

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 30/01/2023

School number: 0220 School name: LAURA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Laura Primary School - Birth to Primary

Laura Primary School is a small rural school in the mid north of South Australia. Located on the banks of the Rocky River near the southern slopes of the Flinders Ranges, Laura is a service town for the surrounding rural area but cottage crafts and tourism play an important role in the local community.

1. General information

- School Principal name: Ms Leanne Opperman
- Year of opening: 1875
- Postal Address: 1 East Terrace, Laura 5480
- Location Address: 1 East Terrace, Laura SA
- DECS Region: Yorke/Mid North
- Geographical location – 213 kms north of Adelaide
- Telephone number: 86632543
- Fax Number: n/a
- School website address: www.lauraps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: dl.0220.admin@schools.sa.edu.au

- February FTE student enrolment:

| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|-----------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------------|
| Preschool | 13 | 15 | 8 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| Rec | 12 | 10 | 13 | 7 | 9 | 12 |
| Year 1 | 8 | 11 | 12 | 9 | 7 | 7 |
| Year 2 | 13 | 8 | 12 | 12 | 10 | 6 |
| Year 3 | 10 | 13 | 8 | 12 | 13 | 10 |
| Year 4 | 9 | 10 | 13 | 8 | 11 | 11 |
| Year 5 | 17 | 7 | 12 | 12 | 7 | 11 |
| Year 6 | 8 | 17 | 8 | 8 | 11 | 7 |
| Year 7 | 9 | 7 | 14 | - | - | - |
| FTE | 86 | 98 | 100 | 78 | 80 | 77 |
| Males | 45 | 48 | 52 | 44 | 43 | 39 |
| Females | 41 | 50 | 48 | 34 | 36 | 38 |
| Mid year intake | | | | | | School: 3 Preschool: |

- Student enrolment trends:
Enrolments are steady with consistent numbers in the Preschool set to maintain numbers in the next two to three years.

The shift of Year 7 students to high school has impacted numbers in 2022.

- Staffing numbers:
The school has funded 7.2 FTE teacher time, changing to 3 classes this year and a specialist Intervention/Autism Inclusion Teacher. B1 Early Years Leader 0.8
The school utilises 53.5 permanent SSO hours/week with an additional 69.5 hrs /week for administration, classroom and individual student support, including a Preschool SSO 22.5 hours.
Rural Care 2 worker programme 5 days a week, 6 ECW employees.
- Public transport access:
Stateliner bus daily from Crystal Brook, (22 kms away) to Adelaide

- Special site arrangements:
2 school buses transport students from nearby farming areas.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics:
Currently 14% School Card
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander FTE – School 12.0, Preschool 3.0
Students are well adjusted country students who come from a variety of backgrounds.
- Student well-being programs:
Berry Street Education Model implemented in 2023. Early Years staff trained in 2023, School staff continue to be trained (to be completed in Term 2 2024).
- Student Management:
The school has a Student Code of Conduct to which all students adhere. Serious behaviour incidents are rare.
School Leaders are appointed annually through a merit selection process. Class SRC reps are elected by class members. Each SRC rep's term is for a semester.
Class meetings are held weekly. SRC meetings held fortnightly.
- Special programmes:
Group and individual intervention classes.
MacLit and MiniLit small groups
Whole school Literacy lesson each day, children split into groups by need.
- Instrumental Music – All Year 5 and 6 students, remote and face to face lessons.
- Students participate in the local Laura Fair in April – sing Advance Australia Fair lead the parade.
- Student Leaders participate in the Remembrance Day and ANZAC Day ceremonies with the local community.
- Students visit the hospital aged care residents and RSL during the year.
- School Concert at the end of each year.
- School Magazine produced each year.

3. Key School Policies

- Successful OHS&W Audit (2007)
- Behaviour Code and Grievance Procedures (2017)
- Site Improvement Plan 2024 (see separate document for details)
- Preschool QIP 2024

4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings: 8 areas of learning including LOTE (Italian)
- Back to Front Maths implemented in all classes in 2022, in partnership with local schools. Involves site visits, staff training in class and one on one with facilitator.
- Special needs: groups of students, identified annually for extra support. This is provided through the purchase of additional teaching staff and SSO support.
- Camps and Excursions are held as required and organised. In 2023 Year 5/6 class attended Albury Park for a 3 day camp. R-6 school excursion to Adelaide Zoo.
- Small classes with teacher and SSO support (R-6)
- Surface Pros and Surface Gos purchased in 2023, along with iPads and Interactive Whiteboards in all classrooms, and they are an integral part of classroom practice.
- Teaching and Leaders undertake Orbis Training in 2023 and 2024
- Student assessment procedures and reporting:
 - NAPLAN Tests
 - PAT testing
 - Internal testing regime
 - University of NSW Competitions available to all Yr. 3 students and above
 - Parent /Teacher Interviews (Term 1 and 3)
 - Written Reports (Terms 2 and 4) supported by evidence in student profile books
 - Student profile books used throughout the year
 - School assembly in weeks 3, 6 and 9
 - Informal interviews available on request from parents/teachers
- Joint programmes
 - Cross-age tutoring
 - Whole school activities (eg Book Week, Harmony Day, Reconciliation Week, Simultaneous Reading time etc.)
 - Whole school/individual class activities with other schools in the Upper Mid North Partnership
 - Visiting performances for local schools, held with partnership schools.

5. Sporting Activities

- Gladstone High School Interschool Sports Day and Swimming Carnival (Year 6)
- Intraschool Sports Day
- SAPSASA (North Eastern District)
- Tag Rugby Carnival, 5 a-side Soccer Carnival
- A variety of sports is available across the District for both students and adults.

6. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile
Staffing is stable with all staff living in the wider local district.
- Leadership structure
Principal, B1 Early Years Leader, Business Manager
- Performance Management
All staff participates in Performance and Development processes including the establishment of a Personal Development Plan.
- Staff have a strong commitment to hosting Student Teachers and Work Experience students.
- All staff are actively encouraged and supported to engage in Training and Development activities in line with the priorities in the School Improvement Plan and their PDP.
- Access to Special Staff
The school has access to Specialist Staff in the areas of Psychology, Special Education, Hearing Impaired and Speech.
The school has links to CAMHS, Family SA and the Southern Flinders Health Service.

7. School Facilities

- The school comprises:
 - : Main Stone Building housing Administration, Computer Room, Staff Room, Kitchen and Library.
 - : Three transportable buildings (all air conditioned)
 - : Multi-Purpose Building with kitchen facilities
 - : Main hardplay area (synthetic turf)
 - : Large oval and two other grassed areas
 - : Wide variety of play equipment
 - : Outdoor Gym Equipment
 - : Beach Volleyball court
 - : Disabled toilet and shower facilities
 - : Abundance of shaded areas
- Class Garden Plots

8. School Operations

- Decision making structures:
 - : Student Class meetings
 - : SRC Meetings
 - : Leadership meetings
 - : Staff Meetings
 - : Governing Council

- Regular publications
 - : Newsletter published in weeks 3, 6 and 9 with community access.
 - : School handbook
 - : Magazine (prepared annually)
 - : Term overviews (provided by all class teachers each term).
- Other communication
 - : Class newsletters (produced by individual teachers)
 - : Berry Street Student Diaries (daily communication)
 - : End of Year Presentation/Concert night
 - : Graduation (Kindy to school, Year 6 to High School)
 - : Assemblies in week 3, 6 and 9
 - : SeeSaw and Sentral used to communicate with parents and staff.
- School financial position
 - : The school is in a sound financial position.
- Governing Council
 - : meet twice times a term, week 3 and 8
- Sub-committees of Finance, Grounds, Education, Fundraising
 - : meet at least once a term.
 - : Very active and supportive of school
- Local Partnerships
 - : Upper Mid North Partnership
 - : Port Pirie Portfolio

11. Local Community

- Parent and community involvement
 - : Strong and active support is given. All sections of the community are represented in school affairs including Senior Citizens, RSL, local sporting bodies.
 - : Good numbers of parents attend monthly assemblies
 - : Laura Fair is a major event on the local calendar attracting up to 10,000 visitors annually. The Governing Council runs the icecream stall over the weekend which is the school's major fundraiser.
- Feeder schools
 - : The Pre-school is situated adjacent to the school. School facilities are shared and a strong transition programme is in place.
 - : Laura is a feeder school to Gladstone High School 10 kms away. 2 school buses travel through Laura daily to the High School. GHS also has a Trade Training Centre as well as running agriculture and viticulture programmes.
 - : A TAFE facility is located at Port Pirie 44 kms away.

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
 - : Golden North Ice-cream is the main employer in Laura
 - : Most shopping facilities are available and Laura is centrally located to larger shopping precincts.
- Other local facilities
 - :A hospital is located in the town with readily available doctors and regular visiting specialists.
 - :Dental facilities are available in Jamestown and Port Pirie.
 - :Local Chemist
 - :The town has good facilities for sport such as football, netball, cricket, tennis, bowls and golf.
- Availability of staff housing
 - : One government house in the town.
- Local Government body
 - : Northern Areas Council

12. Further Comments

<http://www.decs.sa.gov.au/yorkeandmidnorth/>