through our school-based Play Group, which supports great communication opportunities, and smooth/supportive transition to school. English and Mathematics improvement is an important aspect of the school’s Site Improvement Plan, with a current focus on reading, written language and mathematics. “Well-being” and “relationships” are the key factors of any successful learning strategies. Without either of those 2 elements you can forget about effective learning taking place.

Mundulla School has a history of good student progress. We are fortunate to have a professional and highly respected group of teachers and School Service Officers, as well as a supportive and involved school community.
1. General information

School Principal Name: Mr Jo. Artz
Year of Opening: 1878
Postal Address: C/- Post Office, Mundulla SA 5270
Location Address: Cnr Hinge & Kennedy Streets, Mundulla SA
DECD Partnership: Tatiara/Wrattonbully
Geographical Location: 285kms south east of Adelaide GPO
Telephone Number: 08 8753 4064
Fax Number: 08 8753 4191
School website address: www.mundullaps.sa.edu.au
School e-mail address: dl.0297.info@schools.sa.edu.au
Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: No
Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: No

February FTE student enrolment:

<table>
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<th>Primary</th>
<th>Special, NAP, Ungraded etc.</th>
<th>2013</th>
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TOTAL             |                            | 78   | 79   | 69   | 65   |

School Card percentage: 15% 10% 7% 6%
EALD Enrolment: 4% 2% 0% 0%
ATSI Enrolment: 0% 0% 0% 0%

Student enrolment trends:

Enrolments declined in 2015 due to large group of senior students leaving for High School. Enrolment numbers are expected to remain at this level for near future.
Staffing numbers (as at February census):

Teacher: 4.5 FTE equivalent
Ancillary: 99.5 hours per week

Public transport access:
Personal transport is necessary for staff
Bus/train service is available between Bordertown - Adelaide, Mount Gambier and Melbourne

Special site arrangements:
None

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics
6% School Card
No ATSI, EALD or SWLD

Student well-being programs
Pastoral Support Worker is available over 2 days
Primary Counsellor support is provided by staff. Principal backfills teaching staff to attend training and to provide student counselling as required.

Student support offered
Extra staffing (ancillary and teacher) is provided to support literacy and numeracy.
As well, support is offered to students identified each year as being in need of extra assistance in areas of literacy and/or numeracy.
Since 2001, extra staffing has been approved by Governing Council to provide in-class support for literacy and numeracy.

Student management
An effective student behaviour management program, following DECD guidelines has been established for a number of years, with rules and consequences for appropriate and inappropriate behaviour. This policy is reviewed annually.
Parental support for our behaviour procedures is high.

Student government
School Captains & vice captains lead Student Action Team, represent the school at public events and report on their project development and progress to the Governing Council
SAT (Student Action Team) is our student body with student representatives from years 3 – 7
The students are divided into 4 house teams, each with elected captains who are responsible for leading their teams in extracurricular activities including yard clean up.
Year 6/7 Student leaders attend annual Leadership Conference or Leadership Development Activities to support them in their school leadership roles.

Special programmes

Instrumental music is offered once a week by DECD woodwind teacher.

Instructors from many local sporting clubs are invited to lead skills building sessions each year for students across the school.

Playgroup is held in the Junior Primary classroom each week during term time for preschool children and their parents.

3. **Key School Policies**

Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:

**OUR IMPROVEMENT PRIORITY AGENDA:**
All children are capable and competent learners - able to make choices and decisions about their learning.

- All students will progress and achieve at their year appropriate level or higher
- Improve Data collection; (information on student progress) and use this to further enhance excellent teaching and learning practice
- Student engagement (powerful learning) and well-being
- Continue to promote the importance of our parents/carers in the learning for their children
- Self-reviews and accountability

**MUNDULLA PRIMARY SITE IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2015-2016**

**OUR VALUES:**
Excellence, Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Co-operation, Creativity.

**Literacy and Numeracy**

We will continue to provide the best opportunities for learning in the areas of Lit/Num.

- Introduce Mini-Lit for Junior School
- Daily 5 and Cafe for years 3-7
- To further support existing programs in improvement in reading, comprehension, fluency, vocabulary etc.
- Further develop reasoning and problem solving strategies in Numeracy.

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

**STUDENTS:** “My Teachers (and my Parents) have taught me the value of education and a love of learning. This will better enable me to realise my dreams.”

**STAFF:** “We will work together to achieve the best learning opportunities for ALL our children.”

Recent key outcomes:

- Introduction of MiniLit Program in the Junior School
- French lessons for years 3 – 7 for 2016
- Mundulla was overall winner of state award: Sustainable Communities Award (KESAB)
4. **Curriculum**

Subject offerings:

9 areas of study as prescribed by Australian Curriculum with a strong emphasis on literacy and numeracy development.

Open Access/Distance Education provision:

N/A

Special needs:

SSO support is provided to target students with identified additional needs

Special curriculum features:

Camps and Excursions:

School camps and excursions are held in order that students may engage in experiences that support our curriculum outside the normal school and home environment.

Year 6 and 7 students attend a week long bi-annual camp at the Warradale Urban Camp site in Adelaide, enabling students to experience a week away from home engaging in a variety of cultural and educational experiences.

Year 4 and 5 students attend overnight bi-annual camp.

Junior Primary students attend a bi-annual day excursion.

Other excursions arranged for students are single day trips, particularly in non-camp years – performances, sporting activities or special exhibits and visits to local areas of educational or cultural significance.

Choir:

Year 5, 6 & 7 students form the Mundulla School choir performing in the South East Music Festival in Mount Gambier and the opportunity to perform in the South Australian Primary Schools Music Festival at the Adelaide Festival Theatre.

Instrumental Music:

Year 5, 6, 7 students have the opportunity to learn a woodwind instrument. A DECD Instrumental Music Service teacher based in Mount Gambier travels to Mundulla to teach the weekly lessons.

Playgroup:

Weekly community Playgroup in Junior Primary class offers an opportunity for young children (0-5 years) to become accustomed to the school environment.
SAPSASA:

Mundulla School is an affiliate of SAPSASA (South Australian Primary Amateur Sports Association). This entitles our students to try out and participate in intrastate or interstate sporting activities under the auspices of the Association. The Association's aim is to promote as many sports for as many primary school children as possible, at both intra and interstate levels. The city and country are subdivided into districts or areas, each with its own president and secretary. Each area works autonomously in providing competitive sport for children.

Mundulla School is part of the Upper South East area. Students are encouraged to participate in selection and round robin days. Sports on offer include tennis, cricket, athletics, netball, hockey, softball, soccer, football, and basketball. In addition to these events, there are special cross-country and swimming events held in which younger students (8 years and up) may compete.

School Presentation Night:

During the final week of each school year all students are involved in the school performance in the Mundulla Hall.

Sustainability:

Mundulla School supports sustainability through recycling, worm farm, solar panels, nude food, bush tucker garden, vegetable garden, blinds & energy efficient lighting throughout the school. The student environment committee formulates an environmental/sustainability action project for the school.

Our environmental/sustainability projects have been supported by Department of Environment, Water & Natural Resources (DEWNR) and community volunteers including projects, planning, education sessions and South East Youth Environmental Leadership forum.

Teaching:

3 multi-level classes (F/1/2, 3/4/5, 5/6/7) with SSO general classroom and student support in small groups or one-to-one.

Junior Primary – Prelit & Minilit literacy programs, Co-ordination, PALS

Upper Primary (Years 3 – 7) – Toe-by-Toe reading program

ICT is available in all classrooms through a combination of devices: desktop computers, laptops, tablets & iPads. (ratio 1:1)

In addition a computer room located in the Upper Primary block is equipped with 18 desktop computers and 28 laptops.
Student assessment procedures and reporting
Common reporting with progress reports going home at the end of term 2 and final report at the end of term 4.
Parent Interviews are held formally at the beginning of term 3.
Parents are encouraged to make interview appointments at other times as necessary.
In addition to these formal times, open afternoons or evenings are held, enabling parents to visit classrooms to see practical examples of student work.
Assessment takes a variety of forms with student, self and peer assessment being included.

Joint programmes:
Our annual Combined Schools Sports Day, held jointly with Padthaway and Frances Primary Schools.
Staff join with nearby schools for training and development activities.
Resources are accessed from the two Bordertown Schools.
Mundulla School regularly combines with Frances and/or Padthaway Primary Schools to host performances by a variety of sources.
Curriculum days eg Maths day & Literacy day.

5. Sporting Activities

One of the elected committees of Governing Council is the Sports Committee. This committee comprises staff and parents who make arrangements for sporting skills sessions as part of the curriculum using expertise from local sporting clubs; for example cricket, football, karate, hockey, tennis, table tennis.

There is a high level of student participation in SAPSASA events and trials: athletics, netball, basketball, football, cross country, cricket, tennis, softball, soccer, swimming, and hockey.

Students also have access to a very wide range of sporting opportunities in the community with local clubs for tennis, cricket, netball, hockey, football, table tennis, soccer and bowls. In Bordertown there is also Little Athletics, soccer, swimming and basketball. Upper Primary students participate in Friday night football in Bordertown.
The students travel to the Bordertown Pool for swimming lessons over a week during term 1 by DECD Swimming Instructors.
At the biannual Adelaide Camp, Year 6/7 students spend a full day at the Westlakes Aquatics Centre, funded by the DECD aquatics program. In these years, Year 6/7 students do not access the local swimming program.
6. **Other Co-Curricular Activities**

We participate in the annual Moot Yang Gunya Festival with an extensive display of students work. In addition, students engage in whatever theme is the current focus for the Festival. Parents run a BBQ to cater for show attendees and fundraise for the school.

School assemblies in which student work and activities are highlighted are held regularly, organised and conducted by students from each of the 3 classes in rotation.

Each year, special events or assemblies are held to celebrate events of local, state wide or national significance.

7. **Staff (and their welfare)**

**Staff profile**

There has been a considerable degree of stability in the school staffing over a number of years. Short term contracts have recently accounted for around 30% of the teaching staff.

**Leadership structure**

Principal (PC02) with 0.6 time for administration and 0.4 teaching/counselling component.

**Staff support systems**

Professional Development is actively encouraged both within the school and through accessing outside training. There is a strong ethos of peer support. The decision making policy and procedures are reviewed annually at the start of the year. All staff take an active role in decision making. There are established grievance procedures.

**Performance Management**

Well established performance management systems have been in place for some years. All staff members meet each term with the Principal to discuss Performance Management and Personal Development Plans.

**Staff utilisation policies**

Staff are able to negotiate class and other duties each year. The teacher taking NIT generally negotiates this role with class teachers, although the provision of LOTE is part of the NIT component.

The Admin/Finance Officer position is currently 29 hours per week. (23 permanent hours) This role currently includes computing support.

Additional SSO time is also allocated to administration and 8 hours to grounds and general maintenance. The remainder of the SSO allocation is devoted to WHS, classroom and library support.

**Access to special staff**

Access to service from Disability Services, the Behaviour, Attendance and Interagency Referral Service team, Guidance and Speech Pathology Services is available upon referral. In general, these services are based in Mount Gambier. Other services such as Hearing Impaired or Social Work are available if needed.
Other

Because of the small size of the school, staff have the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills and knowledge both in teaching and administration areas. This makes it attractive to anyone wanting to learn quickly with perhaps a view to leadership positions.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

Complexity placement points
0

Isolation placement points
4

Shorter terms
N/A

Travelling time
N/A

Housing assistance
Government housing is available in Bordertown. Contact the Housing Officer in the first instance

Cash in lieu of removal allowance
A Country Incentives allowance is payable to staff from the 7th to the 10th year of that appointment. The allowance is equivalent to the allowance paid to teachers when moving back to the metropolitan area and is part of the 1996 Industrial Agreement (Clause 5)

Additional increment allowance
Teachers in Band 1 who remain beyond 4 years are entitled to an allowance equivalent to an extra salary increment, to a maximum of Step 8. This allowance is paid automatically.

Aboriginal/Anangu schools
N/A

Medical and dental treatment expenses
Staff are eligible for reimbursement of certain travel and accommodation expenses incurred when obtaining appropriate medical or dental assistance for the first 7 years, provided they teach at least 0.4 time. Time is also allowed for necessary absence from duty.

Locality allowances
Country Incentive Allowances are available for teachers in their first 7 years of service.

Relocation assistance
Removal expenses are available

Principal’s telephone costs
Reimbursable
9. **School Facilities**

**Buildings and grounds**

The school is set in an attractive yard comprised of gardens, lawns, two small ovals, large pergola, asphalt, paved areas, playground equipment, sand pit, bush tucker garden, vegetable garden and many shade trees. The administration, arts and resource centre building was built in 1892 and is heritage listed. Renovations and additions have complemented the heritage value. Two classes are located in a double classroom with shared computer suite and resource room. The other class is located in a double classroom with retractable division.

**Heating and cooling**

Heating/cooling systems are available in all classrooms and all areas of the main administration building.

**Specialist facilities and equipment**

On site: school library, art/science room, computer suite.

Community: In Mundulla we have access to full sized sporting oval complex with netball courts, tennis courts, hockey fields, football fields, playground and the Mundulla Hall.

An Olympic size swimming pool and Basketball Stadium are located in Bordertown.

**Student facilities**

The school has three attractive play areas, including two small ovals, two playground areas, sand pit and a set of cricket practice nets.

The resource/library area includes a bank of 6 desktop computers.

Sports equipment is well resourced.

Students also have access to a covered, outdoor learning area, in addition to wide verandas which provide shelter for activities, a vegetable garden, fruit trees and Bush Tucker Garden.

**Staff facilities**

Staff have access to a staff room, kitchen, bathroom and large preparation area. 4 administration computers are available in staff preparation area and 1 in separate office.

**Access for students and staff with disabilities**

All classrooms, administration building and external toilets are wheelchair accessible.

**Access to bus transport**

2 school buses service Mundulla Primary School en route to the Bordertown schools. Bordertown High School is responsible for the co-ordination of school buses.

Bus hire for camps and excursions is available through Bordertown High school, Stones Bus Service (Keith) and Naracoorte Charters.
10. School Operations

Decision making structures

The school has a clearly documented decision making policy, revisited at the beginning of each year, which defines levels of decision-making and processes for use.

School Governing Council has a Financial Advisory Committee as well as Sports, Grounds, Parents and Fundraising committees. Each committee tenders regular reports at full Council meetings where all other council matters are discussed.

Student Action Team meets 3 times per term and reports to Council and Staff meetings.

Staff meetings are weekly; with all staff taking turns at minute taking. All staff are involved in decision making as a general rule.

Grievance Procedures are documented and used.

Regular publications

Newsletters go out every second Friday. Class information pamphlets are sent out at the start of the year and term overviews, each term.

Our Parent Handbook includes information on a range of topics eg. Student Code of Behaviour, Transition to School, Fire & Bus Policy, SunSafe Policy. Policies are regularly reviewed, updated and added to as needed. The Statement of Purpose and the Annual Report are published and distributed annually.

Other communication

Staff have written weekly notices and information updates. Daily messages and term events are on staff whiteboards.

School financial position

Mundulla School is in a sound financial position.

The interim budget is developed in term 4 by the outgoing FAC and is approved by the Governing Council in December.

During May the following year, when the DECD funding is finalised the updated budget is formally approved for the year.

The school has no loans or debts.

Special funding

The school is allocated Rural & Isolated Funding
11. Local Community

General characteristics
The township of Mundulla is located 10 kms southwest of Bordertown, in the district council of Tatiara. The surrounding country is attractive red gum country, slightly undulating, and used for a variety of progressive farming pursuits. Employment may be available on farms or local businesses including Tatiara Meat Company, Blue Lake Milling and various vineyards.

The town is the centre of a supportive, close knit community that offers a range of sporting, church and community groups.

Virtually all families with students at this school speak English at home, although the availability of work has led a large number of migrants to come into the wider district in recent years. There is an even mixture of students from farms and the town. Travelling time from Adelaide is less than 3 hours.

Parent and community involvement
Governing Council is well supported with many very active subcommittees. Parents assist with a wide range of classroom activities and are very supportive of school events.

Feeder or destination schools
Carol Murray Child Care Centre, Bordertown.
Bordertown High School

Other local care and educational facilities
Situated in Bordertown, 10km distance:
Childcare at the Carol Murray Child Care Centre
Family Day Care
Youth Centre
Migrant Resource Centre
Bordertown TAFE

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
Mundulla has a Post Office and General Store, garage, mechanic, fabric store, builders, computer technician and pub. A wider range of shops and services are available in Bordertown, which is less than 10 minutes away.

Other local facilities
Mundulla has a substantial sport and recreation centre with football, cricket, netball, tennis and hockey for both children and adults. The town has an active bowling and table tennis club.
A wide variety of sporting activities such as basketball, croquet, table tennis, swimming, martial arts, soccer, dance, bike riding, golf, aerobics, gliding, karting, speedway, archery, rifle/gun clubs, gyms, Joeys/Cubs/Scouts and Guides groups in Bordertown.
There are medical and dental services in Bordertown with a hospital, community health facilities and visiting medical specialists. Most church denominations are represented in the district. There are a wide range of interest groups such as Red Cross, farming groups, National Trust, CFS, SA Ambulance, SES and a variety of service clubs.

Availability of staff housing
There is no government housing available in Mundulla although there are some in Bordertown. There is a high demand and short supply of private rental accommodation in Mundulla.

Accessibility
Adelaide is 285kms, three+ hours travel by car.
Bus transport is available to Adelaide, Melbourne and Mount Gambier.
The nearest airport is in Mount Gambier.
Mount Gambier is a two-hour drive as is Murray Bridge.
Naracoorte is the local regional centre, which is less than hour away.

Local Government body
Tatiara District Council, Phone 08 8752 1044 www.tatiara.sa.gov.au
A range of publications are available on the district available from the council office and Bordertown Public Library, both located at 43 Woolshed Street Bordertown.

12. Further Comments

Mundulla Primary School has a history of innovation in curriculum areas and has been recognised as having excellent practices in a range of areas, notably Literacy, Numeracy, Information Communication Technology and Data, Sustainability Planning and Accountability.
Teaching at Mundulla provides an opportunity for individuals who are looking to extend their knowledge and be part of an active, enthusiastic staff who value professionalism and have a positive approach to change and challenge.