

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT 2018



School number: 0426

School name: Tantanoola Primary School

1. General information

Part A

School Name : **TANTANOOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL**
School No. : 0426 Courier: Millicent
Principal : Ms Moira Neagle
Postal Address : Randall St, Tantanoola 5280
Location Address : Randall Street, Tantanoola 5280
District : South East Coast and Vines
Distance from Adelaide GPO: 420 kms
Phone No: 08 87344180 Fax No: 08 87344001
Preschool attached: Suspended
Email address: DL.0426_admin@schools.sa.edu.au

February FTE Enrolment for previous 8 years

Primary

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Rec	2	6	7	4	1	3	-	-
Year 1	7	2	4	2	1	2	3	-
Year 2	8	7	2	4	-	2	4	3
Year 3	6	6	6	2	2	-	2	4
Year 4	5	5	6	6	-	2	-	2
Year 5	6	3	5	6	2	-	2	-
Year 6	10	6	5	3	2	3	-	2
Year 7	9	10	6	4	-	-	2	-
Total	53	45	41	31	8	12	13	11

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
School Card Approvals	14	13	8	6	2	5	6	8
NESB Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Part B

Staffing numbers

We currently have staff comprising 1.0 Reception to year 7 teacher and 1.0 Principal.

Ancillary hours: 20 hrs Finance, 21hrs Admin/ ICT /WHS and Playgroup Leader, 20 hrs Classroom Support (1 at 4hours + 1 at 16 hours). Grounds hours are on a 'as need' basis and are outsourced to a local business.

- **OSHC**

There is no Out of School Hours Care available in Tantanoola.

Enrolment trends

In 2017, our student enrolment was 11 students. Currently, we have 13 students which include one Year 7 student. Whilst our enrolments are low, there has been a high degree of transience over the past 5 years causing the enrolment figures to fluctuate.

Play Group is facilitated by an SSO at our school on Wednesday mornings of term time and we have 4-8 regular children from 0-3 yrs attending on a weekly basis.

- **Special arrangements**

Year of opening.

The Tantanoola Primary School was first opened in 1883 and a new DMAC building was added in 1975. In 2008, a new small classroom was added to provide for the needs of two students with severe vision and hearing impairments. In 2008, the school celebrated 125 years of public education schooling. In 2011, a hall was built as a part of the Building the Education Revolution scheme.

Public transport access

There is no public transport available in Tantanoola. There is a bus which runs daily from Mount Gambier to Adelaide and which will stop at the Tantanoola Roadhouse if requested.

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics

Our student body consists of 5 boys and 8 girls. We have approximately 61.5% School Card population. One family represents 7 of our 13 children.

Support offered

The classroom teacher and Principal provide general student counselling in the absence of a Student Counsellor.

Student Management

Our school has 4 Key Responsibilities which underpin student behaviour:

Learning: Each child has the right to learn. It is the individual child's responsibility to complete learning tasks and to allow others to do so.

Conflict: Each child has the right to a conflict free environment. It is the individual child's responsibility to manage conflict without violence or abuse.

Safety: Each child has the right to keep themselves and others safe. It is the individual child's responsibility to keep themselves and others safe.

Treatment: Each child has the right to be treated respectfully. It is their responsibility to treat others with respect and to look after our environment.

This is in line with the DECD School Discipline Policy.

Student Voice

Our older students are given a number of leadership opportunities throughout the school year. They participate in the GRIP and Youth Engagement Leadership Program (YELP) program.

3. Key School Policies

Mission statement

At Tantanoola Primary School we are committed to developing a partnership between students, parents and staff in order to help prepare students for effective participation in society. We aim to provide a broad, balanced curriculum in a safe, happy, supportive and child-centred environment where students enjoy successes and excellence is encouraged.

Our values are: **Respect, Aiming for Personal Best, Responsibility**

Our School Motto: **LEARNING FOR LIFE**

School Site Learning Priorities

Our site priorities for 2018 are:

To improve the sophistication of student writing in relation to:

- The range of sentence starters used
- Increasing vocabulary and description
- Increasing elaborate ideas

To focus on reading to learn rather than learning to read

We have one Reception – Year 7 class with differentiation embedded to address individual learning needs.

A Play Group is held each Wednesday morning, commencing at 10am. This provides a valuable opportunity for 0-5 year olds to play and socialize together and for parents to engage and share their experiences and approaches to the challenge of parenting.

4. Curriculum

Subject offerings

We offer curriculum areas as stated in the Australian National Curriculum. The language of study at Tantanoola is Indonesian.

Teaching methodology

Staff cater for individual learning. Because there are currently 7 year levels in the one class, the learning program has to have a number of entry points and expectations to differentiate and cater for the age range and preferred learning styles.

Assessment procedures and reporting

Our Assessment and Reporting procedures have been developed and reviewed through consultation with the parent body. Key aspects are:

- Reading Running Records are conducted each school term
- PAT Science, Grammar testing is done in term1 and PAT Maths and Reading are done in term 3
- Words Their Way testing is done in terms 1 and 4. There is a spelling test most weeks.
- Analysis of a writing sample is done early in each school term
- iMaths Pretest is done in term 4
- Our teachers and families have daily discussions on the progression of children's learning.
- Three Way Interviews are held in early Term 2.
- Written reports go home at the end of Terms 2 and 4.
- Conversations are held with each learner on a regular basis to identify their strengths and areas for development which can form SMARTAR goals.
- Every afternoon at the end of the school day, there is a brief discussion about the nature of their learning over the course of the day.

Joint programmes

Interschool Sport Days, known as Coastline Sports Day, is a yearly event between Beachport, Rendelsham and Tantanoola Primary Schools held late in Term 1. Students from all 3 schools are divided equally into 3 teams for the day.

Our school is involved in a Millicent District of Schools STEM program.

Every two years, we combine with Beachport and Rendelsham Primary School for a Year 6/7 Aquatic Camp.

5. Sporting Activities

Students at Tantanoola have many opportunities to participate in sport. HPE is taught across the school, with new skills introduced and sporting games and rules taught. Our sports equipment is well stocked and maintained.

The school regularly wins Sporting Schools grants which facilitate the learning of a wide range of sports.

All students participate in swimming lessons at the Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre in Term 1, Week 2.

All students attend two Gym instructional sessions in Term 3.

Students may play football in Millicent on Saturday mornings or are able to play with the Junior Colts Mid South East Football League. Netballers can also participate on Saturday mornings with the Tantanoola Netball Club. During summer, students can participate in tennis in Millicent, cricket and baseball. Basketball is also available in Millicent during the week.

SAPSASA is actively encouraged and Tantanoola has had many representatives in a variety of sports. Some of our students are regular participants in the South East Cross Country event at Naracoorte.

Our students participate in a Millicent based Basketball Round Robin at the end of term 2.

Netball and football teams are formed with other small local schools in order to participate in the Millicent Gala Day.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

Excursion Program

In order to enrich some curricula areas, the school has an extensive excursion program throughout the year. This includes:

- Attending the Reidy Park Primary School musical each year and the Millicent High School musical every second year.
- A number of visits to the Millicent Public Library and Art Gallery throughout the school year.
- Country Arts SA performances at the Helpmann Theatre, Mount Gambier
- March in May joint Year 7 event

- Aquatics Day at Mount Gambier on the last Tuesday of the school term.

Visitors, School Events and Celebrations have included:

- The Mount Gambier Pipe Band
- Easter, Mothers' and Fathers' Days
- Harmony Day
- ANZAC and Remembrance Day
- The children's art on display at the Education Office in Mt Gambier
- Buy A Bale drought relief fundraiser
- Tour de Cure visit to the school in 2015
- Ride As One in 2017
- Participation in the Christmas Appeal
- Students display art work in the annual Millicent Show.

Other Significant Components

A whole School Camp is held each year in term 1.

Book Week is celebrated with specific book reality learning activities with the Play Group.

Premier's Be Active and Reading Challenges.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile

In 2018, we have a Principal and 1 permanent class teacher.

Our Ancillary staff includes:

- Finance Officer who works 20 hrs per week and an
- Admin Officer who works 21 hrs a week and manages the schools ICT, WHS and is the Play Group leader on Wednesday mornings.
- There are two Classroom Support SSOs who work for a total of 20 hours per week in the mornings.
- We have had another SSO placed at the school for 30 hours per week as a Workcover placement at no expense to the school for most of this year.

Staff support systems

Staff are encouraged to work together. There are strong links between the Primary students and the onsite Play Group.

There is a strong emphasis on quality Training and Development.

Other

DfE Special Educators, CAMHS, Family SA, Social Workers and Counsellors are accessible.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

Complexity placement points

Not Applicable.

Isolation placement points

Our school attracts 2.5 placement points per year.

Shorter terms

Not applicable.

Travelling time

Tantanoola is 25 minutes from Mount Gambier, a main country city and 15 minutes from Millicent.

The capital city Adelaide, is a four and a half hour journey by car.

Housing assistance

Teacher Housing is available in both Mount Gambier and Millicent.

Cooling/Heating for school buildings

Reverse cycle air conditioners are situated in all areas.

Cash in lieu of removal allowance

This is available after a designated amount of time in the country.

Additional increment allowance

Not applicable

Designated schools benefits

Not applicable.

Aboriginal/Anangu schools

Not applicable.

Medical and dental treatment expenses

Dental Clinic on the Millicent North Primary School Site.

Locality allowances

A small location allowance is made by DfE.

Relocation assistance

May be applicable.

9. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds

School buildings consist of a refurbished Front Office Administration building. The original school classrooms built in 1883 houses the Library and Staffroom. A DMAC open space style building has three sectioned off areas, one of

which is currently used as one large classroom with a computer for each student.

There is a Preschool on site and this is housed in the converted Principal's residence. As the Preschool is currently suspended due to low student enrolments, this building is used for the weekly Playgroup sessions.

An older style prefab building has kitchen facilities and is used by the students for cooking. This building is also used when we have visiting events: e.g. the Millicent Family History Group, Millicent High School Band and the end of the school year family night.

There is a large colourbond shed which is used for storage.

There is a Multi-Purpose Hall used for sport and fitness and for play breaks during inclement weather by the school and the play group. The local football and netball club occasionally use this building for training purposes during winter.

The preschool has its own fenced off playground area.

The grounds are spacious, attractive and well-kept with a large oval, basketball court and large playground.

The school has an automatic irrigation system to water the oval and garden areas. Water comes from a bore with a water levy license.

The grounds are maintained under two outsourced contracts: mowing of the oval and general grounds upkeep.

Specialist facilities

There is a well-stocked Library, sports shed, Gym, kitchen and teacher resource area.

Access for students and staff with disabilities

The classroom area, administration area, preschool and toilets all have disabled access.

Access to bus transport

The school bus run ceased operating at the end of 2009.

10. School Operations

Decision making structures

Our decision-making policy is published in both staff and parent handbooks. The school is committed to collaborative decision-making. We have an active and supportive Governing Council which meets straight after school on a mutually suitable day. The Finance Committee meets just prior to the scheduled Governing Council meeting.

Regular publications

Our School newsletter is published fortnightly. Parents, staff and the local community have access to this newsletter. There is also a copy sent to the local newspaper and other schools in the district.

Other communication

A diary is kept in the staff room to note events, expected visitors, excursions, staff absences and TRT replacement staff and information are entered daily.

School financial position

The financial position of the school is very good. Parents are willing to fundraise when needed and when they can see the benefit for the students.

Special funding

Rural and Remote

11. Local Community

General characteristics

The community is a small, rural and close knit. Most of our families live in the Tantanoola township. It is a farming district with stock and cropping and a couple egg producers.

All students at this school come from an English speaking background.

Tourism is a drawcard for Tantanoola and comprises the 'Tant Tiger Hotel', windfarm scenic drives and the Tantanoola caves. The town has a vibrant netball and football club. Local businesses include Holla-Fresh, Kimberly Clark Australia- Millicent Mill and Blue Lake Dairy. The area includes agricultural activities extensive livestock grazing, cropping, dairying, transport operators, and a post office.

Feeder schools

Tantanoola Primary School feeds students to Millicent High School.

Other local care and educational facilities

The closest facilities are 14 kilometres away in Millicent or 35 kilometres to Mount Gambier. There is access to all medical, social, sporting, cultural, recreational facilities on a smaller but equal scale to the city. Mount Gambier has UniSA campus and a TAFE centre.

Childcare Centres are available in both Mount Gambier and Millicent. There is an Out of School Hours Care facility in Millicent.

Other local facilities

Tantanoola has a football club, hotel and Institute for recreational purposes as well as tennis and netball courts and football and cricket oval.

Availability of staff housing

The nearest staff housing is in Millicent or Mount Gambier but there are some private rental properties available in Tantanoola.

Local Government body

Tantanoola is in Corcoran Ward of the Wattle Range Council.

12. Further Comments

Tantanoola is a small country town in a rural setting in an attractive part of South Australia. Close proximity to Mount Gambier and Millicent makes it an attractive place to live and work. The school celebrated its 125th birthday in 2008 and the community is proud of their local history. The staff, student and parents are a close knit community who work well together to promote excellence in teaching and learning.

Updated September 2018