



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2023

School number: 0210

School name: Aldgate Primary School

School Profile:

Welcome to Aldgate Primary School, where we embrace the future through collaborative learning and a strong commitment to sustainable values. Our school motto, 'Learning together for a sustainable future,' reflects our dedication to nurturing young minds while fostering a sense of responsibility towards the world around us.

At the heart of our educational philosophy are our core values: resilience, respect, empathy, and responsibility. These values form the bedrock of our school community, guiding both our interactions and our approach to education. Through these values, we aim to shape well-rounded individuals who contribute positively to both our school and the broader society.

Our dedication to providing a conducive and modern learning environment is evident through recent facility upgrades. In 2021, our administrative refurbishment has transformed our administrative spaces into welcoming hubs of communication and organisation.

In 2022, we extended our commitment to holistic education by upgrading our courts, offering students a dynamic and versatile space for physical activities, outdoor learning, and team sports. This investment in our physical infrastructure aligns with our belief in a well-rounded education that caters to various facets of student growth.

Aldgate Primary School takes pride in offering a diverse range of extra-curricular activities, from the Festival of Music Choir to instrumental music programs in drums and piano. Our students have the opportunity to engage in SAPSASA Sports and Volleyball, promoting teamwork, discipline, and a healthy lifestyle.

We've partnered with external programs such as Greenill Living, Footsteps, Life Education, Kidz Biz, and Tri Skills to provide our students with enriching experiences beyond the classroom. These programs supplement our curriculum and broaden students' horizons, fostering a love for learning and personal development.

Our commitment to student well-being is evident through the implementation of programs like The Resilience Project, The Zones of Regulation, and What's The Buzz.

These programs equip our students with essential life skills, promoting emotional intelligence, effective communication, and positive mental health.

We believe in transparent and effective communication. Newsletters, the Seesaw platform, and EdSmart are integral to our communication strategy, ensuring parents, students, and staff are well-informed and engaged in the educational journey.

Aldgate Primary School is a place where students learn, grow, and flourish in a supportive and forward-looking community. With a focus on sustainability, values-based education, and holistic development, we are shaping future leaders who are prepared to make a positive impact on the world.

1. General information

- School Principal name: Leah Kennewell
- Deputy Principal's name: Felicity Godson
- Year of opening: 1914 and 1979 at the current site
- Postal Address: 3 Fairview Road Aldgate 5154
- Location Address: 3 Fairview Road Aldgate 5154
- DECD Region: Mt Lofty
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 23km
- Telephone number: 08 8339 2377
- Fax Number: 08 8339 4308
- School website address: aldgateps.sa.edu.au
- School email address: dl.0210.admin@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: Aldgate Kindergarten located on the same site but is a separate service.
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: Aldgate Primary School Governing Council OSHC and Vacation Care
- February FTE student enrolment:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Reception	45	31	32	30	36
Year 1	32	44	29	31	26
Year 2	34	28	44	29	33
Year 3	39	35	30	46	30
Year 4	50	35	37	29	46
Year 5	40	49	35	38	30
Year 6	44	43	47	37	37
Year 7	29	44	39		
Total as at February Census	313	309	293	240	238
School Card%	7.9%	11.7%	12.2%	6.6%	4.9%
Non-English Speaking Background enrolment	0	0	0	0	0
ATSI enrolment	3	2	2	0	1

Student enrolment trends: We saw a decrease in enrolments in 2022, due to Year 7's moving to high school. Numbers have remained stable since this change, and look to continue doing so in the future.

Staffing Number (as at February census):

1.00 Principal 1.00

1.00 Deputy Principal and Wellbeing

10 classes – 4 Junior Primary and 6 Primary

Specialist teachers

1.0 Health and Physical Education

0.8 Science

0.4 The Arts

0.6 Curriculum Support

Ancillary Staff comprise of 1 full time administration, 5 part time curriculum support, 0.4 Grounds person, 0.4 ICT contractor and 1.00 Business Manager

Public transport access: Adelaide Metro buses stop in Aldgate (approx. 1 km away)

Special site arrangements:

provision for physical disabilities and wheelchair access throughout the site

Aldgate Kindergarten located on site (separate service)

Aldgate Primary School OSHC and Vacation Care available

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics: The student body is relatively homogenous socio-cultural group with approx. 9% school card

Student well-being programs:

The Resilience Project,

The Zones of Regulation

What's the Buzz

Student support offered:

QuickSmart- maths Intervention

MacqLit - literacy intervention

Too Smart Maths - early years maths intervention

Targeted small group support

Student management: The schools behaviour management policy is applied with consistency across the school. Other policies supporting student management include the anti-bullying policy and the behaviour support policy.

Student leadership:

Each year 2 students from each sports team are nominated as school captains, this involves all Year 6 students writing an application for the positions

3. Key School Policies

Site Improvement Plan: The Aldgate Primary School Site Improvement Plan (SIP) maps the improvement focus of the school for 2022 - 2024.

Vision Statement: Our vision at Aldgate Primary School is to develop life-long learners who are resilient, responsible global citizens showing empathy and respect for others and the environment.

2023 Goals & Challenge of Practice

Goal 1: Increase student achievement in English and literacy R-6

Challenge of Practice:

If we focus on differentiation and teachers plan lessons that incorporate adjustments for content, process and product, then we will see an increase in the number of students achieving in the optimal quadrant.

Goal 2: Increase student achievement in maths and numeracy

Challenge of Practice:

If we focus on differentiation and teachers plan lessons that incorporate adjustments for content, process and product, then we will see an increase in the number of students achieving in the optimal quadrant.

External School Review Directions (2021)

1. Strengthen school improvement processes through regular, planned opportunities for all staff to collectively review and evaluate the progress of the SIP.
2. To collaboratively identify and develop a language for learning that is embedded across year levels and areas of study.
3. Embed English/literacy, maths/numeracy and STEM agreement across the site, which are shared with all staff, students and community in a continuous cycle of review.

4. Curriculum

Subject offerings: The school offers specialty subjects in the areas of Performing Arts, PE and Science and follows the Australian Curriculum.

The school has a strong focus on science and more recently STEM.

Open Access/Distance Education provision: N/A

Special needs: Students are supported in classroom through modified programs under the guidance of One Plans

Special curriculum features:

- Festival of Music Choir
- Oliphant Science Awards
- Swimming Lessons (R - 5)
- Aquatics Day (Year 5)
- Tri Skills Gymnastics
- Year 3 - Woodhouse Camp
- Year 4 - Nunyara Camp
- Year 5 - Douglas Scrub Camp
- Year 6 - Port Hughes (Aquatic Camp)
- Footsteps (dance)
- Life Education (bi-annually)
- Music is Fun (bi-annually)
- Instrumental Music program
- Kid Biz - Year 4 - 6
- Bike Education (Bi-annually)
- Greenhill Living Garden Program (termly)
- SAPOL presentations

Teaching methodology: This approach draws from the Teaching for Effective Learning Framework and incorporates a focus on Assessment for Learning, as well as promoting a balanced integration of ICT across the school. Students are provided with opportunities to utilise laptops, tablets, and interactive whiteboards. Additionally,

the educational environment nurtures Growth Mindsets and emphasises STEM principles.

Student assessment procedures and reporting:

Parent teacher interview term 1

Written report terms 2 and 4

Teacher requested interview term 3 (mandatory for One Plan students)

Joint programmes:

Transition visits include all kindergartens, but in a more focussed and targeted way with Aldgate Kindergarten, which is co-located with the school.

5. Sporting Activities

Volleyball program – as part of Heathfield Highs program

SAPSASA - cricket, volleyball, athletics, soccer, netball, cross country, football

Annual Sports Day

A range of sports clinics offered externally

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

Premier's Reading Challenge

Premier's Be Active Challenge

Festival of Music

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile: Staff is an even mix of experienced teachers and those relatively new to the profession. There is an even mix of genders.

Leadership structure:

Principal

Deputy Principal

Staff support systems:

staff meetings

staff work as part of professional learning teams

targeted professional development in areas identified in the Site Improvement Plan

Performance Management: There is a shared responsibility by the principal and deputy principal. The DfE Performance Development Plan is used as the template for all performance meetings.

Staff utilisation policies: School support staff are involved in supporting students with learning difficulties, classroom support for teachers, support in the library, grounds and finance.

Access to special staff: instrumental music teachers

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

Complexity placement points: N/A

Isolation placement points: N/A

Shorter terms: N/A

Travelling time: N/A

Housing assistance: N/A

Cash in lieu of removal allowance: N/A

Additional increment allowance: N/A

Designated schools benefits: N/A

Aboriginal/Anangu schools: N/A

Medical and dental treatment expenses: N/A

Locality allowances: N/A

Relocation assistance: N/A

Principal's telephone costs: N/A

9. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds: All brick buildings:

3 teaching units

Gymnasium

Administration block

Resource Centre (prefabricated building)/netball

Oval with cricket pit and cricket nets

Play equipment including Nature Play

Tennis, basketball, netball and volleyball courts

Native plant areas

Wirra native vegetation area

OSHC facilities.

Heating and cooling: Heating and air conditioning in administration building and in all classrooms

Specialist facilities and equipment:

gymnasium

STEM Room

Performing Arts Room

Wireless Computer Network

OSHC room

Resource Centre

Oval

Surrounded by native trees and shrubs both on the grounds (wide area of play space) and surrounding area

The grounds include a Wirra offering 2000m² of native vegetation and food trails

Outdoor amphitheatre for staged events, including community events involving all students

Solar power facilities

Student facilities:

3 teaching units (each with computer wireless network access)

STEM rooms in each of the 3 teaching units

Gymnasium

Staff facilities:

staff room with attached pergola
workrooms
shared meeting room

Access for students and staff with disabilities:

full wheelchair access to all units
disabled shower and toilet block

Access to bus transport: Adelaide Metro buses stop in Aldgate (1 km away)

Other: The school facilities are utilised by clubs and community groups during evenings and weekends.

10. School Operations

Decision making structures:

staff meetings, PAC and committees

parents and community through Governing Council & sub-committees.

The Governing Council meets twice per term, and encourages all parents to attend.
The Governing Council supports the principal and staff in setting the broad direction

of the school. Governing Council is also responsible for the management of the Aldgate Primary School OSHC and Vacation Care

Regular publications:

fortnightly newsletters
fortnightly Sports Reports
fortnightly Wellbeing Newsletter
Yearbook (end of year publication)

Other communication:

Seesaw app
term overviews
3-weekly assemblies (these are presented in unit groups)
school website
EdSmart - student permissions etc
SMS (bushfire alerts and other important information)

School financial position: The school is audited annually and is a sound financial position.

Special funding: NIL (Category 7 school)

11. Local Community

General characteristics: Students are generally from two income families.

Parent and community involvement:

Parents are involved in supporting a range of learning programs such as; reading support, fundraising and support on camps and excursions.

Membership on Governing Council

Fundraising committee

Sub-committees are determined at the beginning of the school year according to the current needs of the school

Feeder or destination schools: Many students attend Heathfied High for their secondary education. Some students also attend Urrbrae Agricultural High School and some private schools.

Other local care and educational facilities:

Aldgate, Bridgewater, Stirling East and Stirling preschools, Montessori school. There are many primary schools in the nearby region including Stirling East, Crafers, Bridgewater and Mylor Primary Schools.

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities: Excellent shopping facilities in Aldgate (1km), Bridgewater (1km), and Stirling (6kms).

Availability of staff housing: N/A

Accessibility: access to Adelaide via the South Eastern Freeway (20 mins to CBD)

Local Government body: Adelaide Hills Council

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12. Further Comments

A bushfire 'risk rating' is applied to all schools and preschools in designated bushfire-prone areas. Aldgate Primary School is an R1 (extreme to very high risk) site.