

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: June 2021

School Name: Coonalpyn Primary School

School Number: 0730

1. General Information

Part A

Schoolname : COONALPYN PRIMARY SCHOOL
School No. : 0730
Principal : Mr Iain Love
Postal Address : PO Box B932, Coonalpyn 5265
Location Address : 4 Coombe Terrace, Coonalpyn 5265
District : Murraylands
Distance from GPO : 163 kms
CPC attached : No

Courier : R33/2

Coorong Mallee Partnership
Phone No. : 08 85711019
Fax No. : 08 85711284

February FTE Enrolment

Primary	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Reception	5	4	1	3	4	-
Year 1	6	5	4	1	1	2
Year 2	5	6	4	4	1	1
Year 3	1	4	6	4	3	1
Year 4	5	1	4	6	4	-
Year 5	5	5	1	2	4	2
Year 6	6	4	5	1	2	3
Year 7	6	6	2	4	1	1
Preschool	-	-	3	5	-	-
TOTAL	39	35	30	30	20	10

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
October Exp. FTE Enrolment	35	28	30	20	10
Male FTE	19	12	12	7	5
Female FTE	16	16	18	13	5
School Card Approvals (Persons)	7	9	10	9	7
NESB Total (Persons)	0	0	0	0	0
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	1	0	0	1	1

Staffing numbers

Principal-1.0

1-7 teacher – 1.0

R- 7 teacher NIT/Science/Technology– 0.2

Library/OHSW/ICT/Special Ed-SSO 1: 20hrs

Finance/Admin-SSO 2: 18 hrs

Class support/Admin-SSO 1: 20hrs

Grounds-6.25 hours

Occasional Care- SSO2: 4:75hrs

OSHC

Not provided.

Enrolment trends

Enrolments are declining

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. The Berry Street Model has informed our practice since 2019. Our staff concentrate on supporting students with positive reinforcement and awards based on the school values.

We have a Pastoral Care Worker who works mainly on Wednesday's 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**

Student Voice, which includes all students, 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 participate in a Swimming Carnival and Sports Day with Coomandook Area School

Links have been made with Coomandook Area School and the small schools cluster (Geranium Primary and Raukkan Aboriginal School) with a range of activities being run together. Students are able to access instrumental music lessons (flute and clarinet available). The school has a vegetable garden and students look after that and our chickens as part of their learning programme .

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 1-7 curriculum in 7 Learning Areas: English, Mathematics, Science, HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences) The Arts, Health and PE and Design and Tech. We are currently not able to offer a LOTE subject.

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 Terms 2 and 4. In Term 1's and 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 occurs.

- **Joint programmes**

School works with local schools accessing Aboriginal Learning Programs as HPI activities where possible.

Swimming and Athletics Carnivals with Coomandook 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.

6. Staff (and their Welfare)

Staff profile

There is an average stay of about 5 years for teachers. Current 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 once a 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 all of our students, with the Junior Primary and Upper Primary students working separately for Literacy and Numeracy.

Another building houses two classrooms, one of which is used for Science & Technology.

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 and Ipad ratio is currently 1:1. There are 3 staff laptops for take home use. We have excellent internet access and an effective Wi-Fi network 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, Tuesday staff meetings are held. Email delivery of the school newsletter occurs for most families.

School financial position

The financial position of the school is stable.

11. Local Community

General characteristics

Coonalpyn is predominantly a farming community. English is almost exclusively the language used at home. The majority of our students live in the town.

Parent and community involvement

There is a reasonable level of parental involvement, with almost all families represented on Governing Council. 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 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

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.

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.