

MITCHAM PRIMARY
SCHOOLS CONTEXT STATEMENT

2019 SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

School number: 0270

School name: Mitcham Primary School

School Profile:

Our Mission: “A nurturing community where children love to learn and achieve their potential”.

Mitcham Primary School staff provide a rich, engaging curriculum in collaboration with parents and students. There is a strong sense of community with parent representatives for each class and committees within the school, fostering a supportive family environment.

Our values are Respect, Responsibility and Resilience.

1. General information

- School Principal: Scott Greenshields
- Deputy Principal: Sue Blight
- Assistant Principals: Lexie Anderson and Susan Bowler
- Year of Opening: 1847
- Address: Hillview Rd, Kingswood, 5062
- Region: Southern
- Distance form GPO: 6kms
- Telephone: 8271 2227
- Fax: 8373 3015
- School Website: <http://www.mitchamps.sa.edu.au>
- School email address: dl.0270.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre: No
- Out of School Hours Care: Privately run through Happy Haven

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	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Reception	87	102	86	88	93	92
Year 1	83	85	102	88	95	86
Year 2	89	83	84	102	88	96
Year 3	68	99	81	95	109	88
Year 4	89	79	102	89	98	115
Year 5	90	91	81	103	89	97
Year 6	71	91	89	81	99	89
Year 7	65	69	83	86	80	95
Link Students	7	10	10	9	8	7
TOTAL including Link	649	709	718	741	760	765
NESB	154	150	210	229	261	225
School card Approvals	40	42	67	62	110	61
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	2	2	3	3	1	0

Student enrolment trends: There are approximately 760 students attending the school. The school is currently growing and will continue to grow.

Staffing numbers: 4 FTE Leadership and 28 FTE classroom teachers.

Specialist Staff: includes 1.0 Link program teacher, 1.6 Science R-7, 1.2 The Arts R-7, 1.0 PE R-7, 0.9 Italian

Ancillary Staff: includes 20 full and part time support staff. Their roles include Front Office, Library, ICT, specialist support in the Link program, supporting students with learning disabilities and learning difficulties via classroom support and intervention programs such as Minilit, Multilit and Quicksmart.

Pastoral Care Support Worker: 0.4

Sport Coordinator: 0.4

OSHC: this is run by a private provider, Happy Haven. Before and After School Care, and Vacation Care are provided. The service is licenced for 110 students.

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2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics: Mitcham Primary School serves a generally affluent community that has high expectations of the school academically and socially. The school works in collaboration with parents and students to provide high quality education. There is a strong sense of community with parent representatives for each class and committees within the school, fostering a supportive family environment.

Student well-being: To facilitate academic and social growth the school is organised into four levels of schooling; Reception-Year1, Year 2-3, Year 4-5 and Year 6-7. Buddy classes operate between younger and older classes to support a culture of respect, responsibility and resilience. Student well-being programs such as Student Voice, Anti-Bullying and Leadership Programs are a priority at Mitcham, Parents work in partnership with the school to support student learning. A pastoral care worker works on site 2 days a week supporting students in class and the yard.

- **Support offered:** We are commitment to full time integration and inclusion of children with significant physical disabilities through the Link program. Research based intervention programs such as Minilit, Multilit and Quicksmart are offered to students who need extra support in literacy and numeracy.
- **Student management:** Whole school behaviour management structures that are underpinned by our values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience are in place for class and yard behaviour. All classes develop class expectations around behaviour. The leadership team follow up incidences and facilitate parent meetings in extreme cases. Parents are supportive of the school's structures. School uniform is a requirement.
- **Student Voice:** Weekly class meetings and fortnightly SRC meetings are held. An elected male and female representative from each class attends SRC. Staff support decisions taken at SRC. 2 female and 2 male year 7 students are elected as SRC School Captains and 9 students from year 7 are elected to form the Student Executive.
- **Special programmes:** researched based intervention Programs R-7 for students identified with specific learning difficulties, English as an Additional Language and or Dialect (EALD), a large Instrumental Music program and After Hours Sports are offered.

3. Key School Policies

The school's policies and agreements are found on the school website. Policies are aligned with the Department's policies.

Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies: Mitcham Primary School is part of the Mitcham Plains Partnership. Curriculum leadership within the partnership focusses on literacy and numeracy improvement and the retention of students in the higher bands through task design, intellectual stretch, and differentiation and student voice.

Mitcham Primary's site Improvement Plan in a living document that is owned by all staff and is approved by Governing Council.

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4. Curriculum

- **Subject offerings:** All teachers plan, program, assess and report using the Australian Curriculum in all areas of learning. LOTE (Italian), The Arts, Science, and Physical Education are non-instruction subjects.
- **Special needs:** Mitcham hosts a Link program with Adelaide West Special Education Centre. This program caters for children with physical disabilities who are fully integrated and included into mainstream classes. Other students with special needs or learning difficulties are supported through Negotiated Education Plans or Individual Education Plans and intervention programs where appropriate. SSOs are used to support students with special needs either individually or in small groups.
- **Assessment procedures and reporting:** All teachers plan, program, assess and report using the Australian Curriculum in all areas of learning. Assessment procedures include whole school data collection, anecdotal records, peer assessment and self-assessment. Reporting is ongoing with work samples, parent or three way interviews and written reports.

5. Sporting Activities

Students participate in a wide range of physical activities. All students have regular PE lessons, Class fitness sessions and access to sports clinics.

Students have the opportunity to participate in whole school sports day, 4 -7 swimming carnival and year 6/7 students have opportunities to participate in SAPSASA.

The Sports Committee organises a large out of school hour's sports program involving a range of team sports.

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6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

Instrumental music is offered to students from year 3 with a wide selection of instruments offered. Lessons are offered through private providers. Students who learn an instrument are involved on school bands and ensembles. Year 7 students are given the opportunity to participate in the Festival of Music Choir. Students are also able to take part in the Oliphant Science Awards.

Acquaintance Night, Open Night, Come Out performances, Music presentations, Book Week, Science Week, Assemblies, Sports Days, and Swimming Carnivals are some of the regular major events.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile:** Stable with low mobility. The majority of staff are permanent.
- **Leadership structure:** One Principal and one Deputy. 2 Assistant Principals support learning priorities identified in the SIP
- **Staff support systems:** Staff work in collaborative teams. Teachers team teach in some curriculum areas. Teams plan together and share knowledge, expertise and skills. Whole school staff meetings occur weekly with a strong professional development component. Teams meet weekly
- **Performance Management:** Consistent whole school approach to Performance Development Plans is in place. Performance Development Plans are aligned with whole school learning agreements, the SIP, Teacher Professional Standards and student data.
- **Staff utilisation policies:** Deputy Principal manages Special Education and Special Needs R-7 EALD teacher supports EALD students with identified needs. Teachers operate in teams – R-1, 2-3, 4-5 and 6-7. SSOs support special education programs and intervention programs.
- **Access to special staff:** EALD teachers work across the site, working alongside teachers in classrooms. Link staff support students from Adelaide West Special Education Centre. A STEM extension teacher works with students from year 4 – 7 who have been identified with high intellectual potential.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- **Isolation Placement points:** Nil
- **Shorter Terms:** No
- **Travelling time:** 15 to 20 minutes from the city
- **Cooling:** all buildings are air-conditioned
- **Removal allowance:** Nil
- **Additional increment allowance:** Nil
- **Dental Clinic:** A dental clinic is on site
- **Locality allowance:** No
- **Relocation allowance:** No

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9. School Facilities

- **Buildings and grounds:** Combination of aging brick, transportable and new classrooms. Resource Centre, Hall, Gymnasium, Uniform Shop, OSHC, Canteen, Dental Clinic, hard play areas and oval. The school has well equipped and well maintained grounds, including junior primary and primary play areas, courtyard, basketball and netball courts, a BBQ, rotunda and oval. Soundfield Systems have been installed in all teaching areas. A STEM building was completed in December 2017 and is now fully operational.

All areas are air-conditioned. There is a Gymnasium, Activity Hall, and OSHC/Performing Arts building.

The school has received \$5,000,000 to build a new gym, canteen and classrooms.

- **Student facilities:** Canteen, Resource Centre, Gym
- **Staff facilities:** Refurbished staffroom, iPad for each teacher, smart TVs/Interactive Whiteboards in all teaching areas.
- **Access for students and staff with disabilities:** Facilities suitable for students with physical disabilities include two disabled toilets, automatic doors, ramps, the track around the oval, wide corridors, purpose built playground
- **Access to bus transport:** Bus 172 and train at Mitcham station give easy access for student excursions
- **Other:** Dental Clinic and uniform shop

10. School Operations

- **Decision making structures:** School decision making policy ensures stakeholder consultation and involvement. Senior staff; Principal, Deputy Principal & two Assistant Principals work collaboratively. There is student decision-making and participation through Student Representative Council and class meetings. The Personnel Advisory Committee work with the Principal. A WHS committee meets regularly. Parents are active on Governing Council and many associated committees
- **Regular publications:** There are Daily Notices, Staff handbook, Email communications, Fortnightly School Newsletter published, regular class newsletters, weekly staff bulletin and the Skoolbag App.
- **Other communication:** Communication to parents is via parent information book, fortnightly Newsletter, Parent Representative Group, Governing Council, the Mitcham Primary School App and extensive reporting and assessment procedures.
- **School financial position:** The school in a strong financial position with a major commitment to continuous improvement of assets ICT, curriculum resources, grounds and buildings.

11. Local Community

- **General characteristics:** Mitcham Primary School serves a generally affluent community that has high expectations of the school academically and socially. Mitcham is located in the well-established suburb of Kingswood.
- **Parent and community involvement:** There are parent representatives for all classes. Parents also manage Out of School Hours Sport Coaching, volunteer in the canteen and classrooms. Parents are involved Governing Council and associated sub-committees.
- **Feeder preschools:** Mitcham Pre-School, Mitcham Village and Netherby are our main feeder kindergartens but we are increasingly attracting children from other child-care and pre-school settings.

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Many children attend Unley High School for their secondary education while a significant number access the private system.

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities:** Close to Urrbrae Wetlands and Mitcham Shopping Centre
- **Local Government body:** Mitcham City Council

12. Further Comments

Mitcha Primary School was opened in 1847 and is the oldest school in the state of South Australia.