

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: May 2019

School Name: Coonalpyn Primary School

School Number: 0730

1. General Information

Part A

Schoolname : COONALPYN PRIMARY SCHOOL
School No. : 0730
Principal : Mrs Margret Elvey
Postal Address : PO Box B932, Coonalpyn 5265
Location Address : 4 Coombe Terrace, Coonalpyn 5265
District : Murray-lands
Distance from GPO : 163 kms
CPC attached : YES

Courier : R33/2
Coorong Mallee Partnership
Phone No. : 08 85711019
Fax No. : 08 85711284

February FTE Enrolment

Primary	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Reception	8	5	4	1	3
Year 1	6	6	5	4	1
Year 2	2	5	6	4	4
Year 3	5	1	4	6	4
Year 4	3	5	1	4	6
Year 5	7	5	5	1	2
Year 6	5	6	4	5	1
Year 7	4	6	6	2	4
Preschool	-	-	-	3	5
TOTAL	40	39	35	30	30

	2016	2017	2018	2019
October Exp. FTE Enrolment	39	35	28	30
Male FTE	21	19	12	12
Female FTE	18	16	16	18
School Card Approvals (Persons)	14	7	9	10
NESB Total (Persons)	0	0	0	0
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	1	1	0	0

Staffing numbers

Principal-1.0

3-7 teacher – 1.0

R-3 teacher – 0.8

Preschool – 3 teacher – 0.4

R- 7 teacher – 0.2

R- 7 teacher – 0.2

Library/OHSW/ICT/Special Ed-SSO 1: 23hrs

Finance/Admin-SSO 2: 25 hrs

Class support/Admin-SSO 1: 22hrs

Grounds-6.25 hours

Pre-school –SSO1: 15 hrs

Occasional Care- SSO2: 4:75hrs

- OSHC
Not provided.
- Enrolment trends
Enrolments currently range in the high 20's. We now incorporate a school based Preschool
- Year of opening
School was opened in 1889.
- Public transport access
There is no public transport access.

2. Students and their welfare

- General characteristics
The school has programmes for children with learning delays. These are provided by teaching staff and sometimes implemented by SSOs.
- Pastoral Care programmes
The school teaches and practices various values supported by approval from the Governing Council. These underpin all learning. The school has Literacy, Quality Teaching and Learning and Numeracy on our Site Learning Plan as priorities. MyTERN was introduced in 2016. Our staff concentrates on supporting students with positive reinforcement and awards based on the school values.
We have a Pastoral Care Worker who works mainly on Mondays and runs a Breakfast Program
- Support offered
Through Murray Bridge Education Office support staff and Learning Support programs within the school.
- Student Management
The school has a Behaviour Management Policy with clearly stated expectations and consequences and this code is based on the school's values.

- **Student Government**
The Kids Council, with representatives from each class, meets regularly. It organises fundraisers, manages aspects of enterprise and contributes to the decision making of the school.

At Risk Learning Support is funded by the school. There is Early Intervention for Students at Risk. We run Multilit and Quicksmart. We participate in 2 Swimming Carnivals and 2 sports days with other schools. There are strong learning ties with the Pre-school and the school students, with the Pre-school and Lower Primary class making use of both facilities as part of their programming

Links have been made with Tintinara Area School and Coomandook Area School with sports and activities being run together. The school also has a Festival Choir, instrumental music lessons (flute and clarinet) a vegetable garden. These activities are designed to improve the student's social skills.

3. Key School Policies

- **Current priorities**
Our current priorities are:
Focus on Learning – Literacy and Numeracy
Student Wellbeing

4. Curriculum

- **Subject offerings**
School provides a comprehensive R-7 curriculum in all Learning Areas: English, Mathematics, Science, HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences) LOTE (Japanese) The Arts, Health and PE and Design and Tech.
Extra Curricular activities include: Choir and Instrumental Music
- **Special curriculum features**
Strong emphasis is placed on participation in a variety of health and sporting activities, visual and performing Arts experiences.
Teaching methodology
Emphasis is placed on the use of Information Technology in all classes. Interactive whiteboard technology is available in all classrooms. Staff use Teaching for Effective Learning as a basis of pedagogy.
SSOs work with individuals and small groups for Literacy and Numeracy support and provide 1 to 1 support in accordance with Negotiated One Plans.
- **Assessment procedures and reporting**
Student Assessment Portfolios are sent home each term to show student work samples and then a more formal end of term graded report in Term 2 and 4. In early Term 2, we offer 3 way interviews.
Our formal data assessment map provides evidence of success and informs future planning. A mid year and end of year self review occur.

- Joint programmes
School works with local schools accessing Aboriginal Learning Programs as HPI activities where possible.
Swimming and Athletics carnivals with Coomandook Area School.
World of Maths Day, Book Week Activities and performances with Tintinara Area School.
- Yr 3-7 Students participate in a local Y-Cook programme at Careship Coorong Snail Farm where students prepare a 2-course meal, interact and entertain the local elders and tend to the garden on a fortnightly basis.

5. Sporting Activities

Students have the opportunity to participate in SAPSASA football, netball, tennis, cricket, athletics, golf, cross-country and swimming teams. Local clubs cater for tennis, netball, football, golf, bowls and basketball. Coaching clinics, including Have-A-Go cricket and Auskick football are run by local club volunteers.

All students participate in a Dance program.

6. Staff (and their Welfare)

- Staff profile
There is an average stay of about 3 years for teachers. Current permanent our teachers are experienced, sound practitioners.
- Performance Management
A formal Performance Management programme operates using Department policy and guidelines. Australian Professional Standards for Teachers and Principals for the basis of our work in performance and development. Clear induction processes exist for new staff. Staff are expected to have performance development conversations at least twice each term with the principal, with negotiated agendas.
- Leadership structure
We only have a Principal but leadership is shared among the whole staff. Additional responsibilities and opportunity for leadership are directed through curriculum area responsibilities and shared among staff. There is provision for interested staff to take turns in Acting Principal days when principal is at meetings etc.
- Staff support systems
The staff are cooperative, friendly and very supportive. We support each other to a high level, and also celebrate success. We have a staff social event each term. Staff have access to Department Personnel counsellor services if they require professional support/counselling. The Principal supports staff through performance development, curriculum development and pedagogy.
- Staff utilisation policies
As we are a small school, responsibilities are shared amongst the staff, utilising individual skills/interests wherever possible.

- Access to special staff
When required, we have access to services based in the Education Office at Murray Bridge. Services such as Interagency Behaviour Support, Students with Disabilities, CAMHS etc.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Isolation placement points 3.5 points.
- Country Incentive Zone 2
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance Yes
- Relocation assistance Yes
- Principal's telephone costs Yes

9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds

The facilities at Coonalpyn Primary School are excellent.

The grounds, which include a large oval, are paved, grassed or landscaped. Parents and the groundsperson have worked hard to ensure the grounds are well maintained and receive high praise on many occasions. In recent years an upgrade of the grounds and the classrooms, including the construction of a computer suite, a covered outdoor learning area, upgraded shade cloth by our shelter shed, improved paving in our vegetable garden, and the construction of a new front fence have occurred.

The main/original building houses Admin, staff room, school and Community Library, Teacher Resource Room and Principal's Office.

- There is a double building which houses our Upper Primary students as well as our computer suite.
- Another building houses two classrooms, the Junior Primary class and a space for small groups and Preschool to work, teacher workspace and various storage areas.
- The toilet block has wheel chair access.
- Staff facilities
Staff have access to a Staff Room, a staff office and 3 computers linked to the administration network. Each classroom has an office space for each classroom teacher. Each classroom has an interactive whiteboard and laptop accessible per teacher.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities
Wheel chair access is available to the disabled toilet, to the Administration building, the computer suite and the Library.
- Access to bus transport
The school has one bus route for students in the local area which services Coomandook Area School as well.

- Other
 - Student to computer ratio is currently almost 1:1. Each class has immediate access to the computer suite and a classroom bay of personal computers. There are 3 staff laptops for take home use. We have PC and Wi-Fi technology in our school.
 - The Community Library is co-located in the main administration building with the school library. It has 1 computer linked to Tintinara Community Library for inter-community borrowing.

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
 - Committees include School Governing Council, Policy and Planning, Finance, Bus, Grounds, Fundraising, Kids Council and Staff.
- Regular publications
 - The School Newsletter is printed every two weeks
 - Other communication
 - Staff communication book and white board is kept in the Staffroom for daily notices. Staff Information / Parent Information booklets are available. Weekly, Wednesday night staff meetings are held. Email delivery of the school newsletter occurs for most families.
- School financial position
 - The financial position of the school is very stable.

11. Local Community

- General characteristics
 - Coonalpyn is predominantly a farming community. English is almost exclusively the language used at home. Over half of our students live in the town.
- Parent and community involvement
 - There is a reasonable level of parental involvement. There is a small, but dedicated group of parents who support special events such as Book week celebrations, sports days and other events.
- Feeder schools
 - Students usually attend Coomandook Area School, which is approximately 30 kms away for their secondary schooling.
- Other local facilities
 - The School also offers limited Occasional Care in the preschool building.
 - A Community Health Centre, a hotel, a BP service station, a bakery/Post Office, Caravan Park and Swimming Pool are in the town. The town has excellent sporting facilities catering for tennis, football, netball, bowls, golf, cricket, swimming.
- Availability of staff housing
 - Housing is available either through the Department or local rental.

- Local Government body
Coorong District Council.

12. Further Comments

The Coonalpyn Primary School is proud of its achievements including

The grounds – which are spacious, attractive, well maintained and which cater for a wide range of activities.

The size of the school – which facilitates a ‘family’ feeling and a good deal of individual attention.

The staff – who are seen as hardworking, accessible and willing to develop and change. They are also perceived as working well together and see themselves as life long learners.

Communication – parents especially appreciate the regular communication, especially in relation to student progress and achievement..

An ongoing instrumental music program that includes Festival Choir, Flute, clarinet and ensembles.

The Student Behaviour Management Code – which students see as reasonable, supportive and which staff see as congruent with contemporary teaching and learning processes and the school's values.

The smooth integration of the Preschool into the school community

We have whole school agreements relating to

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- ICT
- Health and PE
- Early Intervention

The community sees a stable staff as desirable and of real benefit to the development of the school and the attainment of effective educational outcomes for its students.