



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 10/05/2016

Orroroo Area School

School Number: 0740

Information

1. General

Part A

School Name	: ORROROO AREA SCHOOL	Courier	: Peterborough
School No.	: 0740		
Principal	: Mr Paul Pitkin		
Postal Address	: West Terrace, Orroroo 5431		
Location Address	: West Terrace, Orroroo 5431		
Region	: Yorke/Mid North		
Distance from GPO	: 260 kms	Phone No.	: 08 86581100
CPC attached	: NO	Fax No.	: 08 86581309

February FTE Enrolment:		2013	2014	2015	2016
Primary	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.				
	Reception	11.0	11.0	12.0	10.0
	Year 1	6.0	10.0	10.0	11.0
	Year 2	4.0	8.0	10.0	12.0
	Year 3	10.2	6.0	8.0	10.0
	Year 4	14.0	10.0	7.0	8.0
	Year 5	10.2	15.0	11.0	8.0
	Year 6	15.0	10.0	18.0	11.0
	Year 7	6.0	15.0	12.0	18.0
Secondary	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.				
	Year 8	11.0	5.0	15.0	13.0
	Year 9	7.0	11.0	5.0	13.0
	Year 10	15.0	5.0	7.0	5.0
	Year 11	11.0	11.0	7.0	7.0
	Year 12	9.0	9.0	8.0	6.0
	TOTAL	129.4	130	136	132

July total FTE Enrolment

School Card Approvals (Persons)	27.0	27.0	27.0	13.0
NESB Total (Persons)	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.0
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	5.0	6.0	4.0	3.0

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

- Principal
 - : Paul Pitkin
 - Phone 8658 1100.
- School e-mail address
 - : dl.0740.info@schools.sa.edu.au.
- Staffing numbers
 - : 12.6 FTE, (including 0.5 Teacher Librarian); 11 SSOs; 2 GESs, 3 Coordinators (one male, two female), PCW
- Enrolment trends
 - : Declining slowly. Stability expected in 8-12 enrolments in the next five years. Decrease expected in R-7 enrolments in the same period. Many of the past years have been poor seasons. Some farmers have left the land and those remaining generally discourage their children from coming back on the farm. Together with a general decline in rural services and population, these effects are being felt at the school level.
- Special arrangements
 - : Member of the MNSEC Local Cluster sharing distance delivery of curriculum. Some students also access curriculum through Open Access.
- Year of opening
 - : 1880 – Orroroo Primary. 1923 – Orroroo Higher Primary. 1961 – Orroroo Area School.
- Public transport access
 - : Bus service twice a week, to and from Adelaide.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics
 - : Friendly, responsive and well behaved. Sports enthusiasts. Respect the school rules and community involvement. Support the wearing of the recommended School Uniform.
- Pastoral Care programmes
 - : In the Middle School (7-9) and the Senior School (10-12). Home Groups established.
- Support offered
 - : Students with special needs are supported with strategic programs offered by trained SSOs (School Service Officers); WRAP (Writing Road to Reading – currently R - 8); provides a systematic, phonics based literacy program; daily reading support programmes, Quicksmart (Numeracy) and Multi-Lit. Course and Career Counselling is given to all Year 10 and 11 students in the third term each year.
- Student management
 - : Well defined school Student Behaviour Management Policy and Student Code of Conduct for behaviour in the yard. All classrooms have student negotiated class/home group rules. Counsellor time incorporated into the Senior Secondary Coordinator's role.

- Student government
 - :Student Representative Council (7-12) and Crunch (Junior SRC: R-6) hold regular meetings. Represented on Governing Council, Finance, Grounds, IT, Sports, Canteen and (currently) Uniform committees. Student bodies can make decisions affecting the policies of the school and negotiate for changes through staff and Governing Council meetings.
- Special programmes
 - :Leadership skills training and development for R-6 students; student leadership camp (Year 7-12 elected students); major musical production in alternate years; Special Education support time, WRAP R- 9, Music.

3. Key School Policies

- Vision statement
 - :This school's aim is to develop lifelong learning and citizenship of students. The school values are respect, excellence, honesty, tolerance and responsibility.
- Long-term objectives:
 - :To guarantee curriculum delivery for the Senior Secondary students at Orroroo Area School.
 - To provide the latest technology for students studying by Distance Education.
 - To continue the school's active involvement and support of the MNSEC Local Network of curriculum delivery and sharing.

School development priorities

The school's Site Learning Plan indicates three priorities.

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Well Being

4. Curriculum

- School Based
 - : The school is able to offer face to face teaching at Stage 1 & 2 levels in the core subjects in Mathematics, English, Home Economics and Biology. We also offer a broad range of other subjects including Vocational Education, Work Studies, Research Project, Tech Studies, Phys Ed, Ag Studies and Art, as well as school based apprenticeships.
- Local Delivery
 - : The local MNSEC cluster is utilised for local delivery of some curriculum at Year 11 and 12 levels. Staff at this school may also teach subjects to other MNSEC students.
- Open Access
 - :Some students may utilise subjects offered at the Open Access College if they are not available locally.
- Special curriculum features
 - :LOTE (Indonesian) taught in R-6; and WRAP R- 8 (currently).

- Teaching methodology
Innovative, child-centred, teacher facilitated at the Junior Primary levels. Strong emphasis upon group work and individual learning programmes in the Years 3 to 6. Middle schooling methodology in Years 7, 8 and 9.
Sequential development of independent learning strategies through Years 11 and 12. Year 10 is the bridging year from Middle Schooling methods to independent learning styles, associated with the post-compulsory years in Stages 1 and 2 of SACE. SSOs provide classroom support where required. SSOs also work with students with Negotiated Education Plans within their classes.
- Assessment procedures and reporting
:Assessment follows DECD policy and reflects the Australian Curriculum subjects, as well as SACE. It is outcomes based and reported in terms of levels of achievement. Reporting to parents for students in Reception to Year 11 occurs three times a year with interviews for parents in Term 1 and detailed, comprehensive written reports in Terms 2 and 4.
:Year 12 teachers report four times each year, with a written report at the end of Terms 1 and 3, as well as the interviews with parents.
:Three-way conferences were introduced in 2014; these occur in the first few weeks of each school year. The meetings occur with each student, parents and classroom / home group teacher/s. They are designed to build relationships early, identify learning goals, areas of strength and areas to develop.
- Joint programmes
:Curriculum delivery in the Senior Secondary is across a local network of six secondary schools known as Mid North Schools Education Cooperative (MNSEC). Sharing of personnel, resources and training and development programmes occurs as well as a MNSEC Showcase and a shared Formal for senior students. Sporting involvement with MNSEC is in Swimming, Athletics and Knockout competitions.

5. Sporting Activities

- **School based:** Swimming, track and field athletics; basketball, netball, football (Aussie Rules), tennis, cricket, badminton, softball, hockey, volleyball, gymnastics and Annual Sports Days in swimming and athletics involving all students divided into two house teams.
- **Inter-school:** Interschool track and field athletics and interschool swimming (7-12 in MNSEC); MNSEC swimming and athletics selection to participate in SASSSA Championships, SAPSASA District team selection in whole host of sports. 9-A-side Football Carnival (Yrs 8, 9, boys and girls).



6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

:School Choir (Yrs 4-7); School Bands (Primary and Secondary); Major School Production (biannual when staffing allows), Arts Assembly (annual), major fundraiser (biannual).

The school participates in an International hosting program each year, with students visiting from Brazil and USA in 2013. Visitors are billeted with local families.

7. Staff (and their Welfare)

- Staff profile
:Stable staff with a few contract positions each year, depending on student subject choice and staff leave requests. Several staff have been at Orroroo for lengthy periods of 10 years or more.
- Leadership structure
:A Leadership team of four, consisting of the Principal and three Coordinators.
- Staff support systems
:The school operates in three sub-schools: Primary School Years R-6; Middle School Years 7-9 and Senior School Years 10-12. Performance Management of staff is currently managed by the Principal.
Staff utilisation policies
:There are a number of specialist teachers on the staff whose teaching skills have had to extend across faculties and subjects, as the school cannot afford the luxury of having full time appointments in one specialist teaching area.
Access to special staff
:An instrumental music teacher works 0.2 in the school with individual students, currently from Years 4-7. Currently guitar based music is provided on another day each week.
: Regional Office support is accessed in the areas such as Inclusion and Wellbeing and Student Behaviour Management.
- Incentives
:The School qualifies for the Country Incentives Scheme. There is a small weighting because of isolation added to the placement points allocated to the school.

8. Incentives, Support and Award Conditions for Staff

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|----------------------------------|------|
| • Isolation Placement Points | Yes. |
| • Housing Assistance | Yes. |
| • Cooling for school buildings | Yes. |
| • Additional Increment Allowance | Yes. |
| • Guaranteed Placement | Yes. |
| • Medical treatment | Yes. |
| • Relocation Assistance | Yes. |
| • Principals' telephone costs | Yes. |



9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds

:All general teaching areas are in the pre-fabricated buildings of varying standards of quality. There is a SAMCON dual room Home Economics building, built in the early 1970s. A multi-purpose gymnasium, built in 1987/88, serves as a community sports centre as a joint use facility. A new primary building for R-6's was supplied under the BER scheme in 2011. A very old stone building (the original school in the 1880's) has been upgraded to provide offices, staffroom, sick room, staff toilets, ancillary staff work room and a joint use Community School Library. The library and offices are all under size for a school of our enrolment. Almost all buildings, except the gym, which has fans, are air conditioned, most of the units being heating and cooling. The grounds are very extensive (over 17 hectares) but have been developed with a beautification programme involving native tree planting, setting up garden beds, ground covers, native bushes and shrubs. An oval, synthetic courts, extensive lawns and an Agricultural Studies farm, storage sheds and pasture plots make up the remainder of the very large, well-developed grounds area.



- Specialist facilities

: The specialist teaching and learning facilities in the school include: Home Economics, Technology Studies, Art suite, Computing Centre, LOTE, Special Education, Gymnasium, Community Library and audio-visual and science laboratories. The Technology Studies and Science buildings were upgraded in 2003, with the Home Economics Centre being upgraded to commercial kitchen level in 2011 as part of the Pichi Richi Trade Training Consortium.

- Student facilities

:Year 12 Home Room, Computing Centre, Gymnasium and Community Library are used by students during the lunch breaks, with teaching staff rostered to supervise the Gym and the Community Library during lunch times.

- Staff facilities

:The staffroom was enlarged in January 1998 and is now an excellent facility. Offices/work spaces are provided throughout the school. Staff can access computers, Internet and photocopier/printer in the Teacher Resource room. Access

to EDSAS for Behaviour Management data entry by teachers is available in the staffroom and in the Front Office.

- Access for students and staff with disabilities

:Ramps; with support rails, have been provided to four major teaching areas. Ramps have also been provided to two other buildings, including the Administrative building. There are five other general teaching areas which do not have ramps.

Upgrading of toilets and teaching areas have occurred over the past few years.

Access to bus transport

:Three school buses operate in the Orroroo district. All are driven by community members. Approximately 30% of the school's enrolments use the school bus system to commute to and from the school. School buses, as well as the CAP bus and an Orroroo Community bus, are used for school excursions and class camps for all students in R-12.

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures

:There is a school decision-making policy in place. A structure outlining the processes of decision-making involving all the groups, committees and sub-committees has been in operation for many years. The Governing Council has a key responsibility to represent the views of all parents and to make decisions or endorse recommendations impacting on daily operation, the buildings, grounds maintenance and development; the operation of the Canteen; the school's financial management and curriculum development in close collaboration with the Principal. The Staff, the SRC and Crunch have the right to make decisions without prior consultation with the Governing Council (but involving the endorsement of the Principal). A Personnel Advisory Committee (PAC) operates in the school, meeting regularly.

- Regular publications

:A newsletter, with community news and notices included, is published every Thursday afternoon and distributed to all families. It is also made available free of charge to all community members. There is usually a school report in the local community newspaper, "Goyder's Line Gazette", which is published monthly by the District Council. A school magazine is published annually in December.

- School financial position

:Financially stable.

11. Local Community

- General characteristics

The school community is a friendly, very supportive, progressive and caring one. Parents are genuinely interested in the educational programme provided by the teaching staff



and supported superbly by the ancillary staff, with both groups being prepared to work hard to achieve the best possible outcomes for the students. Orroroo is a large

farming and grazing area. Orroroo is a very sports-orientated community. The town provides a reasonable range of business and essential services. It has a doctor, resident policeman, a very well-equipped hospital, bank facilities, a post office (daily mail service) and a passenger bus service. Its present population is approx. 1000 for the township and local government area.

- **Parent and community involvement**

We are fortunate to have a very high level of support from our parents. A very high percentage of parents contribute to working voluntarily in the Canteen. Our families are involved in the interviews with the teaching staff at the end of first term or beginning of second term. Parents and grandparents support our annual Sports Day and Swimming Carnival as both spectators and workers (timers, recorders, etc). Our annual Presentation Night in mid-December is always well attended by parents and extended family members and there is very positive support from the school and local community for our major school musicals and Arts Assemblies. Secondary parents of Year 10 and 11 students give strong support to the course counselling interviews in the third term, each year. Meetings which deal with student related matters, such as Behaviour Management policy issues, are very strongly supported by parents.

Our parents genuinely take a strong interest in the education and wellbeing of their children and how things are run at the school.

- **Other local care and educational facilities**

Orroroo & District Health Service Inc - includes a 20 bed hospital with emergency and outpatient services. Other visiting clinics include: Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Remedial Massage and Acupuncture. Other services include: dietician, Meals on Wheels, Domiciliary and HACC Services and Aged Day Care Services. SAAS Ambulance Service is a 24 hour volunteer service which welcomes new members and provides them with a comprehensive training program.



Orroroo Medical Centre -

Visiting Specialists include: Optician, Audiologist, CAYHS, Counselling Services, Asthma Clinic, Physiotherapy, Diabetic Clinic, Cardiac Care Clinic, and Psychiatry.

Orroroo Pharmacy - open week days.

Orroroo Community Home - is a modern age care facility.

Police Station - with a resident police officer.

Post Office - mail delivery daily.

Orroroo Kindergarten - run every Thursday and alternate Tuesdays during term time 8.35 am – 3.15 pm. Funded Occasional Care Services available Thursday mornings, 8.45 am – 11.30 am. Orroroo Creche is available from 9 am – 4 pm on Monday and is provided by Outback Childcare SA/RICE. Playgroup is also held at the Kindy on Wednesday mornings.

Churches available include Orroroo Community Church, Uniting Church, Anglican Church, and Catholic Church.

Services Clubs Lions Club, Senior Citizens, CWA, CFS, Probus Club, RSL Branch.



- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

The Orroroo Community has a well equipped shopping precinct which include

IGA Supermarket, café/takeaways, hairdresser, local butcher, greengrocer, hardware, Store on Second (clothing), newsagent, MJ Crafts, Elders Merchandise, Wesfarmers/Dalgety agency, Northern Windmills (also supplying craft and plant supplies), White's Welding Metal Fabrication, Orroroo Commercial Hotel, Orroroo Hotel, Maggie's Rendezvous Coffee Shop, Gibb's Garage, Pro Motors Garage, Wilson's Electrical, Kangaroo Meat Processor, BankSA, Commonwealth Bank Agency, National Bank Agency.



- Other local facilities

Orroroo Football Club caters for all players from 5 years old to seniors and comprises of 6 football teams. The club runs well equipped clubrooms which cater for all members and visitors after home matches with food and entertainment.



Orroroo Netball Club also caters for all players from 5 years old to seniors with 12 teams and co-operates closely with the football club following the same playing programme. This allows for a full family day of sport at the same location and a good opportunity to socialise with other country communities.

Orroroo Golf Club provides an 18 hole golf course and has competition days on Wednesday and Saturday during the winter months for all members. The club is a member of the Northern Zone and all members are able to travel to all neighbouring courses and play in open and zone competitions.

Orroroo Dirt Circuit Club is an active motor racing organisation that holds regular race meetings throughout the winter.

Orroroo Tennis Club provides Senior and Junior tennis teams and is a member of the Southern Flinders Tennis Association which comprises sixteen clubs.

Orroroo Swimming Pool is open daily from November - March and all town residents are welcome. The Orroroo Swimming Club is an active member of the Upper North District Amateur Swimming Association and attends weekly swimming meets in the region.

Orroroo Cricket Club caters for Junior and Senior teams, each competing in regional competitions.

Orroroo Lawn Bowling Club is an active club that provides women's, men's and mixed competitions in local associations.

Other Sporting Clubs include Rifle, Darts, Karate and Calisthenics clubs.

Other town facilities include the town oval with playground amenities, Lions picnic and BBQ area, caravan park with onsite cabins, walking trails, local tourist attractions and information and bed and breakfast accommodation.

Orroroo has many historical attractions and an active historical society.



Carrieton is a small community located 30 km north of Orroroo it is a large part of the Orroroo Area School community with children travelling to attend school at Orroroo. Carrieton has a very active Rodeo Club and Camp Draft Committee which welcomes new members who are interested in these pursuits.

- Availability of staff housing
Some housing available locally.

- Local Government body
District Council of Orroroo/Carrieton, phone 8658 1260. Publications available (free) "Welcome to Orroroo" (tourist brochure) and general information brochure with the compliments of the District Council. The District Council has a close working relationship with the school, assisting with equipment and materials to improve and maintain the school grounds.
www.orraroo.sa.gov.au



12. Further Comments

Orroroo is a safe environment for living and raising a family.

Orroroo has a civic-minded community which takes a keen interest in all services which influence the well being of the community and people are dedicated to participating on a voluntary basis.

Sports are intensely played and supported.

The school has a happy, friendly atmosphere. The staff are very committed to doing all they can to give the students every opportunity to do their best.

Orroroo is located at the gateway to the Flinders Ranges and is developing a tourism focus.

Larger towns within a 1 hour commute of Orroroo, supply/ing services currently unavailable in the township.

