

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/>