



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT 2016

Updated: 20/6/2016

School number: 0144

School name: Georgetown Primary School

1. General information

- School Principal name: Katie Deverell/Anne Schaffner
- Year of opening: 1877
- Postal Address: P.O. Box 51, Georgetown SA 5472
- Location Address: 41 School Rd, Georgetown SA 5472
- DECD Partnership: Upper Mid North
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 193 kms
- Telephone number: 08 86624013
- Fax Number: 08 86624002
- School website address: www.gtownps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: dl.0144.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Playgroup : YES
- February FTE student enrolment:

PRIMARY: 1 class R-7

Male FTE: 6

Female FTE: 11

NESB Total Persons: 0

Born O/S & in Aus less than 1 yr: 0

Aboriginal FTE Enrolment: 1

NEP Students: 4

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Reception	5	3	4	0	2
Year 1	3	4	3	4	0
Year 2	3	2	3	3	3
Year 3	3	3	5	3	3
Year 4	5	3	4	3	1
Year 5	5	5	4	4	1
Year 6	3	6	6	5	3
Year 7	6	4	6	5	4
Total	32	30	35	27	17



- Student enrolment trends:
Student numbers are falling. From 2017 onwards Georgetown Primary School will be amalgamated with Gladstone Primary School and Gladstone Kindergarten at the Gladstone Primary School site.

Staffing numbers (as at February census):

Current FTE of 2.4 teachers (includes Principal – one at 0.2 and one at 0.8))
3 part time SSO's - we purchase extra SSO hours to support specific classroom programs and support for students with verified learning disabilities.
Contracted grounds hours = 7 hrs per week

- Public transport access:

None. School bus picks up students from surrounding areas.

- Special site arrangements:

Part of Rocky River cluster.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics

33 % of students receive school card. Nearly 50% of students travel to school from the nearby towns of Yacka & Gulnare & surrounding farms.

- Student well-being programs

Pastoral Care programs: currently in recess as we await a new PSW appointment.

- Student support offered

1:1 student support with SSO programs where designated. Visiting speech and language therapist support.

- Student management

Our Behaviour code is based on our School Values – Respect, Caring, Collaboration, Personal Excellence & Responsibility. Positive behaviour is encouraged & recognised. Homework is set to complete unfinished class work and for students who wish to extend themselves. A step system is used to deal with behaviour issues, followed if necessary, by yard, bus and classroom behaviour slips which are entered on EDSAS & then sent home for parent signature. In extreme cases, take-homes and suspensions are used.

- Student government

The Year 7 students are jointly our School Leaders this year and share the leadership responsibilities.

We have a Student Representative Council (SRC) which is comprised of our Year 7 school leaders and 2 other student representatives being one rep from our R-3 student group and one rep from our Year 4-7 student group.

The SRC meet weekly and the Year 7's as a separate group also.



The Principal is part of both the SRC and School Leaders group meetings.

The SRC discuss student issues and plan school events and fundraising.

The SRC presents a report at the end of the year at the school concert and throughout the year at Governing Council meetings via the Principal.

- Special programmes

Our Year 7's travel to Canberra for a week long camp with Year 7's from surrounding small schools. It is an excellent educational opportunity to experience the nation's capital and is a regular event for our Year 7's.

- Design and Technology is provided through NIT.
- Our end-of-year concert is a major community event. Students present prepared items and the Year 7's are farewelled and awards presented.
- Whole School Camp is a bi-annual event (held in odd years) and is held early in the school year with a social development focus. This year we will have a special whole school camp in Adelaide as it is our last year as a school.
- Whole school swimming is accessed at the Gladstone Pool early in Term 1.
- Rocky River Sports Day is an annual event. A full day program of sporting events is organised with the surrounding small schools, Gladstone, Laura, Wirabarra & St. Joseph's competing.

3. Key School Policies

- Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:

Our Vision for 2016

To improve the standard of educational achievement (SEA) for each student at Georgetown Primary School.

Our Site Improvement Plan Priorities

- Priority 1

To improve literacy outcomes for each student.

- Priority 2

To ensure a smooth amalgamation transition.

Our Core Values

The Georgetown School community culture is firmly embedded in our school values. This set of values was decided upon by the whole school community in 2003 and re-affirmed in 2015 and are still the most relevant and significant operational principle of our school.



Respect - means accepting other people for who they are and for the ideas and opinions that they hold, even though they may be different to our own. Respect also means caring and looking after property and equipment.

Responsibility - means owning our own actions and accepting the consequences that they bring.

Personal Excellence - means being the best that we can be and celebrating all our successes and achievements

Caring - means looking after ourselves and others and being considerate of other people's feelings

Collaboration - means working together and supporting one another in the spirit of friendship and teamwork

4. Curriculum

- Special needs:

SSO's are employed to run a reading program every day targeting at-risk students. SSO support in classes enables us to target at-risk students and make the curriculum more accessible for those who don't qualify for funding under the Students with Disabilities policy.

- Special curriculum features:

Design and Technology is taught as a NIT subject.

- Teaching methodology:

There is a strong focus on both Numeracy and Literacy. The Upper Primary group uses the WRaP program to embed the rules of literacy whilst the Junior Primary class has Jolly Phonics as its main Literacy program. Both of these programs are taught daily and well resourced. Numeracy is developed across subjects using a combination of the natural maths approach, number talks and more structured lessons.

Technology is an integral part of the curriculum with an iPad and computer for every child. Each classroom has networked computers and laptops.

Health & fitness are important to our students and are encouraged at all times. We encourage students to have a healthy fruit snack during the morning learning session and students have a water bottle on their desks to be accessed anytime. 15 mins of fitness is part of the daily morning routine.

Our school day is:-

8.25 – 9.00 Morning yard duty

9:00 – 9.30 Morning Routine and Fitness.

9.30 – 11.30 Learning Session 1. (Healthy snack approximately 10:00 while students are working)

11:30 – 12:10 Lunch

12:10 – 1:35 Learning Session 2

1:35 – 1.55 Recess

1.55 - 3:20 Learning Session 3

3:30 - 3:35 Bus duty



Student assessment procedures and reporting

Term 1 Acquaintance Night. Parent/Student/Teacher interviews Week10.	Term 2 Written mid-year report. NAPLAN Year 3/5/7
Term 3 Optional interviews PATR and PATM testing (Year 2 upwards)	Term 4 End of Year written report.

- Georgetown PS has a private and secure Facebook page
- Text messages are sent to the families as reminders of upcoming events.
- A fortnightly newsletter goes home to all families and the community. It is our major form of reporting to families and communities about our school happenings. Students Link Book/ diary are also used as a daily communication between home and school.
- Joint programmes:

Georgetown Primary School is part of the Rocky River Cluster, which comprises of 4 neighbouring schools, Wirrabara, Laura, Gladstone and St Joseph's. The schools work together to provide student activities, resources and staff support through hub groups and combined training and development. Combined performances are also arranged for the Rocky River Schools. A Rocky River Sports Day and Mastermind are held annually. Responsibility for hosting these is on a rotational basis.

5. Sporting Activities

Students are involved in the Rocky River Sports Day. SAPSASA is also supported strongly with students often gaining selection in the North East District teams. Physical Education is made up of a daily fitness program and a PE program focussing on skill development and game skills

Bi-annually we have participated in and supported Jump Rope For Heart day.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

A school concert is held at the end of Term 4. The concert is well attended by the local community.

Private lessons in piano are offered by a private teacher & held at school. Parents are responsible for organising and paying for these lessons

7. Staff (and their welfare)

The two Principal's share this role in a 0.2 and 0.8 mix. The overall Principal load is currently comprised of 0.6 admin and 0.4 teaching components. The 0.4 teaching



component is currently being used to teach Maths and English to UP, English to JP and Design and Technology as a NIT subject.

- Staff profile

As we are a small school, staff are encouraged to be part of decision-making processes. The Personnel Advisory Committee (PAC) are elected from the teaching and SSO staff early in the year and meet a minimum of four times a year.

In 2016 we have:

BAND A-2 Principal - 1.0 (comprised of 2 Principal's working 0.2 and 0.8 respectively)

1 x 0.6 Teacher

1 x 0.8 Teacher

School Service Officers hours for 2016 including entitlement & purchased hours
Admin/Finance – 26 contract hours

Library / Classroom support – 40 hours contract in total

12 hours Pastoral Care (which is pending an appointment).

- Performance Management

Professional conversations are held once a term for teaching staff & once a semester for SSO's. A budget line for T&D is maintained & all staff are encouraged to increase their skills and knowledge particularly in areas of whole school focus.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Housing assistance

Rental properties are available in Georgetown & nearby towns.

9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds

We have a building containing our library and front office. Our heritage stone building houses the R-3 group as well as a kitchen and staffroom. A double weatherboard classroom is the 4-7 group and the main R-7 classroom which offers a variety of good learning spaces. We also have two small single buildings one of which serves as a storage of resources and the other for a Playgroup room.

We have an artificial grass tennis court surface which has been extremely popular with students and is in constant use.

We have a good sized oval surrounded by trees.

We have a large playground with a full shade over it. The sandpit is also fully shaded. We also have 2 sheds for storage + 1 grounds shed, a garden shed and a sports shed.



- Heating and cooling
All areas have reverse cycle cooling and heating
- Specialist facilities and equipment
An iPad and computer for every student.
- Student facilities

The students have access to cooled water fountains.

Students have access to a range of sports equipment for play times including a table tennis table, plus a range of games for inside play times.

Our grounds provide a tennis court, large oval and modern playground.

Internet access on computers & laptops that are networked are at a ratio of 1 per child.

- Access for students and staff with disabilities
Front Office building along with the Upper Primary double classroom are wheel chair accessible.
- Access to bus transport
One privately owned bus is managed by Gladstone High School which services students from Yacka, Gulnare and surrounding farms. Georgetown Primary School manages a small DECD bus which services students who live more than 5 kilometres from the school on nearby farms.

10. School Operations

- **Decision making structures**
 - The PAC is elected at the beginning of the new year with representatives from SSO's & teachers making up a small group. We meet at least once per term.
 - The Governing Council meets twice per term. Sub-committees perform much of the initial work and report regularly to Council. The committees this year are– Finance, Fundraising and Grounds.
 - The Student leaders meet weekly and the SRC fortnightly.
 - Staff meetings are held weekly with teaching staff and fortnightly with ancillary staff joining as well.
- **Regular publications**
 - A fortnightly school newsletter is produced highlighting student & school achievement. School website and Facebook page provides updates for families with access. School Information booklets are provided to all families upon enrolment. Staff Handbooks are provided during induction and revisited regularly as part of WHS.
- **School financial position**

Through sound financial management and ongoing fundraising the school has maintained a secure financial position



11. Local Community

- General characteristics

The historic rural town of Georgetown is situated in the lower Flinders Ranges providing easy access to the Clare Valley, Spencer Gulf, Beetaloo Valley and the Flinders Ranges.

- Georgetown residents possess a strong community spirit and take great pride in maintaining the town's historic heritage. A well equipped town hall, picnic playground, general store with post office facilities, tennis club and courts, golf club, bowling green, & a CFS Communication Centre.

- The school community includes the three townships of Georgetown, Gulnare and Yacka and surrounding areas. The district is predominantly a farming area.

- Georgetown, Gulnare and Yacka provide a range of strong sporting clubs for junior and senior participants. Some of the sports catered for are tennis, cricket, football, netball, basketball, soccer, golf and bowls.

The major regional centre of Port Pirie is situated approximately 50 kilometres away and provides extensive services such as entertainment, sporting facilities, medical services & a wide range of retail outlets

- Parent and community involvement

The community is a strong supporter of the school with parents providing support on excursions, whole school activities, SAPSASA as well as providing classroom and special needs support.

- Feeder or destination schools

Gladstone Kindergarten is our feeder preschool and Gladstone High School is the local High school.

- Other local care and educational facilities

Rocky River Health Services with offices and rooms at Gladstone and Laura, provide a wide range of health care facilities including a general private practice.

- Other local facilities

The Southern Flinders Sports Complex in Gladstone is a multi-purpose stadium.

- Local Government body

Northern Areas Council, with offices at Gladstone and Jamestown.

Georgetown Community Development Association

12. Further Comments

Georgetown Primary School will be amalgamating with Gladstone Primary School and Gladstone Kindergarten and therefore moving to the Gladstone Primary School site from 2017 onwards.