



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT Updated: May 2022



School Name: **PARACOMBE PRIMARY & PRESCHOOL**

formerly in partnership with Houghton Preschool

School Number : **0327**

Preschool Number : **1830**

1. General Information

Part A

School Name : PARACOMBE PRIMARY & PRESCHOOL
 School No. : 0327 Courier : Paracombe P.S.
 Principal : Anne Rowe
 Postal Address : 4 Harvey Road., Paracombe 5132
 Location Address : 4 Harvey Road., Paracombe 5132
 District : Adelaide Hills
 Distance from GPO : 30 kms
 Phone No. : 08 8380 5216

CPC attached : Yes, Term 3 2022 as a new service Phone No. 8380 5701
 School Website address: www.paracombps.sa.edu.au
 School Email address: dl.0327.info@schools.sa.edu.au

FTE Enrolment Feb 2022

Primary

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Preschool	10	17	8	16	16	14	14
Reception	11	7	11	7	10	8	15
Year 1	8	9	8	11	7	8	8
Year 2	6	8	10	8	11	7	6
Year 3	16	6	9	9	8	9	7
Year 4	7	14	7	10	10	7	9
Year 5	9	6	12	8	11	8	5
Year 6	9	5	6	9	10	9	6
Year 7	7	7	5	5	9	8	
TOTAL R-7	73	62	68	67	76	64	

R-6 Totals 2022 :

Male FTE	33
Female FTE	23
School Card (Persons)	9
NESB Total (Persons)	4
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	2

Part B

School e-mail address: dl.0327.info@schools.sa.edu.au

Staffing numbers: The school supports 3 primary classes in 2022

(2020 was our first year with a fourth class)

3.8 teaching staff plus the Principal and .7 Preschool teacher

73 SSO hours (2 curriculum SSOs and a finance officer/front office)

SSO support for student additional programs - intervention

10 hours per week, grounds person

OHSC - None at this time. The closest OHSC are at Tea Tree Gully, Kersbrook and Gumeracha schools.

Enrolment trends

Numbers have remained in the 60s - low 70s over the past 5 years. In 2022 we have smaller numbers that reflect Year 7s going to high school and the movement of a double cohort.

Special arrangements

Paracombe is working collaboratively in the Torrens Valley Partnership and completes staff training & development in teams to support site / partnership / DfE priority developments. Leadership support is a strong focus.

Paracombe works in partnership with the preschool that currently operates on 2 days term 1 & 2 and 3 days Term 3 & 4. The school funds a nature playgroup coordinator on Fridays.

Year of opening : The school first opened in 1910. We were renamed in January 2022 as combined primary and preschool; reflected as Paracombe Primary & Preschool.

A new school building opened in 1981. The school is contained within one brick structure with 3 classrooms, an activity area, shared kitchen, library, staff room and mezzanine resource storage area. Verandahs shelter 3 sides of the building. Leafy grounds with trees offering excellent shade. A number of shade structures are also in place.

In 2022 our purpose built preschool and studio activity area has been completed.

Public transport access

None

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics

Students generally live in the local Paracombe area, with several families travelling from Inglewood, Houghton & Hermitage. Recent changes to school card eligibility increasing % of school card recipients currently 20%.

DfE support systems are accessed as required. SSOs provide additional support for identified 'One Plan' students. Parental support with music, reading and cooking happens regularly. Students engage in R-7 **Community** projects weekly.

Student Wellbeing Programs

In 2021-22 we are self-funding a Pastoral Care worker with the support of the Schools Ministry Group.

Student management:

The school has a behaviour code that supports behaviour education rather than management.

Students negotiate class rules and all classes have a positive system of behaviour education.

Yard interactions are supported through a reflective repair process. The school generally enjoys a student body that is supportive of one another. Serious behaviour incidents are rare.

Student government

Students are encouraged to share their thoughts and ideas across all aspects of school routines: raising issues, discussing ideas and student driven initiatives. Students have many opportunities to develop leadership and active citizenship through: organising enterprise activities for particular projects, environmental programs, organising assemblies and presentations to the wider school community, and collaborating with whole school decision-making. We acknowledge our Year 6/7s as Student Leaders and actively encourage them to Graduate with Excellence. Elected student sport captains and 'MCs' organise and run their own sports day.

Special programs currently supported

- Choir - Public Primary Schools Music Festival.
- SAPSASA Sports (Various)
- Sporting Schools Programs
- Instrumental Music through Lobethal Primary School
- Community Performance yearly
- 3D Printing Project
- After School Tennis
- Gardening, Cold roll Metal Work, Community craft

3. Key School Policies

Vision Statement

Through Community we thrive.

At Paracombe P-7 school we collaboratively provide a solid foundation where students are supported to actively learn, thrive, and be respectful, innovative risk takers.

Students: are encouraged to think creatively and critically; aspire for excellence and give voice to personal and community endeavours.

Staff: utilise their skills and expertise across P-6 to connect students to their community, the world and learning milestones.

Families: support and promote engagement within and beyond the classroom, building on the resources of our unique community to enhance programs.

Recent key outcomes

Staff and students value high achievement and look for opportunities to integrate STEM across the curriculum.

Site Learning Plan

The following areas have been identified for 2022.

- Writing
- Numeracy
- Reading

Site Improvement Plan 2022-2024, PQIP 2022 Has a strong focus on the successful transition to a new site.

4. Curriculum

Subject offerings

Australian Curriculum guides our 8 areas of study in an integrated approach.
Our chosen language is now Japanese (supported by Open Access College).

Learning support

Flexible teacher and SSO support target goals for individual students.

A combination of explicit teaching, open-ended problem solving and student centred learning is encouraged. Student-initiated curriculum is encouraged.

All classes are composite and the combinations vary according to enrolments. Class structure in 2022: R-1 = 23students, 2-4 = 13 students and 5-7 = 20 students.

Assessment procedures and reporting

Australian Curriculum provide the basis for assessing learning outcomes.

- Term 1 provides acquaintance night for parents with information sharing and informal discussion.
- Term 2 written reports parent / teacher interviews.
- Term 3 optional parent / teacher interviews.
- Term 4 comprehensive written reports.

All teachers at varying intervals send an overview of each term's work and work samples home.

Interviews are available on request at any time.

NAPLAN Tests – Students participate in Naplan Online testing.

PAT Testing in Numeracy and Reading is conducted Years 1-7.

Joint programs are supported through cross-age tutors and whole school activities (Harmony Day, STEM and Enterprise Days, Science and Book Week).

IT is a teaching tool and Chromebooks, computers and iPads are integrated into all classrooms and shared areas. Our Upper Primary has the choice to rent or purchase a Chromebook.

Children are able to access computers from any classroom and they are in constant use.

5. Sporting Activities

- The school has a strong affiliation with SAPSASA. Yr.4-6 students can participate in swimming, tennis, basketball, netball and athletics carnivals.
- Paracombe Sports Day held in term 1.
- Swimming lessons for whole school at Tea Tree Gully Waterworld in term 1.
- We currently access a different team sport each term through Sporting Schools Funding.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

An end of year performance includes all students R-6 in this special community event. Upper primary students (Yr. 4-6) are involved in a school camp experience every year.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile

Current teaching staff have been at the school between 1 to 20 years. All are experienced in teaching composite classes and work collaboratively across classes to maximise offerings to students.

Leadership structure: Principal 1.0

All staff participate in decision-making. Teachers need to take on extensive responsibilities as the staff is small.

Principal teaches up to 0.3 FTE across all classes as required (and is the nominated supervisor for the preschool)

Staff support systems

All classrooms have SSO support.

Performance Management / Site Priorities

Staff meet with principal each term to discuss goals, curriculum and student issues.

Each staff member has a performance plan to support development and change, utilising the DfE performance management process.

Teachers are also members of Partnership Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to support collaborative moderation of curriculum delivery.

Staff utilisation policies

All staff members support a PAC and make decisions ensuring that the needs of students / staff / school are met. Staff are consulted widely.

Access to special staff

Our partnership office at Para Hills provides support staff that are available on request.

Other

Small class sizes are supported.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

Not applicable

9. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds :

The school was rebuilt in 1980 in a modern, brick construction which contains all 3 teaching areas, offices, staff room, activity area, resource / library and kitchen.

Separate Art, Science and Sports Sheds.

Our grounds are well maintained in a quiet rural setting.

The school has a tennis / netball court and a medium sized oval area.

The school had a library extension which was completed in 2010 as part of the Building Education Revolution. Preschool Bild completed in Term 2 2022.

Heating / Cooling

Reverse cycle air conditioning and heating throughout the school.

Access for students and staff with disabilities

The main building is on one level, except for teacher resources on a mezzanine level.

A wheelchair access ramp was installed in 2010.

Access to bus transport

Students travel to school using parent transport, bicycle or catch the school bus (contracted through LinkSA) that caters for up to 31 students.

Other

Pie Time Tea Tree Gully provides a lunch service one day per week on a pre-order basis, ice-blocks and drinks are sold during some lunch times in terms 1 & 4.

We appreciate our strong volunteer network to access extra curricular activities.

10. School Operations

Decision making structures

The following processes provide for school decision-making:

Governing Council, staff meetings, student class meetings, assemblies and PAC (all staff).

Regular publications

Fortnightly newsletters, regular classroom newsletters.

Other communication

School web site www.paracombps.sa.edu.au

Konnective app for timely whole school communication.

Class Dojo for Year level communication.

The school is in a sound financial position.

Governing Council is strong – 10 members in 2022 and meets twice per term.

11. Local Community

General characteristics

Paracombe has surrounding apple orchards and vineyards. Many parents commute to Adelaide and suburbs in a wide range of careers.

Parent and community involvement

There is a high level of parent involvement at Paracombe. Informal contact with parents is the norm. Parents value the learning that their children receive and seek to participate in school activities. Formal assemblies run by students 3 times a term.

Feeder schools

Many students come to Paracombe from the our preschool. Most go on to Banksia Park International High School, or other local government / private schools.

Other local care and educational facilities

There is no OHSC currently available.

Commercial / industrial and shopping facilities

There are no shops in Paracombe. Inglewood General Store is 5 minutes away and Tea Tree Plaza shopping centre is about a 12 minute drive away.

Local Post Office, cold storage and co-op.

Paracombe Winery & Glen Ewen Estate are nearby.

Other local facilities

Paracombe Community Hall, Church, tennis courts / cricket club, CFS Station and Highercombe Golf Club nearby. TTG library is our closest public library and provides a fortnightly service to our school via a mobile library.

Local Government body

Adelaide Hills Council

12. Further Comments

Paracombe is a unique, small, hills school set in a picturesque rural area of the Adelaide Hills, overlooking the Torrens Gorge. It has a collaborative and highly supportive parent body that values the school as a central part of their community.

It features a 'family spirit' with a reputation for high academic and behavioural standards.

DFE established a local bus run in 2015. (When Houghton Primary School closed) At present 31seat bus is in operation to collect children from the local area.

This service operates before and after school each day. This service is reviewed yearly.