



# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 15/02/2020

**School number: 0351**

**School name: Poonindie Community Learning Centre**

**Poonindie Primary School R-7**

## **School Profile:**

Poonindie Primary School, located in an idyllic rural setting, 20 km North of Port Lincoln currently caters for 120 students from Reception to Year 7. The Poonindie Early Childhood Centre is located on the school grounds and we work closely together to provide a seamless curriculum for the school population. The school prides itself on providing a broad and balanced curriculum that is based upon the Australian Curriculum for all Learning Areas. All Learning Areas are implemented with a focus on the 7 General Capabilities of Literacy, Numeracy, ICT competencies, Critical and Creative thinking, Ethical Behaviour, Personal and Social competence and Intercultural Understanding. We work collaboratively in partnership with our community to provide quality individual learning and care for all students in a supportive teaching and learning environment. Opportunities exist for a variety of interschool interactions within the Port Lincoln partnership of schools or with our Small Schools network throughout the school year. This may occur in sporting events, camps, cultural or music activities or student leadership courses. SRC has an active role in the decision-making of the school. Our Governing Council is actively involved in many facets of the school, including policy development and review, fundraising, working bees and as classroom helpers. Teacher's welcome parental support and this is evident in classrooms every day. Our mission is: *To engage students in active learning to become citizens who contribute to our wider community.* We strive to provide a learning program that promotes our vision where *"our students show a high level of independence and interdependence in their learning with strong personal resilience* and our values of **Respect, Responsibility and Relationships** are strived for and encouraged to be upheld everyday by everyone within the school community.

Throughout 2020, we will be reviewing our school values to ensure they reflect our current student and cohort, remain inclusive of our school community and support our whole of site improvement directions.

## General information

- School Principal name: Sally Cormack
- Wellbeing and Inclusion Coordinator: Emma Anderson
- Year of opening: 1897
- Postal Address: Private Bag 94, Port Lincoln SA 5607
- Location Address: 1-25 Hirschausen Road, Poonindie SA 5607
- DFE Region: Eyre and Western
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 629 km from Adelaide GPO
- Telephone number: (08) 8684 6067
- Fax Number: (08) 8684 6057
- School website address: [www.poonindieps.sa.edu.au](http://www.poonindieps.sa.edu.au)
- School e-mail address: [dl.0351.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0351.info@schools.sa.edu.au)
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: Poonindie Early Childhood Centre (standalone)
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: N/A
- February FTE student enrolment:

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Students	81	93	102	104	120
ATSI	11	11	11	11	13
School card %	17%	24%	17%	18%	25%

- Student enrolment trends: Our school is steadily growing from previous years and is a growing attraction for parents seeking a smaller school environment.
- Staffing numbers (as at February census):

<i>Leadership</i>	<i>Teaching and SSO staff</i>	<i>AET/AECO</i>
<i>1 FTE Principal Band A3</i>	<i>6.4 Teaching</i>	<i>0.2 AET role</i>
<i>0.2 Wellbeing and Inclusion Coordinator – Band B1</i>	<i>162.5 SSO hours (includes groundsman and ACEO)</i>	<i>0.2 (7.0 hours) ACEO</i>

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General characteristics:**

The student population comes from a wide area, including the small townships of Louth Bay, North Shields and surrounding farming properties within the White Flat and Tod District. A consistent approach to student behaviour management exists across the school based upon a sound policy and procedures, aligned to our school values, which is reviewed regularly by staff and students. DfE and other external agencies are accessed as required.

- **Student well-being programs:**

In 2020, we have appointed a Student Wellbeing and Inclusion Coordinator who will work with the Principal to ensure student wellbeing and inclusion is foundational to all teaching and learning programs.

- **Student support offered:**

The school prides itself on acknowledging the individuality of students; its small size allows student needs to be catered for individually and in the long or short term, through collaboration with DfE and other agency support if needed. Students who are verified are supported through the provision of additional staff and resources. Since 2012, our school has employed a Pastoral Support Worker for 14 hours per week. This role has provided families with additional support.

- **Student management:**

Consideration is needed for the students who travel by bus and arrive at the site forty minutes before school starts. Teacher supervision provides care and sports equipment is available for students to access in this time. This also occurs after school for approximately a 30-minute period.

- **Student Voice:**

Each year level has representation on Student Council. Regular meetings are held to discuss a range of issues and recommendations made by students, staff and members of the community. An induction ceremony is held in term 1. The Student Council members are involved in decision making procedures through class meetings. They regularly choose and facilitate fundraising activities for special causes or their own school. Whenever possible they attend GC meetings or alternatively provide a pre-recorded video presentation to the meetings.

## 3. Key School Policies

- **Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:**

: Our 2020 Site Improvement Plan can be accessed on our website (Writing Improvement R-7)

[www.poonindieps.sa.edu.au](http://www.poonindieps.sa.edu.au)

- **Recent key outcomes:**

Recent Key achievements for our school can be accessed by reading our 2019 Annual Report which is published on our school website: [www.poonindieps.sa.edu.au](http://www.poonindieps.sa.edu.au)

## 4. Curriculum

At Poonindie Community Learning Centre, we have strengthened our existing good practice through the ongoing implementation of the Australian Curriculum. We utilise the Australian curriculum to deliver a curriculum that makes a difference to students' engagement, intellectual challenge and achievement. We are putting children at the centre of our work by also adopting the South Australian Teaching for Effective Learning (TfEL) Framework as a reference for how we design and implement high quality teaching and learning. We are implementing the Australian Curriculum using DfE guidelines.

- Students identified as having a disability or as having a learning difficulty are catered for in our school with careful planning, consultation and collaboration. Resourcing is spent on additional staffing and students to receive the learning programs suited to their needs. Students with a Disability are supported by a One Plan and teachers are well supported by visiting personnel from the Regional Office. Students in care and Indigenous students are also supported with a One Plan. For working relationship with parents and we actively foster their consult in order to provide a successful learning program for each student.
- The Premiers Reading Challenge is successfully implemented annually from R-7.
- Funding provided through the Disadvantaged Schools Program and other avenues within the school funding process are carefully monitored to provide a variety of learning experiences that give students an opportunity to experience a broad and balanced learning program.
- Emphasis is on knowledge of the students in each year level, setting of personal goals aligned to the SIP, and the construction of individual learning programs where needed. School Services Officers are used in all classrooms to co-construct relevant learning programs with the teacher.
- The school reports to parents in line with the current DfE Curriculum, Pedagogy, Assessment and Reporting for Reception-Year 10 policy. Written reports are sent home in Term 2 and 4 and progress is reported in relation to the achievement standards for all implemented learning areas of the Australian Curriculum. Interviews are held for all students in term 1.
- The Indonesian language is offered on a weekly basis. Whenever an opportunity arises for intercultural experiences our school endeavours to be involved. We often join with Lake Wangary Primary school for a cultural day of celebrations. We access other visiting performances in our Port Lincoln cluster of schools.
- All classrooms have been upgraded with electronic prowise boards and they are used regularly by teachers in the daily learning program. All students access the computer suite in the Library on a daily basis on a roster system where there are enough computers for individual student access. We have a class set of mobile laptops that operate from a wireless network. Students also have daily access to iPads that are shared amongst the classes. The school endeavours to keep up with evolving technologies and the associated practices.

## 5. Sporting Activities

- All competitive sport is community based with many students accessing gymnastics, dance, netball, hockey, football, cricket, soccer, baseball, martial arts and basketball and others through community clubs located in the area of Port Lincoln and surrounds. SAPSASA activities are supported in the school. The school has an Annual Sports Day where students compete in House teams and an informal beach sportsday is held at Louth Bay (Harmony Day Picnic) for games and activities that involve the community. The school participates in an interschool tabloid sports day with Ungarra and Port Neill Primary schools.
- Visiting sports promotions eg MILO cricket, Port Magpies Football clinic, SANA netball clinic are actively encouraged and supported at the school.
- The school receives a Sporting Schools Grant to participate in sports such as gymnastics and athletics, usually for 3 terms.
- Each year swimming lessons are offered to students in Reception to Year 4 at the Port Lincoln Leisure Centre. The Upper primary class access the Aquatics Program offered at Coffins Bay in term 1. These activities are supported through the use of SAISOP funding in the budget

## 6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

Each year the whole school is involved in an end-of-year concert held in the Nautilus Theatre in Port Lincoln. Friday afternoon assemblies are facilitated by the school student leaders and regularly feature students sharing their classroom work and musical items. A school fete is also a Poonindie tradition – this occurs biannually in the first week of term 4.

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile:**

Teaching staff: includes 5 classroom teachers, 3 Non-contact teachers, 0.2 AET, 0.2 Wellbeing and Inclusion Coordinator and a Principal 1.0. Non-teaching staff: currently consists of an SSO Finance Officer with a permanent entitlement of 32.5 hours/week and 2 classroom support SSO's with permanent hours. Our GSE is currently employed for 6 hours per week of which 2 hours per week is permanent employment. Extra non-permanent SSO hours are allocated annually dependent on the needs of the current cohort of students which varies greatly from year to year.

- **Leadership structure:**

As a small primary school, Poonindie Community Learning Centre attracts funding for a Principal BAND A-3 position. There is currently a 0.2 Band B1 Wellbeing and Engagement Coordinator. Shared leadership is valued and a collaborative work culture exists where leadership roles, responsibilities and accountabilities are shared with teaching and non-teaching staff. Team work is encouraged, resourced and evident in our daily workplace.

- **Staff support systems:**

All staff are encouraged to participate in training and development that is relevant to their classroom practice, aligned to the Site Improvement Plan and is documented in their own PDP. The School Context Statement 2020

site leader participates as a “leading learner” with teachers in professional development. Staff access online learning opportunities often driven by a staff member’s interest and enthusiasm. Staff regularly participate in individually driven training opportunities or site or cluster Student Free Days for whole school training and all participate knowing that this contributes significantly to self and site improvement. The Employee Assistance Program is available for confidential professional assistance. This assistance is regularly promoted in WH&S component of our staff meeting agenda (i.e. as a standing item). The CPSW is available to support staff.

- **Performance Management:**

All teaching and non-teaching staff are expected to document a Performance and Development Plan in term 1 for the coming year. For teaching staff, this is aligned to AITSL standards for the dual purpose of meeting the new Teachers Registration requirements and for individual professional growth. The Principal completes and shares an annual PDP with current line manager which is the Regional Director, Rowena Fox. The PCW completes a PCW Work and PD Plan which is co-signed by the Principal and SMG Regional Manager School Support Officers complete a PDP using a school proforma. All PDP’s are revisited at 6 monthly intervals i.e. 2 formal minuted meetings and other less formal meetings.

- **Staff utilisation policies:**

Class structures and class teacher allocation for each year are given careful and considerable thought, usually during term 4 of the preceding year and in consultation with PAC and general staff and GC. The process taking into account the availability of and the need for specialist teaching pedagogies for the year levels of students (ie JP, MP or UP), the numbers of students at each year level and the expected funding provided in the RES.

- **Access to special staff:**

Specialist support from the regional office has been provided by various para professionals who assist schools when the need arises eg behaviour management specialists, disabilities personnel, hearing and speech experts, attendance officers. On other occasions the school have utilised the services of Tobruk Centre and West Coast Youth Services.

## **8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff**

- Housing assistance: is available through the local office for Government housing located in Port Lincoln and can be applied for on-line
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance: refer to DfE website for updated information
- Locality allowances: Yes apply through the Employee Information Kiosk, once appointed to the school
- Relocation assistance: Yes claimable on-line at DfE website, once appointed to school

## **9. School Facilities**

### **Buildings and grounds:**

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The school has 9 buildings within the grounds. The Administration building is the original stone building built in 1910 and is made up of a renovated staffroom, small SSO working space, front office foyer, First aid room and the Principals office. Adjoining the original school building is the newest building in the school, our Library Resource Centre. This was funded as a result of the Federal Governments Building Education Revolution in 2009-2011. The remaining General Classroom areas are transportable buildings built between 1965 and 1997, which were given some refurbishment as a School Pride project in 2009 and 2010. The grounds has 2 large storage colourbond sheds and 1 smaller storage sheds for gardening and sporting equipment. The school yard is large and comprises of 2 large lawned areas and a separate paved court area with a rebound wall and modern playground equipment under shade.

In 2020, we will be upgrading our outdoor play area with a nature play space. This will develop over the next 3 years, with various development stages.

- **Heating and cooling:** Every building has reverse cycle airconditioning and an undercover verandah area with tables and seating.
- **Access to bus transport:** The majority of our students travel to school on the DfE bus. It collects students from Louth Bay, North Shields and anywhere in between. Some students travel to school on the Tod River bus which continues on to the Port Lincoln High School. The Tod River bus is administered by the Port Lincoln Primary School. The Poonindie DfE bus is utilised for school excursions throughout the year.

## 10. School Operations

- **Decision making structures:** The school has a Governing council and Student Representative body who are actively involved in decision making with all staff members. Governing Council have 2 meetings per term. Staff meetings are planned with agendas and held weekly. Sometimes we are involved in joint staff meetings with nearby schools eg. Lake Wangary, Port Lincoln Primary School or in a video conference opportunity. The staff meeting is a single committee for all discussions. Some staff meetings are dedicated to training and development specific to the needs of DfE or the school. Information sharing is facilitated by incidental meetings and formally through the day book in the staff room. PAC meet twice per term and as required, to discuss staffing matters.
- **Regular publications:** A school newsletter is published every 3 weeks and is available on our school website. School Policies are available on the school website.
- **Other communication:** Extra notes eg. Consent forms, information leaflets are sent home when required throughout the year. On predicted CATASTROPHIC FIRE DAYS all families are contacted to inform them of a school closure the following day. Telephone calls are made to parents in the event of a child coming down with an illness or having had a playground accident that requires medical attention. The Skoolbag and Seesaw App is used for regular communication between home and school. It is particularly useful for reminders to parents.
- **School financial position:** The school is in a sound financial position with past infrastructure and planned changes financed from grants. Ongoing planning for curriculum and facilities is done in conjunction with staff and the Governing council. Each year the school is funded under the Student

Centred Funding model and constructs an annual budget within this resourcing allocation. Special funding is allocated within the annual Resource Entitlement Statement under headings such as Additional ICT support, Primary School counsellor, Small Schools base, Rural and Isolated Index, Aboriginal education, Students with Disabilities, ESL funding, Early Years funding all of which is variable from year to year and is based on certain criteria.

## 11. Local Community

- **General characteristics:** Poonindie is a small housing settlement north of Port Lincoln, with the school being the only community facility used on a daily basis. There are a couple of small churches within the local vicinity used for local worship on a weekend. Louth Bay and North Shields are the two closest residential areas to the school with many families on rural allotments spread within a fifteen-kilometre radius. Since 2009 the housing options have extended because of 2 local land developments, the Poonidie Housing Estate and the Boston Point Development. Our school has benefited from these land developments bringing in new families.

- **Parent and community involvement:** Community involvement in the school is outstanding. Functions throughout the year such as Acquaintance evening, SRC Induction, Harmony Day Picnic, Special Persons Day, Sports Days, End of year concert and the biannual FETE are all extremely well attended by immediate family members, relatives and friends. Members of the Governing Council and other parents are prepared to meet as often as required and regularly visit the school for a variety of reasons including parent workshops, classroom help or school busy bees.

- The on-site Poonindie Early Childhood Centre is a feeder kindy for our school, with a quality all year-round transition program in place for ease of transition from kindy to school. As from 2014, there will be one intake of new Receptions in line with the new DfE Same First Day policy. Occasionally our school accepts new Reception students who have attended a kindy in Port Lincoln and whose parents are wanting to enrol their child in a small primary school.

- Poonindie is a feeder school to the Port Lincoln High School. Some students have chosen other public schools in the area or either of the 2 non-government schools in Port Lincoln. Our school participates in a transition program with the Port Lincoln High School for Year 7 students. As of 2022 and in line with Primary Schools across the state, year 7 will be moving to High School – hence our school will become R-6.

- The school is located within 20 kilometres of Port Lincoln. It is usually a 12-minute drive to and from school. The city of Port Lincoln is currently serviced by 2 airlines: Qantas and REX airlines.

- Our school is placed in the local council area called the “District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula”.