

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2/16

School Name: Tailem Bend Primary School

School Number: 0424

1. General Information

The school is situated on the South Eastern Freeway a short distance away from the River Murray which itself is a great attraction and excellent resource. A ferry links Tailem Bend with the dairying area of Jervois across the river.

Part A

School name : TAILEM BEND PRIMARY SCHOOL
School No. : 0424 Courier : Murray Bridge fwd2
Principal : Mr Travis Schenke
Postal Address : 1 Murray Street, Tailem Bend 5260
Location Address : 1 Murray Street, Tailem Bend 5260
District : Murraylands
Distance from GPO : 100 kms Phone No.: 08 85723266
CPC attached : NO Fax No. : 08 85723026

Level of Disadvantage: Level 2

Enrolments (Term 2 Census)

:	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Reception	20	21	10	21	9
Year 1	13	22	20	16	24
Year 2	25	18	22	17	14
Year 3	16	14	19	24	14
Year 4	16	16	16	17	27
Year 5	25	21	15	14	17
Year 6	16	22	17	17	14
Year 7	25	19	17	17	17
Total	157	153	136	143	136

NEP students:

Level A	7	6	5	9	5
Level C	0	0	0	0	0
Level D	11	11	9	8	6
Level I	2	3	0	0	0
Level H	1	0	0	0	0
Level R	0	0	0	0	0

Challenging Behaviours

Level 2	0	0	0	0	0
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School Card 65 67 59 59 50

Aboriginal Students 6 5 9 10 11

Part B

- School Email Address
: info@tailembdps.sa.edu.au.
- Staffing numbers
: **10.2 FTE**. There are currently seven vertically grouped classes R-7. 1.0 Principal; 0.8 School Counsellor, 0.4 Teacher Librarian, 0.4 PE/Health NIT teacher, 0.4 Music Performing Arts/ NIT teacher, 0.2 LOTE (German) teacher and 0.8 Student Support teacher. The school currently has **180** hrs SSO time per week that include 27 hours per week Community Library. Through the Global Budget the school purchases most of these hours for classroom support and students with special needs
- Enrolment trends
2016 enrolments stand at 135 including 5 FLO students.
- Year of opening
: Although a provisional school was opened early in 1902, the school officially opened on its current site in 1911.
- Public transport access
: Passengers can board the Link SA from Railway Station daily apart from Sunday to travel to Murray Bridge and Adelaide.

2. Students and their welfare

- General characteristics
: Currently **33%** of the total school population hold a School Card. A high percentage of the school's students come from lower socio-economic backgrounds. The school also has some student transience. Social Justice initiatives focus on Literacy and Numeracy. Well being focuses on engagement and participation to ensure that the needs of disadvantaged students are addressed.
- Support offered
: A School Counsellor was appointed in 1999. The Counsellor's role includes responsibility for attendance and behaviour management in consultation with the Principal. Coordination of the school's "Success Time" program that includes Friday afternoon 'electives' and recess and lunch time Clubs are also coordinated by the counsellor. The school became an identified KidsMatter School in 2012

: Behaviour Management

In line with DECS School Discipline Policy, the following behaviour codes and processes have been set in place at Tailem Bend Primary School.

Senior Staff support class teachers to develop positive reward systems and consequences for inappropriate behaviour. School has 'Time Out' room and a successful behavioural management policy.

There is a strong focus on the implementation of Bounce Back and the building of whole-school social and emotional learning programs

- Establishment of common and consistent procedures across all classes
- The active involvement of senior staff in supporting all staff including TRT's
- Whole school positive awards programme
- Establishment of the Time Out and Re-Think time
- Establishment of Playtime Clubs
- Success time every Friday afternoon
- Presentation of Awards and Certificates at assemblies
- Establishment of specific reward program for student's on BM plans
- Preventative measures such as regular individual and group counselling sessions, and alternative play areas for students and practise social skills
- Training and Development for staff

The school works collaboratively with interagency support services including Interagency Behaviour coaches, DECD disability coordinators, CAMHS, Families SA

: SRC

To ensure effective and meaningful student voice, Tailem Bend Primary School has:

- An R-7 Student representative Council (SRC)
- Weekly Class Meetings
- Placed an emphasis on Community Service as part of the role of SRC through fundraising for a specified charity and monthly visits to the residents of the local hospital and Kindergarten
- Raised the profile of the SRC through coverage in the local paper, articles in the School Newsletter and formal Induction ceremonies
- Promoted Enterprise Education through fundraising.

: Special Programs/ Special Education

To accommodate individual learning styles and to meet the academic, social and emotional needs of each student, Tailem Bend Primary School has:

- An Inclusive Education Coordinator to oversee the management of program including, assisting teachers in the review of IEP's and training and development
 - Budgeted for additional SSO hours to target specific children
 - Trained volunteers to work on a one to one basis with students in line with the principles of Reading Recovery.
 - Ability Maths groups
 - Purchased and implemented the Rainbow Reading programme
 - Purchased and implemented the Lexile reading programme
 - Established close links with outside agencies for example: the Autism Association, Options Coordination, Downs Association
 - Provide opportunities for identified students to attend the weekly Riding for the Disabled program in Murray Bridge and weekly swimming. To be reviewed
 - Introduced a Mentoring programme that targets identified students.
 - Targeted members of the community to act in a voluntary capacity.
 - Work closely with the Tailem Bend Community centre and their woodworking programme.
 - Targeted students study and take responsibility to look after animals at school.
 - Students have opportunities to work in our school garden.
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3. Key School Policies

Please refer to our 'Site Improvement Plan'. The school's priorities are developed with student, staff and community participation.

Our **Teaching and Learning Policy** guides staff and students on our philosophy and educational vision.

4. Curriculum

- **Literacy** Accelerated Literacy, R-7, was introduced in 2012. This program covers the explicit teaching of the comprehending and productive modes of language. All teachers are trained and have the support of a visiting AL consultant. PAT-R is used to collect baseline data and map individual student improvement. In addition, students are assessed and supported using Reading Recovery strategies and the Lexile Framework. We have a trained Reading Recovery teacher on site and, along with our AL focus teacher, teachers are supported in using a differentiated curriculum.
- **Health Promoting School:** Our school is active in promoting healthy habits for our students. We have whole school Healthy Eating/ Brain Food, Play time (recess and lunchtime) groups (indoor soccer, football, skipping, running clubs).. Students learn a wide variety of sport and leisure programs through Active After School Communities funding.
- **Performing Arts:**
We have a Music and Performing Arts programme that ensures students have opportunities to be involved in a variety of drama and music performances including the regional and state Festival of Music .A Music/ Performing Arts teacher was appointed in 2011.
Instrumental music is provided by the Instrumental Music Service

A **Whole School Variety Performance** at the end of the year includes students participating in a variety of roles including: singing, dancing, acting, sound and lighting, backdrops and stage management.

- **Learning Technology:** We operate Apple Mac computers at our site. We have an ICT skills continuum that includes keyboard skills and multi media programming. The school runs an airport system that integrates 38 desktop and 45 laptop computers for student/curriculum access. This network is managed by a dedicated ICT technician and a committee that manages ICT across the school.
 - **Australian Curriculum:** Using the Teaching for Effective Learning framework, there is a focus on teachers implementing the AC and embedding formative assessment practices into their learning programs. Professional learning support is provided by the cluster Primary Australian Curriculum Facilitator, and the Regional Curriculum Coordinator.
 - **Assessment and Reporting**
A variety of Assessment strategies are used to ensure students are progressing at appropriate rates. Students in years 3 – 7 are assessed in Reading and Numeracy using the PAT assessment tool in term 3. Year 3, 5 and 7 students are also assessed with NAPLAN. Student progress is monitored closely to
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ensure student progress at a rate commensurate with their ability. Written reports are sent home to families in Terms 2 and 4. Parents and caregivers have the opportunity to meet throughout the year with teachers regarding student progress. Three way formal interviews are conducted at the beginning of Term two.

5. Sporting Activities

Children are taught the skills associated with a wide variety of sports during Physical Education lessons. SAPSASA representatives participate in District Competitions in Netball, Cricket, Football, Tennis, Golf and Athletics. Students from the school play in competitive Basketball, as well as Football, Cricket and Tennis and Netball for local teams. Sports coaching clinics are held throughout the year at school to encourage skill development and active participation in a range of sports. The school Gymnasium is hired by local clubs such as Netball, Basketball and Karate for outside of school hours competitions. We have appointed a PE specialist teacher.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

: Special Activities include “Book Week” celebrations, Sports Day, JP “Splash” Primary Swimming Carnivals, end of year Concert, Come Out and performances at least once per term by visiting groups. Other special programs include Planting seeds with the local hospital (students and elderly people working together), Cows Create Careers supported by the local dairy industry with a small group of students raising calves, participation in the River Murray Forum, and access to facilities at the local Community Centre.

We are also involved in the International Pedal Prix. This involves students from year 5/6/7

7. Staff (and their Welfare)

- Staff profile

: The staff at Tailem Bend Primary School are mainly experienced teachers and SSO's who live in the Tailem Bend/Murray Bridge area. This year we have a new graduate teacher

- Leadership structure

: Principal and School Counsellor work collaboratively and share responsibility for behaviour management and wellbeing. Senior Leadership Team consisting of Principal, Coordinator/Student Counsellor and Step 9 teachers, meets weekly on school issues.

Performance Development

Personal Development planning is documented each term, in line with DECD policy.

To improve student learning we believe that:

1. We should work together in a sharing, collaborative way.
 2. Open, honest communication is vital in a happy work place.
 3. Planning is the best way to ensure success.
 4. People want to take responsibility for their own lives and careers.
 5. Senior staff has a responsibility to assist.
 6. Success and honest effort should be recognised and acknowledged.
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7. Staff members have a right to planned and constructive feedback about their performance. Senior staff shares this responsibility.

8. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
 - : Original 2-storey building containing 4 classrooms, computer suites on ground and first floor, upstairs “Buzz Box’ (withdrawal-meeting room) Community Library and preparation areas. Open-Space Unit housing 4 Junior Primary classes, School Counsellors office, teacher preparation area and withdrawal room. Double classroom that functions as a Music and Performing Arts, A separate Canteen. A single building, equivalent to two classrooms, plus storage area is a 5/6/7 classroom. Abundant grassed playing area (automatic watering system) plus asphalt areas including netball and basketball courts. Three fixed equipment playground areas and swimming pool.
- Specialist facilities
 - : The school supports a Community Library and a Swimming Pool that is open to the community after school hours during the summer months, and a Gymnasium/Recreation Centre completed in 2000.

9. School Operations

- Decision making structures
 - Governing Council meets twice per term while SRC meets weekly. Staff hold staff meetings weekly (Wednesdays) which incorporates Professional Learning. All staff members participate in various curriculum and management committees.
 - The Governing Council has sub committees that include: Curriculum, Gymnasium, Finance, Fundraising, Environment, Swimming Pool, Uniform and Library. These sub committees meet once per term or as need arises.
- Regular publications
 - : Newsletters are published fortnightly. The school has a Parent/Caregiver Information booklet for parents of new students and a Staff Handbook for all new staff. ‘School Diary’ notices inform staff of relevant information. Classes also send home regular class newsletters.

10. Local Community

- General characteristics
 - : Tailem Bend was originally a railway town but is now caters for a mixed population of sole and dual parent families, unemployed families, business people and farmers. Employment in the area is mostly with local businesses and service suppliers.
 - Parent and community involvement
 - : Parents/Caregivers are actively involved in the school in a variety of ways: Governing Council, sport activities, canteen, curriculum programmes, mentoring, excursions, classroom initiatives and assistance to classroom teachers. The wider community is also very supportive of the school.
 - Other local care and educational facilities
 - : A funded Occasional Care program is offered at the local Kindergarten for 2 sessions per week for children aged 2-5 years. There are a number of day
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caregivers in the town offering services to those in need. Taillem Bend Kindergarten in the town is a 0.5 centre that works over 7 sessions per week. Eligible children are entitled to attend 4 sessions per week for 4 terms before school entry. Murray Bridge High School , Unity College (Murray Bridge) and Coomandook Area School offer secondary education to students from Taillem Bend.

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
 - : Good shopping facilities including 7-day supermarket, banking, Post Office, hardware, delis, take-aways, 2 hotels, 24-hour fuel, mechanical, engineering and light industrial services located in the town. The large regional centre of Murray Bridge is 25kms away and offers extensive services and facilities to the community.
 - Other local facilities
 - : The town has a modern Medical Centre and Hospital, Tourist Information Centre and Community Centre, a number of Churches. There are local sporting clubs, (football, netball, cricket, golf, tennis, rowing, lawn bowls), churches, service-clubs (Rotary, Lions), Girl Guides and Brownies and the Community Centre.
 - Local Government body
 - : Taillem Bend is located in the Coorong District Council, phone: 8572 3611, fax: 8572 3822 with offices in both Taillem Bend and Meningie. There is a free Murraylands Visitors Guide available at the Taillem Bend Tourist Information Centre.
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