

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 07/10

School Name: Banksia Park Primary School

School Number: 1015

1. General Information

Part A

School name : BANKSIA PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL
 School No. : 1015 Courier :North East
 Principal : Ms Jan Carey
 Postal Address : 1-5 Cottenham Road, Banksia Park 5091
 Location Address : 1-5 Cottenham Road, Banksia Park 5091
 Region : Northern Adelaide
 Distance from GPO : 21 kms Phone No. : 08 82642114
 CPC attached : NO Fax No. : 08 82645384

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Oct FTE Enrolment				
Primary				
Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.				
Reception	17.0	29.0	32.0	30.0
Year 1	23.0	18.0	23.0	26.0
Year 2	23.0	26.0	23.0	23.0
Year 3	35.0	25.0	28.0	25.0
Year 4	22.0	31.0	27.0	27.0
Year 5	25.0	21.0	33.0	26.0
Year 6	30.0	28.0	22.0	33.0
Year 7	37.0	29.0	31.0	22.0
Secondary				
Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.				
Year 8				
Year 9				
Year 10				
Year 11				
Year 12				
Year 12 plus				
TOTAL	212.0	207.0	219.0	210.0
Oct total FTE Enrolment	212.0	207.0	219.0	210.0
Male FTE				
Female FTE				
School Card Approvals (Persons)	29	33	33	25
NESB Total (Persons)	9	9	6	6
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	7	4	3	2

Note: Placement points for Complexity and (Base plus Isolation) can be obtained from the document 'Placement Points History' in the 'schools/placement' section of the 'Legal and Policy Framework Library' available on the departmental CD-ROM or web-site.

Part B

- Deputy Principal
 - : 0.1 administration time provided through DECS staffing allocation, plus the school contributes an extra 0.2 admin time to this position through additional leadership supplement. The teaching component of the role is negotiated each year in relation to school needs and other staffing allocations. The teaching time for the Deputy position may be less from 2011 due to current DECS staffing negotiations taking place.
- E-mail
 - : info@banksiar7.sa.edu.au
- Staffing numbers
 - : **Tier 1** FTE is 10.7, Library allocation is 0.4, LOTE allocation is 0.4, FIR is 0.39, **Tier 2** FTE is 0.2 Special Education, converted to SSO hours.
Leadership – The schools 2 key teacher positions are converted to TRT days to support professional development. Of the 10 teachers, 3 are part time and 2 are male. **83 ancillary** hours per week are deployed as follows: 13 as a grounds person, 6 as IT technical support, with the remaining hours deployed as office (including finance) library-resource centre and special needs. Additional temporary SSO hours support targeted learning programmes. FIR and tier 2 staffing has been deployed to support the continuation of Reading Recovery, professional development in our priorities as well as general support for other school business such as special needs programmes.
- OSHC
 - : OSHC including before, after school care and vacation care is available at the school.
- Enrolment trends
 - Student enrolments have fluctuated only slightly over the past few years. Numbers in the playgroup suggest that this may continue.
- Special arrangements
 - : Banksia Park School is a member of the Ridgehaven Cluster and Northern Adelaide Region, which has comprehension as a priority.
- Year of opening
 - : 1964.
- Public transport access
 - : STA bus routes run on both Elizabeth Street and Cottenham Road.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics
 - : The students and their families are from predominantly English/Australian backgrounds. Approximately 15% of our students are school cardholders.
- Student management
 - : A regularly reviewed Student Behaviour Management Policy provides clear guidelines. Programme Achieve and Peer Mediators have been operating since 2000. There is a very positive student culture with a range of leadership opportunities available to senior students.
- Student government
 - : SRC meets fortnightly and consists of 2 reps per class elected annually. This is supported by class meetings. They are involved particularly in decision making about yard play areas, behaviour management, fundraising. Students are also involved on Governing Council Committees on a needs basis.
- Special Programmes
 - : Peer Mediators are trained each year and support students welfare in the yard.

3. Key School Policies

- **PARTNERSHIPS PLAN**
 - Contextual Influences*

Banksia Park in its early years operated as two schools, a primary and a junior primary. Towards the end of 1994 these two schools amalgamated. Banksia Park R-7 has a current enrolment of 201 (July census 2010).

The school is located within Tea Tree Gully Council Area adjacent to Banksia Park Family Kindergarten and within walking distance of Banksia Park International High School.

The school is well resourced, set in attractive, well maintained grounds adjacent to sporting facilities.

The school entered Partnerships 21 in 2001.

The following factors currently impact on the school:

 - The range of student learning needs particularly in literacy and numeracy and our responsibility to ensure that students acquire these basic skills as well as deliver a quality broad curriculum.
 - The vast majority of our students behave in socially acceptable ways. However, we do need to support students increasingly wide ranging social/emotional needs
 - Promoting our school as a provider of excellent public education
 - The vast majority of parents surveyed indicated a high level of support for the school, which needs to be fostered and maintained.

We need to provide opportunities for parents to continue to learn more about our school.

- The unpredictability of our enrolments.
- High level of commitment, energy and professionalism of staff.
- The sense of community that exists - parents feel accepted and welcome and many are actively involved in the school.
- Transition programmes from kindergarten to school and from school to Banksia Park International High School.

Core Business

Our purpose

" Learning for Life – Pathways to Excellence".

Our community of learners will achieve to their potential in becoming contributing, confident successful citizens equipped for lifelong learning.

A set of commonly agreed values support our purpose and staff are encouraged to clarify these and make connections with their teaching and learning programmes.

Curriculum

The South Australian Curriculum Standards and Accountability (SACSA) Framework informs planning programming, assessment and reporting with a range of experiences being provided in the eight required areas of study: To make the curriculum more manageable teachers are encouraged to use an integrated approach.

Programmes taken by "out of school instructors" that all students are expected to participate in include swimming, year 6/7 aquatic camp, gymnastics, visiting performances.

Opportunities exist for students to be involved in instrumental music, band and choral programmes, SAPSASA sporting activities etc for students with particular interest and skills.

Learning technologies strongly support our teaching and learning programmes.

In 2010 the school elected to nominate as a 'comprehension site' within the Northern Adelaide Region. This focus has strongly driven professional learning both in the school and as part of the region, and our site improvement priorities for 2010. This comprehension focus will continue to be a focus in our next 2011-14 Site Improvement Plan.

Assessment & Reporting

Learning is assessed according to the described outcomes for each curriculum area.

Reporting to parents occurs in the following ways:

- Parent/Carer and Teacher acquaintance night
- Parent/Carer Interviews with Teachers – Term 1.
- Mid Year Report at the end of Term 2

- Optional Interviews at the end of term 3
- End of Year Summary Report – Term 4.

Students have opportunities to participate in these Assessment & Reporting practices, usually through self-evaluation and group evaluation activities.

Our Assessment and Reporting Policy was reviewed in 2005. In 2006 we complied with the new South Australian Student Report requirements providing A –E grades in all subjects

Special Programmes to meet the range of Learning Needs

The following support programmes exist:

- Special needs –literacy & numeracy.
- Fine and gross motor skills.
- Early Bird Reading program each morning

Support is delivered to small groups or to individual students by teachers and School Services Officers.

Student achievement information and factors affecting learning have been recorded on a database to assist with monitoring students learning, particularly those at risk.

The core business of the school is supported by:

- Regularly reviewed policies, in particular, Decision Making, Student Behaviour Management.
- Structures for student leadership and participation in decision making – class meetings, SRC, involvement in School Council Committees and fortnightly assemblies and a Peer Mediator Programme.
- OHSW practices that focus on continual improvement.
- Performance Management practices which focus on performance development.
- Close working relationship with Banksia Park Family Kindergarten and Banksia Park International High School both of which support curriculum continuity Pre-school to Year 12.
- Provision of OSHC.

Long-term site improvement plans

Our strategic direction 2008-10 focuses on:

Continuous improvement of teaching and learning; Student and staff well being.

Objectives

- Focus on Learning
- Improved learning outcomes in Literacy, Numeracy and Science
- A focus on comprehension
- Promotion and marketing of the school
- Educating for sustainability

Strategies to achieve our objectives fall into the following areas:

- Deeper learning for staff. (including professional learning teams)
- Deeper learning for students.
- Anti – Bullying Strategies.
- Literacy.
- Numeracy.
- Science
- ICT (with the introduction of Interactive Whiteboards in all class teaching areas from 2009)
- Planning with outcomes in mind.
- Sustainability

Monitoring Strategies for Core Business and Current Priorities

Over each year data is collected to determine what improvements occurred with respect to each of our priority areas and core business. There are clear targets established.

- Data is collected in relation to behaviour management and the implementation of Programme Achieve.
- Data in relation to Early Intervention Programmes is collected to determine progress made and effectiveness of the programmes in supporting student learning.
- Data from the National Assessment Program for Literacy & Numeracy (NAPLAN) identify any whole school patterns as well as a checking mechanism to ensure that individual students needs are being provided for.
- Common assessment tools in literacy and numeracy are used by teachers to monitor literacy development, measure distance travelled and discuss school patterns/issues.

4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings
: See earlier section.
- Special curriculum features
: The school offers German, The Arts and PE as specialist NIT subjects across the school.
- Teaching methodology
: Curriculum is informed by SACSA Framework. Classes are all composite. An integrated approach is used with inclusion of Higher Order Thinking Skills and accommodation for different learning styles. ICT. is supported by a computer room, as well as an Interactive Whiteboard and additional computers in each classroom.

- Assessment procedures and reporting
: See previous section.
- Joint programmes
: A well established transition programme exists with our local kindergarten and high school. Additionally, Banksia Park Community Bands Association provides instruments and a band experience and DECS provides instrumental music instruction.

5. Sporting Activities

: Intra school programmes include, gymnastics programme, Dance Sport, various clinics run by Dept. of Rec & Sport and various sporting associations, Sports Day (term 4), Swimming R-5, Aquatics camp year 6-7 (alternate years). Interschool programmes include participation in varied SAPSASA activities (individual and team).

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

: Bands – year 5-7 students have an opportunity to become a member of two of Banksia Park Community Bands (woodwind and brass), a joint DECS and Community programme. Keyboard and Guitar – R-7 students have access to group lessons on these instruments provided by a private company. Parents pay tuition fees. Choir – year 6 & 7 students have the opportunity to become a member of the choir that participates in the Primary Schools Music Festival each year. Christian Options Seminars for year 4-7 students occur every second year. Special activities, days or functions include – , Sports Day, World Environment Day and about one special whole school event each term, for example Book Week, Harmony Day etc, an Open Day.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile
: FTE teaching staff of 10.7 in 2010. Ancillary hours of 85 hpw in 2010. Staff are competent, experienced and work supportively of each other. There is a high degree of stability of staff.
- Leadership structure
: One principal, 0.3 deputy principal.
- Staff support systems
: Supporting Staff Work and Learning Policy exists along with an active OHSW rep and committee. Policies are regularly reviewed.
- Staff utilisation policies
: Refer other sections.

8. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
 - : The school was built during the 1960's and is of solid construction. The grounds and the buildings have been well maintained. The double storey building is deployed as administration, staffroom and Library/Resource Centre. 8 teaching spaces of which 4 are double spaces. The single storey building is deployed as 1 activity room 8 teaching spaces and OSHC.
 - Through the Building the Education Revolution program, the school is currently building a new gymnasium. Completion date is anticipated for school use in Term 4, 2010.
 - The school is sited on 3.8 hectares of grounds.
- Specialist facilities
 - : Banksia Park Family Kindergarten is adjacent to the school. The school is located next to excellent sporting facilities including ovals, tennis courts, gymnasium, most of which we access throughout the year.
- Student facilities
 - : Students have access to 2 supervised play areas. The new hall/gym will provide excellent space for indoor phys ed activities.
- Staff facilities
 - : In addition to the staffroom, staff have several areas for teacher preparation, most of which have a computer. Car parking on site is available.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities
 - : Is provided, including toilet provision.
- Access to bus transport
 - : Public transport runs past the school. For excursions most teachers organise private transport or book a bus from a private company.
- Other
 - : Additional facilities include – Dental Clinic.

9. School Operations

- Decision making structures
 - : Provision of all relevant information, 2 way communication and consultative/participative decision making are priorities for our school.
 - Leadership Team and Management Group meet weekly to co-ordinate all that happens in the school. SRC meets weekly. PAC meets 3 times a term, SSOs meet twice per term, OHS&W also meet once per term.
 - Parents have input to policy development/decision making via Governing Council, surveys, and special meetings. Governing Council meets twice per term. Subcommittees are Finance, Canteen, Dress Code, OSHC,

Grounds & Facilities, Fundraising and Education. A range of policies which underpin decision making have been developed including – Decision Making, Financial Management, Student Behaviour Management, Performance Management, Training & Development, Camps, Excursions and Performances, Harassment Grievance Procedures, Staff Handbook, Roles & Responsibilities of teachers, deputy principal, principal, co-ordinators, SSOs and committees are documented. These are reviewed regularly and as needed.

- Regular publications
 - : Fortnightly newsletter, weekly and daily staff bulletins, term planner, Staff and Parent handbooks.
- Other communication
 - : Minutes of all meetings are available in staffroom. For parents “Sharing Successes and Concerns” guidelines have been developed.
- School financial position
 - : The school is in an adequate position but needs to maintain close monitoring because of uncertain enrolment trends over the next few years.

10. Local Community

- General characteristics
 - : Banksia Park is predominantly settled by English-Australian families. Whilst most of our students have attended Banksia Park Family Kindergarten we also have enrolments from other nearby kindergartens. Most of our year 7 students go on to attend Banksia Park High School.
 - Parent and community involvement
 - : As with most schools a core of parents provide significant support. Governing Council members are very keen and supportive of the school.
- Other local care and educational facilities
 - : Banksia Park Family Kindergarten, Fairview Park Kindergarten, Banksia Park International High School.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
 - : Major retail centres for the area are St Agnes, Tea Tree Plaza and Golden Grove.
- Local Government body
 - : Tea Tree Gully Council phone 8397 7444.