



Clare Primary School
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CLARE SA 5453
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Updated: June 2014

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

School number: 0719

School name: CLARE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Profile:

Clare Primary School is a Reception to Year 6 site of approximately 250 students. These students come from the wider area of the Clare and Gilbert Valley as well as to the immediate north of Clare. Families utilize 9 buses to access Clare P.S. Clare P.S. comprises 9 classes and a Regional Special Class. The latter being a halftime class of 6 students who are assessed and ranked by the Student Behaviour and Support team. There is currently an extensive waiting list to access this class.

At Clare Primary School we aim to have a healthy and cooperative community of learners who has as their core values

**Caring, Respect, Doing you best, Fairness, Responsibility,
Cooperation and Honesty.**

We respect the right of every person to feel safe, be included and be treated fairly. We believe everyone can make strong responsible choices in a supportive environment.

We focus on restorative practices that develop positive relationships between all members of our school community. We utilize the philosophy and practices of Wilson MacCaskill (Play is the Way) to support this. Our school has a proactive behaviour management policy, anti-bullying policy and student voice/community practices that aim to build a positive, successful environment and school culture.

At Clare Primary School we provide specialist activities in

- Japanese language and culture
- Physical Education
- Instrumental music and junior band opportunities
- Choir programs (Junior and Senior)
- Science
- ICT – using both PC's and the Apple environment
- SAPSASSA
- Rainbow Reading and MultiLit to support Literacy development

Staff at Clare Primary School utilizes up-to-date teaching methods and equipment as part of their teaching and learning responsibilities. This includes interactive whiteboards, iPod's, iPod touch, laptops, tablets, wireless devices, virtual linking with other sites. We differentiate the curriculum delivery, content and assessment to support all learners.

1. General Information

- School Principal name: Mrs Anne Schilling
- Deputy Principal's name: Ms Brianna Jordan
- Year of opening: 1879
- Postal Address: P O Box 233, CLARE SA 5453
- Location Address: 137 Main North Road, CLARE 5453
- DECD Region: Yorke and Mid North (2013)
- Geographical location – Distance from GPO 129 Km
- Telephone number: (08) 88422433
- Fax Number: (08) 88422129
- School website address: www.clareps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: dl.0719.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service (08) 8842 1430
- Pre-Kindy Playgroup (Friday mornings during Term time)
- February FTE student enrolment:

Primary	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Reception	24	33	29	41	27
Year 1	32	40	36	27	35
Year 2	29	37	36	30	28
Year 3	31	27	32	36	35
Year 4	35	36	28	35	32
Year 5	28	32	38	27	35
Year 6	42	28	29	37	28
TOTAL	263	233	228	234	220
Male FTE	134	122	112	115	111
Female FTE	129	111	116	123	109
School Card Approvals (persons)	35	49	62	56	56
NESB Total (persons)	1	0	0	0	1
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	6	3	5	8	8

Staffing Numbers:

- There are currently 9 classrooms involving 14 teachers. 1 Library Manager, 1 PE teacher, 1 Counsellor, 1 Deputy, 1 Principal, 1 Canteen Manager, 1 Groundsperson, 2 OSHC Co- Directors and 7 SSO's.

Public transport access: Nil

School bus transport:

- Provided on 9 different routes transiting through Clare High School. Application to use this service is through both the High School and Clare Primary School Parents wishing to bypass their local school MUST complete extra forms in order to access this service.

Special site arrangements:

- Clare Primary School is a Reception to Year 6 School with Year 7 students attending Clare High Middle School.

Special Class:

- Clare Primary is the base for one of the region's Special Class allocations, and as such operates 0.6, (currently every morning). Students who are allocated into the special class through meeting the disabilities criteria suitable for the special class are also mainstreamed for the other 0.4, (afternoons) with SSO support.

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics:

- The majority of students are from English speaking families with a 9% indigenous student population on average. School card is currently 25% (Pastoral) Care Programs.
- A buddy class system operates to encourage cross age groupings for some activities and special events held within the school year.
- CaRe groups operate each Thursday in R-6 vertical groups. Each teacher (including leadership) has responsibility for a CaRe group. Each group utilises the Wilson McCaskill philosophy and undertakes some community service.

Student well-being programs:

- Student Communities and including Student Voice is a site strategic direction. The student Counsellor supports families and students "at risk" and the whole staff monitors student wellbeing. Bullying audits and Social Emotional Wellbeing Surveys are carried out annually and data shared with the school community.
- Staff recently trained in the SMART program to further understand ways to work with students and families in trauma.
- Clare P.S. is also a Healthy Eating site and part of the Sip and Crunch program and Be Active program. A breakfast program supports students and is run by the Pastoral Care Worker.

Student support offered:

- A Christian Pastoral Care worker is employed for 16 hours a week, and provides lunch time activities, parent coffee meetings after weekly assembly, and classroom support.

3. Key School Policies

Site Improvement Plan and other key policies: *please refer to the web site*

Recent key outcomes:

In June 2013 Clare P.S. underwent a Validation process using Quality Improvement processes. The following is an excerpt from the panel report:-

The panel agreed there is a genuine sense of collaboration amongst staff, students and parents, working to strengthen teaching and learning programs at CPS. Other commendations include:

- The strategic alignment of school priorities including focus on literacy, student communities & pedagogy to whole site agreements and the focus on continuous improvement.
- The existence of a range of whole site understandings, agreements & expectations that promote consistency in teaching and learning practices.
- The teaching of literacy is a strength that is clearly embedded and valued across the site.
- Staff are enthusiastic and committed to their work.
- Caring, respectful partnerships across all levels of the school community, including students, parents & teachers, are genuine and highly valued.
- Student voice is highly valued and influences key operational aspects of the site.
- Parents feel highly valued and welcomed at this site.

4. Curriculum

Clare P.S. has implemented the Australian Curriculum in English, Mathematics, History, Geography and Science. We continue to use the South Australian Curriculum (SACSA) for all other subject areas. Teachers plan, assess and report using the above curriculum areas. Staff have undertaken specific PD in moderation and assessment.

Student with special needs:

- Students with learning difficulties and learning disabilities are identified by staff and, with parent permission, are assessed by Regional Support Staff. This assessment produces a report that guides teachers in differentiating curriculum content, activity, teaching method and assessments in the learning for these students. Students with identified learning disabilities are placed on a Negotiated Education Plan which is annually reviewed and discussed with parents and support personnel. These students also access 1:1 support in the classroom and in support programs such as speech programs, MultiLit and coordination.

Special curriculum features:

- Literacy is a key site strategic direction at Clare P.S. There are 4 key support programs that monitor and direct successful learning for students in this area.
1. Rainbow Reading 2. MultiLit 3. Kaleidoscope 4. Literacy Planet

- Staff use a range of Literacy tools to test and identify the Literacy needs of all students. There is a Literacy agreement in place at Clare P.S. which promotes 100 minutes of Literacy per day, per student. Lexiles have been introduced into the Library in 2014 and online quizzes are utilised by staff.
- Mathletics is used as an online tool for school and home learning to support Maths/Numeracy Programs.

Teaching methodology:

- Staff at Clare P.S. use the TfEI framework for developing common understanding and directions in teacher pedagogy.

Student reporting:

- Staff report to parent 4 times per year. This includes a First Impressions report within the first 5 weeks of the year, 2 formal reports (mid year and end of year) and interviews. Students on an NEP have modified assessments and reports.

5. Sporting Activities

- Daily fitness/ the Amazing Race is conducted each day and there is an emphasis on Physical Education as part of the 'Well Being' programme.
- SAPSASA involvement is encouraged. A Specialist PE NIT teacher enables all classes to participate weekly. Special events such as Jump Rope for Heart, Footsteps dance are also included.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile:

- Average age of staff is 42. Currently 4 males on staff including the Groundsman. 4 staff share tandem teaching roles.

Leadership structure:

- Principal, Deputy Principal, Student Counsellor, 5 x step 9 teachers

Performance Management:

- Conducted twice yearly and/or by request. 2013 saw the introduction of Teacher Standards as the basis of PM.

Staff utilisation policies:

- NIT is provided by 3 members of staff utilising their key strengths and skills. These are PE, Science and ICT
- A reading support teacher works with Early Years staff to plan for and monitor student achievement in Reading Comprehension.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Complexity placement points
:NIL
- Isolation placement points
:NIL
- Housing assistance
:YES
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance
:NIL
- Additional increment allowance
:NIL
- Designated schools benefits
:NIL
- Aboriginal/Anangu schools
:NIL
- Medical and dental treatment expenses
:In Clare township
- Locality allowances
:NIL

9. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds:

- The school is a mix of old and new buildings. Gradually older transportable rooms have been replaced with newer models.
- In 2011 a new Library and Computer facility was completed using BER monies. School Pride monies were also used to upgrade buildings, add new verandas and improve playground facilities.
- In 2012 a new triple block classroom for upper primary students was completed. A new single JP classroom was also completed. Both classroom areas having COLA's attached to enable outside activities.

Heating and cooling:

- All the buildings are air conditioned and heated.

Specialist facilities and equipment:

- A Dental Clinic on site along with an OHSC Centre

Student facilities:

- A health promoting Canteen is open for lunch and recess four days a week.

Staff facilities:

- Staffroom, access to phones, computers, iPad's.

Access for students and staff with disabilities:

- Ramps to several buildings including administration block.
- Disability toilet

Access to bus transport:

- School buses are available from neighbouring areas, as per DECD policy.

10. School Operations

Decision making structures:

- Governing Council consists of 10 parents, staff rep and principal.
Regular publications:
- A fortnightly school newsletter is produced and classes offer class newsletters.

Other communication:

- Daily staff newsbook, fortnightly school newsletter, class newsletters and assemblies

School financial position:

- Clare P.S. has a Governing Council endorsed school budget. Through careful and regularly monitored budget processes we are able to roll over approx. 7% of each year's funding into the next year's budget.

Special funding:

- CAP funding for rural schools is currently paid. This is used for students to access special programs or activities such as performances, gymnastic coaching and Footsteps dance programs.

11. Local Community

General characteristics:

- Clare is a light industrial, commercial centre servicing surrounding districts. The major industry is wine.

Parent and community involvement:

- Parent and community members are involved in the school through Volunteers program, Governing Council, committees and sporting events.

Feeder or destination school:

- Students come from the Clare Valley Children's Centre and The Gums

Other local care and educational facilities:

- Clare Valley Children's Centre, Clare High School, Clare Campus TAFE

Other local facilities:

- District hospital, St John's Ambulance Centre and The Valleys Lifestyle Centre.

Availability of staff housing:

- Available through government housing via DECD

Local Government body:

- Clare and Gilbert Valley Council

12. Further Comments

- Clare P.S. is in the process of strengthening its links with Clare Valley Child Care/Kindy and Clare H.S. Conversations around student transition and Same First Day are at the centre of these connections.
- Clare P.S. is part of several "hubs" for professional learning. As we are the biggest school in the local area, we are often host collaborative learning for many staff and leaders. In 2014 we will connect with new sites in the Brighter Futures partnerships. These initially will be based on groups set up for Australian Curriculum Development.
- Clare township is a big and central town that offers teachers and their families' many opportunities to become part of a country community. Sporting teams and local activities are the key elements for this.