SPALDING PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT  Updated: Feb 2014

School number: 0407

1. General information

Part A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School name</th>
<th>Spalding Primary School:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School No.</td>
<td>0407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Jessica Abraham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postal Address</td>
<td>Edgeware Avenue, Spalding 5454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location Address</td>
<td>Edgeware Av, Spalding</td>
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<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Flinders</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>CPC attached</td>
<td>Play centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Courier</td>
<td>Clare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone No.</td>
<td>88452139</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fax No.</td>
<td>88452039</td>
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February FTE Enrolment

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>19</td>
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School Card percentage: 24% 33% 29% 26%

NESB Enrolment 0 0 0 0

Aboriginal Enrolment 0 0 0 0
Part B

- Deputy Principal’s name, if applicable
  : None
- School website address
  : www.spaldingps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address
  : info@spaldingps.sa.edu.au
- Staffing numbers
  : 5.0
- Play Centre
  : There is a Play centre on site which operates on a Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9am to 12.00pm during the School Term.
- Enrolment trends
  : Enrolments are steady at 3-4 students for Reception for the next two years.
- 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.
- Student management
  : Students know and demonstrate our School values of Respect, Excellence and Safety on a daily bases. Behaviour audits are taken twice a year and students are general well behaved and well-mannered all the time.
- 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 7 and on the SRC Executive have the opportunity to attend District Student Forum in the Flinders District and 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 computers, interactive whiteboards and ipads in each learning area.
- Access to cultural activities and specialist programmes. The town bus is used for transporting students to venues within the wider district.
- 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
- German/LOTE

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:
- 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

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.

Current Information Sources:
- Student reports
- Teachers’ assessments
- Attendance records
- Parent-teacher anecdotal records
- Running records
- Rainbow Reading Records
- Observations
- Diagnostic tests
- Externally set academic competitions, e.g. ETC Maths, Science, English, Computing and Australian (Westpac) Maths Competitions

Additional Information:
Spalding Primary School is supported by the following School and Department for Education and Children’s Services documents:
- Education Act
- Administration Instruction and Guidelines
- Parent Information Booklet
- Role Statements
- DECS Policies
- DECS Strategic Directions 2013
- 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**
  Students are taught all subjects of the Australian curriculum (Maths, Science, English, History and Geography and SACSA subjects of Design and technology, Health and physical Education, Language and the Arts). The language currently taught to all students is German, for which students have the opportunity to continue when they go to high school.

  Our students are involved in a whole School fitness programs, regular skill-based PE lessons, after school team practices, and games (tennis, football, netball, basketball, table tennis and lawn bowls).

- **Special needs**
  Met by teachers, SSOs and Principal in running individual programs.
  Rainbow Reading is administered by an SSO for identified students who require fast-tracking in Literacy.

- **Special curriculum features**
  : NIT is provided through The Arts, P.E. and German.

  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 is an I-Pad for both classes to have continual access to.

  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 1 or 4 depending on availability.
School excursions and a 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 (Booborowie and Koolunga) 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 school has a strong environmental focus:**

- Roadside Clean-up
- 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.
- Propagating and planting native trees and shrubs - A plant-propagating nursery was developed in 2000 within the school.

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, netball, basketball, table tennis and lawn bowls) and there is strong support for SAPSASA sports through District Hubs.

  The town has a well-maintained swimming pool that students use regularly in season.
  We combine with Brinkworth PS, Koolunga PS and Blyth PS for Sports Day each year.

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 afternoon.

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

- **Staff profile**
  - 7 Staff members 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**
  : Through the department we have access to staff that 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 – Junior Primary Classroom.

  3 wooden buildings housing the Primary Class, Resource Centre, Office and Staffroom.

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

  Canteen.

  1 Lined Art/Tech shed that has been completed as a Governing Council project.

  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

  A COLA structure (Covered Outdoor Learning Area) was completed on April 2010 as a result of BER funding.
- **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.  
  8 Garden bed developments

- **Student facilities:**
  
  : A canteen that operates every Friday.

- **Staff facilities:**
  
  : Staff have access to computers that are cabled to the Learn Link network, email and internet access.

- **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 DECD contract school bus transports high school students to the local high school in Clare.

- **Other**
  
  : Spalding is a small rural town in the Mid-North of South Australia, 178 km north of Adelaide and is situated at the centre of a network of creeks and rivers, which meet to form the Broughton River. All students live in the town or nearby farming properties. Spalding Primary is located in a well-kept and delightful setting with an abundance of trees, lawned play areas, a Covered Outdoor Learning Area and a shaded playground, we aim to provide opportunities that will challenge all students and encourage them to reach their maximum potential.

### 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 3:30 pm.

- 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 classroom assistance, Governing Council, working in the Library, transporting students to events, School assemblies, working in the school canteen 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 operated by parent volunteers (an indication of the level of support that we enjoy).

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, roadhouse, supermarket, hotel, newsagency, post office, auto mechanic (RAA), engineering works, transport depot, bus company – school buses and bus hire, clothing and school uniform supplies, swimming pool, Spalding Computers, Spalding Quarry, Coles Gun Supplies, Northern Areas Council – Spalding Office, and emergency services (CFS and SES).
• **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) and Fly Fishing in the River Broughton.

  The town has two churches – Catholic and Uniting. The Catholic denomination offers Religious Instruction outside school hours.

  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.