



Updated: 02/15

# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

**School Name:** Balaklava Primary School

**School Number:** 0477

## 1. General Information

### Part A

School name	: BALAKLAVA PRIMARY SCHOOL	Courier	: Balaklava
School No.	: 0477		
Principal	: Tricia Joseph		
Postal Address	: PO Box 108, Balaklava 5461		
Location Address	: 29 Wallace Street, Balaklava 5461		
District	: Wakefield		
Distance from GPO	: 92 kms	Phone No.	: 08 88621660
CPC attached	: NO	Fax No.	: 08 88621009

	2012	2013	2104	2015
February FTE Enrolment				
Primary				
Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.				
Reception	31.0	18.0	30	35
Year 1	24.0	34.0	24	34
Year 2	26.0	24.0	37	31
Year 3	40.0	25.0	28	38
Year 4	21.0	23.0	30	29
Year 5	30.0	36.0	29	31
Year 6	30.0	19.0	40	35
Year 7	27.0	29.0	20	39
Secondary				
Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.				
Year 8				
Year 9				
Year 10				
Year 11				
Year 12				
Year 12 plus				
TOTAL	229	208	238	262
July total FTE Enrolment	251	223	239	
Male FTE	123	109	119	
Female FTE	128	114	120	
School Card Approvals (Persons)	60	70	78	
NESB Total (Persons)	2.0	9.0	17	
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	2.0	3.0	7	

Note: Placement points for Complexity and (Base plus Isolation) can be obtained from the document 'Placement Points History' in the 'schools/placement' section of the 'Legal and Policy Framework Library' available on the departmental web-site.

## Part B

- Principal  
: Tricia Joseph
- Deputy Principal  
: Keven Dooley
- Counsellor  
: Cherie Cleary
- Staff numbers

### Teachers

11.4 FTE

Females: 9 full time, 4 part time.

Males: 1 full time, 1 part time

### SSO and GSE

Female	– 2 Full time	37.5 hrs/wk
	– 1 Part time	25 hrs/wk
Male	– 1 Part time (ICT)	12 hrs/wk
Male	– 1 Part time	15 hrs/wk
Male	– 1 Part time (Grounds)	12 hrs/wk

Total = 115.5 hrs/wk

### Additional SSO - Special Education, Behaviour Management, ESL & Literacy

Male 1

Female 6

Total = 92.0 hrs/wk

- Balaklava Primary is a locally managed school. We have 10 classes operating and a 3 morning per week small Intensive Intervention class for students with special needs.
- Enrolment trends  
Numbers have been increasing since 2013.  
Transience continues to increase with 37 new enrolments and 29 students leaving the school in 2014.
- Special arrangements  
Current initiatives with Balaklava High School include a shared canteen, buses and use of bore water. Curriculum continuity discussions with the Balaklava Community Children's Centre are on-going.
- Public transport access  
The principal of the primary school manages 10 DECS buses. The buses provide transport for over 600 students to the pre-school, primary, non-government and high school sites daily.  
DECD bus routes and travel arrangements are reviewed bi annually. The routes were reviewed in 2014.
- Year of Opening  
: 1877- In 2015 Balaklava Primary celebrates its 139<sup>th</sup> year of delivering education.

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics

Students are from a mixed farm, coastal and town background. A number of families have moved from interstate and suburban areas to enjoy country living and affordable housing.

Currently 30.5% of the school population qualifies for School Card.

- Support offered

Pastoral Care Worker (PCW), David Woodroffe has been appointed for this year. He currently works in the school 15 hours per week.

School Counsellor 0.4 position.

- Student management

Student Behaviour Management Policy is under constant review, and includes use of the Positive Behaviour for Learning framework with a strong emphasis on responsive, pro-active strategies which involve partnerships with families.

- Student Voice

Student Representative Council (SRC) is established Yr R-7. We also have School Captains, House Captains and Music Captains in the upper primary.

- Special programmes

Additional special needs programmes include, QuickSmart, Mini Lit, Multi Lit, Intensive Intervention class, Behaviour and Co-ordination programmes. SSO's currently provide additional support for students at risk in Literacy Block.

## 3. Key School Policies

BPS aims to provide quality-teaching programmes for all students to maximise learning outcomes.

- Our school motto was adopted late in 2006 and incorporated in a banner:



2008 saw the Values embedded into the school: **Fair Treatment; Cooperation; Success; Mutual Respect; Tolerance; Responsibility & Honesty.**

Our Whole School Expectations have been drawn from our values. They are:

**Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible.**

## **SITE IMPROVEMENT PLAN PRIORITIES**

- 1. Improving Literacy and numeracy outcomes for all students with a focus on comprehension.**
- 2. Curriculum and Pedagogy with a focus on Australian Curriculum and TfEL (Teaching for Effective Learning)**
- 3. Student Engagement with a focus on Positive Behaviour for Learning, improving student attendance and child protection.**

## **4. Curriculum**

We aim to provide a broad and balanced learning experience for all students as outlined in the Australian National Curriculum which is being implemented over a number of years. This year we are focusing on the introduction of Australian Curriculum Arts

All learning areas are provided for with the additional provision of a specialist music curriculum R-7.

Special curriculum features include:

Indonesian LOTE provided R-5; with older classes accessing a cultural studies program.

Class based music provided R-7 – one lesson per week.

There is significant student involvement in Instrumental Music

School choir performs annually at the Primary Schools Music Festival and at local events eg Balaklava Eisteddfod. We also have a School Band, Instrumental and Vocal Ensemble.

We are an Active Eat Well site and students are engaged in fitness and sport including SAPSASA and local schools activities.

- Teaching
  - Our pedagogy is based on Teaching for Effective Learning Framework (TfEL)
  - ICTs are embedded across the curriculum.
- Assessment procedures and reporting
  - Interviews Term 1 and Term 3; written reports Terms 2 & 4.
- Joint programmes
  - Ongoing Transition programmes with Balaklava Community Children's Centre & Balaklava High School.

## **5. Sporting Activities**

The school is active in SAPSASA & local competitions covering netball, football, softball, cricket, golf, soccer, tennis, swimming (close proximity to community pool) athletics and basketball.

## **6. Other Co-Curricular Activities**

- General

Religious Education Seminars held each term.

Year 7 Graduation and whole school End of Year Concert or Carols by Candlelight

Swimming Carnival & Sports day held annually.

## **7. Staff (and their welfare)**

- Staff profile

Stable for the foreseeable future.

- Leadership structure

Principal, Deputy and School Counsellor form the collaborative Leadership Team.

- Staff support systems

Teaching staff- Performance Development reviews with the Principal or Deputy Principal are conducted each term.

SSO reviews occur twice a year with the Principal and Deputy Principal.

- Access to specialised staff through the Gawler Regional Office offers support in the following areas

Student Behaviour Management, Speech, Hearing, Guidance, Special Education, Curriculum, Early Years, School Improvement, Attendance, Finance, Transition and Aboriginal Education.

## **8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff**

- Complexity placement points

: N/A

- Isolation placement points

: Nil

- Travelling time

: From Gawler – 40 mins; from Adelaide – an hour from the northern suburbs.

- Housing assistance

: Some government housing – managed by local real estate agent.

- Cooling for school buildings

: Refer to School Facilities section below.

- Cash in lieu of removal allowance

: N/A

- Additional increment allowance

: Nil

- Designated schools benefits

: Nil

- Aboriginal/Anangu school  
: Nil
- Medical and dental treatment expenses  
: Available if claimed.
- Locality allowances  
: Nil
- Relocation assistance  
: Standard Department Removal Allowance.
- Principal's telephone costs  
: access to a school mobile- pay for personal calls

## 9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds  
Brick Open Space Unit for two classes which also houses a new Resource Centre which was established in 2014, stone JP building for two classes, stone Admin building, BER quad classroom block opened in 2011 as part of the BER programme, hardboard double and single classrooms, A Music Room and Atco building for pre-loved uniforms and Instrumental Instruction.
- Cooling  
: Split Level Air-conditioning to all learning spaces.
- Specialist facilities  
: Resource Centre, Music suite and Indonesian room.
- Student facilities  
: Daily access to joint canteen on the high school site.  
: JP Playground & UP Playground  
: Large covered outdoor learning area – BER funded  
: Cricket pitch, basketball, netball and 4 square courts  
: Extensive well maintained oval  
: Sensory garden
- Staff facilities  
: Staffroom  
: Small meeting room  
: Photocopying and preparation room with teacher and SSO work station.  
: Staff work stations in Open Space Unit and BER building
- Access for students and staff with disabilities  
: All main buildings have ramps  
: Open Space Unit Well is currently inaccessible  
: Toilets with facilities

- Access to bus transport
  - : School buses use a road within school grounds for drop off and collection of students each morning and afternoon

## 10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
  - : Leadership, PAC, Administration, Staff meetings, Student Representative Council (SRC) and Governing Council, including Parent Coordinating Committee
- Regular publications
  - : Newsletter fortnightly
- Other communication
  - : Daybook
  - : Weekly staff notes
  - : Website: [www.balagr7.sa.edu.au](http://www.balagr7.sa.edu.au)
  - : Facebook
- School financial position
  - : Resource Entitlement of around \$2,200,000 per year
  - : Staff managed classroom and curriculum budgets
  - : Reserves to fund on-going curriculum initiatives such as ICT and facilities

## 11. Local Community

- General characteristics
  - : Local shops service town, local and farm community of approximately 3000 people. Primary production area with supporting businesses. Wide range of active volunteer organisations and Christian churches.
- Parent and community involvement
  - : Governing Council, Parent Coordinating Committee. Each class has 2 parent representatives to support class/school activities.
- Feeder schools
  - : Balaklava Community Children's Centre. (BCCC)
- Other local care and educational facilities- After School Hours and Child Care based at BCCC with a local pick up on our site
- : Balaklava High School, Horizon Christian School. Primary schools are located at Owen and Pt Wakefield, with a preschool also at Pt Wakefield.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  - : A supermarket, banks, post office, chemist, newsagent, two hotels, and a variety of shops including electrical, hardware, hairdressing and fruit & veg.
  - : Two hay processing plants, abattoirs, numerous pig & poultry farms, Viterra grain handling

- Other local facilities

: Hospital, helipad, medical centre, four doctors, visiting specialist services, St John/SAAS Ambulance station, dentist, aged care facilities. Local newspaper, town oval and Sports Club, Lions Club, CFS, Red Cross, art gallery, Community Arts Organisation, Economic Development Board, Racing Club and Swimming pool and RSL. Sports Clubs including golf, gliding, football, netball, basketball, tennis, hockey, table tennis, bowls, croquet, rifle and pistol clubs. Leisure clubs including gardening and photography. Caravan park and cabins plus others.

- Availability of staff housing

: Limited to a few houses. Private rental accommodation is generally available. Currently 2 new housing developments have opened

- Local Government body

: Wakefield Regional Council has its Head Office at Balaklava.

## **12. Further Comments**

: Balaklava is close enough to Adelaide for commuters, being an hour from Gepps Cross. It is also 50 minutes from the Clare Valley, Barossa Valley & the Yorke Peninsula

: A bus service to Adelaide operates daily

: Wakefield Regional Council has an active Economic Development Board encouraging development in the area

: School promotion, publicity and learning performance is a focus. We regularly advertise and provide education features in the local newspaper.

: We have approximately 3.34 hectares with the Balaklava High School sharing one boundary fence, the Balaklava Community Children's Centre several blocks away and the Horizon Christian School across the road

: We welcome parent and community involvement and actively support local initiatives such as tree planting, Adelaide Plains Cup Festival, Balaklava Agricultural Show, Balaklava Eisteddfod and other opportunities as they arise

: Staff form a collaborative, cohesive group who work well with an interested Governing Council and Parent Coordinating Committee