



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated:

School number: 0477

School name: Balaklava Primary School

School Profile:



Balaklava Primary School is a proud public school with a long history of serving the Balaklava township and surrounding areas. We manage a fleet of 11 buses and students come from areas as far afield as Lochiel and Port Parham. Our school is set in beautiful, well-kept grounds, shares a boundary with Balaklava High School and is within a short walking distance of the Balaklava Community Children's Centre and Out of School Hours Care (OSHC).

Balaklava Primary has a strong focus on developing the whole child. In addition to strong literacy and numeracy programs we offer specialist lessons in digital technologies, French, Science and Arts.

Mutual Respect; Tolerance; Success; Fair Treatment; Cooperation; Responsibility and Honesty are reflected in all areas of our school community and our motto Believe, Participate, Succeed encapsulates our attitude to learning and life.

1. General information

- School Principal name: Dianna Jarman
- Deputy Principal's name: Michelle Pudney
- Year of opening: 1877
- Postal Address: PO Box 108, Balaklava 5461
- Location Address: 29 Wallace Street, Balaklava 5461
- DECD Region: Lower Mid North
- Geographical location: 92km from GPO
- Telephone number: 08 8862 1660
- Fax Number: 08 8862 1009
- School website address: <http://www.balacr7.sa.edu.au/>
- School e-mail address: dl.0477.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: No
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: No
- February FTE student enrolment:

SCHOOL DEMOGRAPHICS

Index of Educational Disadvantage: 4

CALENDAR YEAR	INDEX OF COMMUNITY SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE (ICSEA)	Enrolments	Percentage Aboriginal	Percentage SWD	Percentage NESB
2022	NA	269	0.00%	8.92%	3.72%
2021	NA	305	6.23%	6.56%	1.64%
2020	NA	281	5.69%	9.96%	1.42%
2019	NA	270	4.44%	11.85%	0.37%
2018	945.00	261	4.60%	12.26%	0.00%

- Student enrolment trends:

Students by Year Level

	<u>Reception</u>	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>	<u>Year 7</u>	<u>Primary Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>2019</u>	36	28	49	35	28	32	31	31		270
<u>2020</u>	25	40	32	49	41	28	34	32		281
<u>2021</u>	35	31	39	33	50	45	28	39	5	305
<u>2022</u>	25	39	27	36	32	55	49		8	271

- Staffing numbers (as at February census):

Teaching Staff Full-Time Equivalents:

Indigenous 0

Non-Indigenous: 16.4

Persons: 17

Non-Teaching staff:

Indigenous 0

Non-Indigenous: 11.2

Persons: 18

Public transport access:

The principal of the primary school manages 11 buses. All Buses have been subcontracted. The buses provide transport for over 600 students to the pre-school, primary, non-government and high school sites daily.

Special site arrangements:

We share the use of the High School's canteen (lunch orders) and their gym, for sporting activities such as implementing Sporting Schools grants. Balakava Community Childrens Centre run the Out of School Hours Care program. Students are transported via bus to and from OSHC.

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.

Our purpose is to engage every learner so that they achieve at the highest possible level of their learning and wellbeing.

Our School Values are: Believe, Participate, Succeed

Our Expectations are that students: Be Safe, Be Kind and Be Your Best

- **Student well-being programs**

Interoception

We are currently trialing the program Open Parachute

- **Student support offered**

Student Wellbeing Officer onsite full time

A Positive Behaviour for learning approach is expected

- **Student management**

We have site wide Engagement and Expectation policy.

Positive Education strategies are used.

An Interoception space “the Engine Room” is available for students.

Student Engagement and Wellbeing plans are put in place for students who require extra support.

The School works closely with Kerrie Sellen – Restorative Journeys on restorative practices within the school.

- **Student government**

Student Representative Council for R-6.

Student leaders group include: School Captains as well as House Captains and Music Captains

- **Special programmes**
 - Literacy Guarantee Unit Intervention Program for Phonological Knowledge
 - Big Ideas in Number Intervention
 - Reading Doctor
 - Clicker 8

3. Key School Policies

- Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:

Goal	Targets	Challenge of Practice
Goal 1: Accelerate improvement in reading so that all students are stretched	<p>Target 2022:</p> <p>Year 3 NAPLAN: 33/39 (85%) will reach SEA 10/39 (26%) will be in HB</p> <p>Year 5 NAPLAN 40/52 (44%) will reach SEA 22/52 (42%) will be in HB</p> <p>PAT R Year 2 - 20/30 (66%) will reach SEA Year 3 - 33/39 (85%) will reach SEA Year 4 - 24/28 (86%) will reach SEA Year 5 - 45/52 (86%) will reach SEA Year 6 - 29/44 (66%) will reach SEA</p> <p>Phonics Screening Check 15/24 (62%) will reach benchmark</p>	<p>Challenge of Practice:</p> <p>If we explicitly teach evidence-based reading processes and procedures, to help with the integration of the Big 6 and systematic synthetic phonics, then we will accelerate improvement in reading.</p>

4. Curriculum

- **Subject offerings:**

We aim to provide a broad and balanced learning experience for all students as outlined in the Australian Curriculum developed and revised by ACARA. Subject include: English, Mathematics, Science, Health & Physical Education (H&PE), The Arts, Technologies, History and Social Sciences (HASS), French (LOTE)
Specialist subjects are Arts, Digital Technologies, Science and French.

- **Open Access/Distance Education provision:**

Upon parent request information is provided regarding Open Access

- **Special needs:**

Students with Special Needs are catered for within the classroom setting by class teachers and dedicated SSOs

We run a Disability Unit for our local catchment area. Enrolment offers are managed through Support Services, Gawler Education Office.

- **Special curriculum features:**

Instrumental music is available for students. The school choir performs at the Primary Schools Music Festival and the local events eg Balaklava Eisteddfod. We also have a School Band, Instrumental and vocal Ensemble.

- **Teaching methodology:**

Sharing of pedagogic practices occurs between teachers. There is an ongoing expectation of pedagogic adjustments to meet student needs and ensure all students can achieve their optimum level of learning. We use the Department for Education Best Advice and Literacy and Numeracy Guide Books for School Improvement. The Guide books provide evidence-based literacy and numeracy practices to improve student growth and achievement. They give specific ideas and actions for leaders and teachers to improve practice in the classroom and support children at all levels.

Our Early Years staff work closely with the DfE Literacy Guarantee Unit to develop our phonics teaching sequence. We have adopted the departments Reception to year 2 phonics and spelling scope and sequence. Teachers use a systematic synthetic approach providing students multiple opportunities to review and practice their phonics learning.

All staff teach Big Ideas in Number as part of their daily Numeracy lessons.

- **Student assessment procedures and reporting**

Written reports at the end of Terms 2 and 4.

Interviews to take place at the end of term 1 for all students, at the end of term 3 as requested, and at other times through negotiation.

Open communication between parents and teachers is encouraged.

*In the case of Covid where interviews were cancelled, we sent out a Snapshot of student learning.

- **Joint programmes**

As part of the Lower Mid North Partnership, leaders meet at least twice a term

Schools within the Lower Mid North partnership are involved in joint professional development activities, pupil free days and PLCs throughout the year.

Balaklava Primary work closely with Balaklava Community Children's Centre and Balaklava High School for transition programs

Balaklava Primary School are involved in community events such as the Balaklava Eisteddfod, Local Christmas Parade, Remembrance and Anzac Day ceremonies, Choir events etc

5. Sporting Activities

Swimming lessons are conducted during term time at the Balaklava Swimming Pool – R-5 in Term 1. Year 6 students attend an aquatic camp.

We run an annual School Swimming Carnival

Participation in SAPSASA is encouraged for a range of sports such as: netball, football, softball, cricket, golf, soccer, tennis, basketball, hockey.

The school undertakes a variety of Sporting School Coaching clinics. Recent offerings have included: orienteering, gymnastics, basketball, tennis, hockey, touch football.

School Sports Day is usually held in term 1 or term 3 with student being selected from this to participate in the interschool sports day. Students may get the opportunity to then compete in Adelaide.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

Religious Education seminars are held by local church groups at least twice a year. •

Year 6 Graduation

Whole school end of Year concert, Book Week and Harmony Day parades. NAIDOC week celebrations, Walk to School and Ride to School initiatives.

Camps are held annually for students in Year 4-6.

Visiting performances add value to our educational programs. A performance levy is part of the school fees. We have at minimum 4 performances per year.

A Dance program run by an external agency (such as Footsteps or Dancify) biannually.

BPS is a Way to Go School and thus we undertake Bike Ed – Year 5/6 every two years.

- **Staff (and their welfare)**

- **Staff profile**

We have a mix of Early Career and experienced teachers and support staff.

- **Leadership structure**

Principal, Deputy, School Well Being Coordinator and Coordinator in Learning Improvement

- **Staff support systems**

Regular Training and Development opportunities both insite and externally. Staff actively seek professional dialogue, advice and support from each other.

Opportunities for PD at a local, partnership and state level are encouraged.

- **Performance development**

Performance Development is valued at the school and includes observations, reflective meetings, and professional learning communities. Staff are supported and encouraged to attend training relevant to the school's improvement journey and staff professional learning needs.

- **Staff utilisation policies**

All classes have access to 10 lessons of Student Support time per week to support Literacy / Numeracy programs.

Students with Additional funding have SSO time above the 10 lessons of classroom support.

- **Access to special staff**

DfE services – speech pathology, psychology, social work, behaviour management, interoception, hearing impairment, and special education – are accessed as required.

An Instrumental Music Service is offered once per week as well as Private Music lessons.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Complexity placement points
:Nil
- Isolation placement points
:Nil
- Shorter terms
:N/A
- Travelling time
From Gawler 40 mins; from Adelaide – an hour from the northern suburbs
- Housing assistance
:Nil
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance
:Nil
- Additional increment allowance
:Nil
- Designated schools benefits
:Nil
- Aboriginal/Anangu schools
:N/A
- Medical and dental treatment expenses
:Nil
- Locality allowances
:Nil
- Relocation assistance
:Nil
- Principal's telephone costs
:Access to a Mobile Phone

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.

The grounds are very well presented with gardens being a special feature

Onsite fully fenced Disability Unit

Fenced Junior Primary Playground

Balaklava Primary School runs on a Gallagher (digitl key) system

- **Heating and cooling**

All school buildings are fitted with air conditioning systems.

- **Specialist facilities and equipment**

Resource Centre, Music suite, Science room and LOTE room

SACA approved Cricket Pitch

- **Student facilities**

Daily access to joint canteen on the high school site.

Sheltered JP Playground & Multiple Primary Playgrounds

A mixture of traditional play and nature play areas

Large covered outdoor learning area – BER funded

Cricket pitch, basketball, netball and 4 square courts

Extensive well maintained oval

Sensory garden

Rebound Wall

Significant art work throughout the school, including in student toilets

All classrooms have access to an Interactive Panel / Screen

We are working towards 1 device per student in each classroom.

The town swimming pool, town oval, and high school gym are available for occasional use.

Balaklava High School houses our joint Schools Canteen

- **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

Staff Resources located in the Library

Teaching staff are provided with a laptop and ipad

Access for students and staff with disabilities

All main buildings have ramps or access

2x 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.

11 buses are managed by Balaklava Primary School. These buses pick students up from areas such as: Halbury, Hoyleton, Bowmans, Nantawarra, Lochiel, Avon, Wild Hore Plains, Dublin, Thompson's Beach, Port Parham, Mallala Redbanks, Mallala, Owen etc. A bus policy exists with the Partnership.

Bus transport is available to and from the BCCC OSHC service.

A bus company is able to offer affordable transport for excursions and camps, and is our preferred supplier. Other bus companies are also available to provide quotes and transport.

10. School Operations

- **Decision making structures**

Leadership, PAC, Administration, Staff meetings, Student Representative Council (SRC) and Governing Council, including Parent Coordinating Committee, Finance Committee, Grounds Committee, Bus Committee, Canteen Committee.

All committees make decisions using a consensus approach.

Formal decision making bodies are: Staff Meetings, Governing Council, Finance Advisory Committee and the Personnel Advisor Committee.

School Captains meet regularly and have a genuine role in supporting and informing school improvement.

- **Regular publications**

The school has an active Facebook page where news items and information are posted on a regular basis.

The school newsletter is published fortnightly and includes community news. This can be accessed via Skoolbag or sent home electronically.

A staff handbook is available to all staff and is updated annually.

The School has a website

[Balaklava Primary School - Department for Education and Child Development \(balakr7.sa.edu.au\)](http://Balaklava Primary School - Department for Education and Child Development (balakr7.sa.edu.au))

All families are asked to sign up to our Administration App: Skoolbag

Teaching staff use SeeSaw to communicate with families

QKR is our payment and canteen app.

The School has an Electronic Sign which advertises current events

- **Other communication**

Staff communication is via an electronic day book in One Note

Text messages

Emails

Microsoft Teams

Whole school community assemblies to showcase students' work are held fortnightly (even weeks).

Short assemblies take place in odd weeks to ensure a positive whole school culture facilitating wellbeing for learning.

- **School financial position**
The school is in a sound financial position with a Resource Entitlement of around \$3,000,000 per year
Staff managed classroom and curriculum budgets
- **Special funding**
The school receives Rural and Isolated Index Funding.

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
Sub Committees such as Grounds also require parent involvement
Working Bees are held on a needs basis
Covid Restrictions allowing, we invite parents and community in to the school to assist with breakfast club and listening to reading
- **Feeder or destination schools**
Balaklava Community Children's Centre offer a Kindergarten program
Balaklava High School
- **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, post office, chemist, newsagent, two hotels, a variety of shops including electrical, hardware, hairdressing and fruit & veg.
Two hay processing plants, abattoirs, numerous pig & poultry farms, grain handling

- **Other local facilities**

Hospital, helipad, medical centre, 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

Private rental accommodation is generally available, although at the moment, the rental market is in high demand. There is no government housing in Balaklava.

- **Accessibility**

Road access to Adelaide(1.5 hr to GPO) and public transport to Adelaide via regional bus service.

- **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

School promotion, publicity and learning performance is a focus.

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, 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