

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 11/08/2015

School number: 0950

School name: MURRAY BRIDGE SOUTH PRIMARY

1. General information

Part A

School name : MURRAY BRIDGE SOUTH PRIMARY
School No. : 0950 Courier : MURRAY BRIDGE
Principal : Graham Alder
Postal Address : 54 JOYCE ST, MURRAY BRIDGE. 5253
Location Address : as above
District : Murray mallee
Distance from GPO : 85kms Phone No. : 85322155
CPC attached : No Fax No. : 85310083

Level of Disadvantage: Level 1

February FTE Enrolment

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Reception	34	30	33	40	49	56
Year 1	26	44	45	33	47	45
Year 2	27	34	40	44	30	51
Year 3	34	30	31	36	37	26
Year 4	20	39	34	32	30	41
Year 5	36	31	35	33	46	31
Year 6	45	35	29	40	28	41
Year 7	39	46	36	23	50	34
TOTAL	261	289	283	281	317	325

Specific Population Enrolment 2015

ATSI 73 Students 22%
NESB 85 students 26%
EALD 158 students 49%
Disabilities 24 students 7.3%
School Card 205 students 63%

Part B

- Deputy Principal
Anne Green
- Counsellor
Michelle Currie
- School website address
www.mbsouthps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address
dl.0950.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Staffing numbers

FTE	25.2
Classroom Teachers	15
Physical Education	1.0
ICT	1.0
Science/Music	1.0
Special Education	1.9
EALD	1.3
AET	0.7

Leadership Positions:

Principal	1.0
Deputy Principal	1.0
Co-ordinator Curriculum / Reading Support	0.4
Student Counsellor	1.0

Clerical Staff:

Finance, Admin and General Support	104 hours
Resource Centre and Classroom Support	177.5 hours
Groundsperson	17.5 hours
ACEO	45.5 hours
IT Tech	14 hours
Canteen Manager	24 hours
Total Staff:	38 females
	5 males
- OSHC
Our OHSC programme was closed 16/05/2014 due to falling enrollments.
- Enrolment trends
Slight Increase
- Year of opening
1964
- Public transport access
Bus services are provided within the town and to and from Adelaide.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics

Over the last three years, the school's enrolment has slightly increased. This year we have a single intake of students into Reception from the beginning of the year. In addition there has been a high degree of mobility with students transferring from other schools both inter-state and intra-state. These figures have increased each year. This movement has created the need for flexible class planning. The year-level combinations have enabled class sizes to remain at a reasonable level throughout the year, particularly in the JP area. As a Category 1 disadvantaged school, our Junior primary class sizes average 18.

School Card users comprise 63% of the enrolment. There are 73 Aboriginal students and 85 students from non-English speaking backgrounds. 24 students have disabilities.

- Student management

The Student Behaviour Code aims to:

- encourage students to develop self-discipline and a sense of self worth, to respect the rights of others, and to take responsibility for their own learning
- promote a positive learning environment
- ensure that students, staff and parents can clearly understand the school's expectations of student behaviour
- establish a set of principles for dealing with acceptable and unacceptable student behaviour.

- Student government

Junior Primary and Primary Student Representative Councils meet each week and communicate with the student body through class meetings. All students and staff use the 'rights and responsibilities' model and are able to apply a problem-solving approach to any difficulties.

SITE PRIORITIES

Literacy, Numeracy and Positive relationships

Increase the success of early learners.

Establish data collection to show progress in aspects of Literacy and Numeracy.

Development of effective teaching strategies for Mathematics.

Extend the application of Smart Boards for student learning.

ICT's are incorporated in all curriculum areas.

- Buildings and grounds

All buildings are well presented and investing in our schools grants have enabled a whole school upgrade. The buildings comprise a range of structures, which include two solid 1960's blocks, a 5 teacher Open Space Unit, 1 Demac classroom, Demac Resource Centre and three blocks of modern units housing ten classes. Specialist Areas include an Activity Room, Science Room, and two Computer Rooms. Extensive offices and workrooms are available for staff to access. A large comfortable staffroom is available at all times. A covered outside learning area (C.O.L.A) and gym were built in 2009.

The school has a well-resourced Library with extensive teacher and student support materials. A bank of computers is available for student access throughout the day. A network of computers has been installed in two Information Communication Technology Rooms. All classrooms have computers as part of the whole school Network and these have Internet and Intranet access. All teaching areas have Smartboards. School Grounds are continually being re-developed to enhance the general school environment. The school will move to a wireless network in 2014. The school has purchased a class set of 30 IPADS and IPADS for staff.

- Cooling

All rooms are air-conditioned and carpeted, with access for students with disabilities.

- Staff facilities

Large staff room with computer access.

- Access for students and staff with disabilities

One classroom has been fitted with a fully equipped bathroom for Disabled Students. All buildings have disabled access.

- Access to bus transport

School buses for Jervois and Monteith are managed by this site. Local town buses pick up and deliver students to the site daily.

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures

The Decision-Making Policy covers philosophical and practical aspects of the various levels of staff decisions. The Policy has been reviewed and includes Council and Student decision-making processes.

- Regular publications

Fortnightly Newsletter

- Communication

The following communication channels are used effectively to keep all informed:

- Electronic Daily Notices
- Communication Books or diaries
- Daily announcements
- Class newsletters to parents/caregivers
- Staff meeting and Committee meetings' minutes
- Interviews and written reports
- Notice Boards
- Information evenings
- Workshops
- Local Media
- Formal and Informal interviews are encouraged
- School website
- SMS messaging

11. Local Community

- General characteristics

Murray Bridge South Primary School draws its enrolment from the urban area of the rural city of Murray Bridge. Murray Bridge is a business centre for the surrounding district and the community of 20,000 includes people from Aboriginal, Italian, Turkish, Vietnamese, Philippine, Chinese, Sudanese, Afghanis and other non-English speaking backgrounds.

Extensive shopping facilities exist along with the usual medical clinic, hospital, and churches of all denominations, TAFE, libraries, hotels and various interest clubs associated with a Rural city.

There is a high level of mobility in the community and in the last five years there has been an average of 30% turnover in enrolment throughout the year. This has been due to changed employment opportunities. New Industries are being established and growth in population and employment is continuing.

The availability of housing has influenced families to move to Murray Bridge from the metropolitan area.

A large variety of sporting activities is organised within the community.

Sporting bodies and parents are strong supporters of student activities both within the school and within sporting groups.

There is a local Tourist Information Centre located on this site with relevant information and publications pertaining to the environs of the local area.

- Parent and community involvement

Parent and community volunteers support classroom programs, excursions, Red Cross Breakfast Club and the Reading Post program. A Parent group exists with parent / caregivers regularly attending meetings. The role of the group is to successfully network with other parents to support the educational programmes for their children. Feeder schools

- Tinyeri Centre, Murray Bridge Kindy, Concordia Kindy, Fraser Park CPC
- Other local care and educational facilities
ABC Learning Centres, Family Day Care, Private Day Care providers, Murray Bridge High, Onkaparinga TAFE, Murray Bridge North Schools, Fraser Park CPC - 7
 - Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
Extensive commercial shopping throughout the town. Murray Bridge is a regional centre for business.
 - Availability of staff housing
Living in Murray Bridge does not entitle a teacher to subsidised housing as we are less than 100kms from the CBD. Private rental is an option for Staff.
 - Local Government body
The Rural City of Murray Bridge Local Government Centre is located at 2 Seventh Street Murray Bridge, phone 8532 1288.

12. Further Comments

- Staff morale is positive because of clear expectations, commitment to whole school priorities, a consistent approach to behaviour management and the application of resources to match priorities.
- The school began receiving Better Schools grants of \$80,846 a year in 2014. This money has been allocated in 2014 to: Converting to Wireless. A class set (30) of iPads, iPads for all teaching staff, educational apps, Yarning Strong (An Aboriginal Literacy/Cultural Awareness programme), text messaging system to improve attendance and MARKiT (data management system).
- In 2015 we received a further \$122,076 in Better Schools grants.
- In November of 2014, the school celebrated its 50th anniversary with a special assembly.