

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 04/05

School Name: Victor Harbor Primary School

School Number: 0453

1. General Information

Part A

Schoolname : VICTOR HARBOR PRIMARY SCHOOL
 School No. : 0453 Courier : R34/5
 Principal : Mr Brenton Robins
 Postal Address : The Parkway, Victor Harbor 5211
 Location Address : The Parkway, Victor Harbor 5211
 District : Fleurieu
 Distance from GPO : 85 kms Phone No. : 08 85521166
 CPC attached : NO Fax No. : 08 85525068

		2000	2001	2002	2003
February FTE Enrolment					
Primary	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.	6.0	11.0	13.0	4.0
	Reception				
	Year 1				
	Year 2				
	Year 3	100.0	76.0	78.0	82.0
	Year 4	95.0	90.0	79.0	78.0
	Year 5	103.0	103.0	92.0	87.0
	Year 6	113.0	105.0	107.0	88.0
	Year 7	107.0	100.0	104.0	104.0
Secondary	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.				
	Year 8				
	Year 9				
	Year 10				
	Year 11				
	Year 12				
	Year 12 plus				
TOTAL		524.0	485.0	473.0	443.0
July total FTE Enrolment			514.0	494.0	471.0
	Male FTE	292.0	283.0	264.0	
	Female FTE	222.0	211.0	207.0	
School Card Approvals (Persons)			228	165	140
NESB Total (Persons)		13	12	9	
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment		12.0	11.0	10.0	

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 CD-ROM or web-site.

Part B

N.B.: The school operates as one site [R-7] :

- Deputy Principal
:There are two deputy principals [Mark Sparvell – primary; Jane Parken – J.P.] who work across the school R-7. One deputy principal focuses on Early Years and one focuses on Primary Years [Yrs 3-5].
- Staffing numbers
:Tier 1 – 34.4, 3.0 Coordinators, 1.6 Library, 16 SSO's and 1GSE [groundsman].
- OSHC
:An Out of School Hours Care Program is run by the School Council and is located in the Activity Room and wet area of Home Base Unit 1.
- Enrolment trends
:The south coast has one of the highest growth rates of population in South Australia. Two non-government R-7 schools also operate in the town. This has had an impact on enrolments since 2003.
- Special arrangements
:Two schools were formed on the current site in 1992. There was strong community support for the school to continue to operate as an R-7 school. Specialist expertise is provided by the levels of schooling leadership structure. Both principals have been appointed for five-year tenures which will conclude in 2010 & 2011.
- Year of opening
:The school moved from its previous site [Woolworth's car park] to the current site in 1986.
- Public transport access
:Students living in outlying areas are transported to and from school each day free of charge on DETE buses. This service is available to students who live more than 4.8km from the school. A community bus service also operates within the town and serves our school.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics
:Victor Harbor R-7 School currently has a student population of approximately 650 in total including October enrolments. The population is predominantly Anglo-Australian. The School Card population makes up about 40% of the total school population. There are small percentages of Aboriginal students and NESB students. The school has a district Special Education Unit.
- (Pastoral) Care programs:
The school has a Chaplain. Christian option seminars are provided throughout the year.

- Student management:
:The school's Student Behaviour Management Policy is based on a rights and responsibilities model and is currently under review in line with the National safe schools Framework. There are common expectations for classroom behaviour and yard behaviour based on our school's values: Respect, Safety, Honesty, Responsibility & Trust. Procedures are monitored through a regular data collection process. Parent involvement in the issue of student welfare is encouraged by the classroom teacher with the support of senior staff.
- Student government
:The Student Representative Council is co-ordinated by the School Counsellor. The executive of each of these groups meet prior to fortnightly meetings to plan the agenda of each meeting and to communicate about events or issues. There are several sub-committees co-ordinated by staff members. The SRC is involved to a high degree in school decision making and run regular student discos, activities days, etc. The SRC is also involved in a training day at the beginning of each year.

3. Key School Policies

- Vision/Mission Statement
:Our vision is for a dynamic forward thinking school continuing to develop children's skills in numeracy, literacy, information technology and social skills. At Victor Harbor R-7 School we pursue and promote success for all learners within our unique learning environment.
We deliver a curriculum, which is consistent with SACSA.
We encourage students to achieve their potential.
We actively promote self-esteem.
We present quality learning experiences.
We value our community.
- Site Learning Plan Priorities: [Whole School]
Objectives:
Literacy:
To improve literacy levels for all students
Numeracy:
To improve learning outcomes for all students in the area of numeracy
Wellbeing:
To improve the holistic wellbeing of all students
Marine Studies [Middle Schooling only in 2005]
To introduce Marine Studies/Environmental Education as an integrated unit for middle schooling students

Other programs:

Literacy Intervention:

Students at risk have improved skills & attributes.

Tutors are identified and trained.

Whole school approach to collecting data on literacy achievement.

Resources are reviewed and the resource base is improved.

There is an active Student Review Team.

Whole school screening provides information to inform support programs

4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings

:The school provides a high standard R-7 curriculum. There are specialist teachers in LOTE- Indonesian R-7, Music R-7, and Communication & Information Technology R-7 & PE [Yrs 3-5]. Resource based learning is provided by Teacher Librarians. The aquatics program operates throughout the year and R-5 students access the swimming program while the year 6/7's, swimming and aquatics.

- Special needs

:We have a Special Education facility, which caters for severe and multiply disabled students from across the cluster. Where possible, our school has adopted an integration policy for students with disabilities. A range of other programs is provided for students at risk. These include:

Physical Coordination program for 5 and 6 year olds.

Literacy Intervention R-7.

Speech and Hearing programs.

LAP (self esteem) program R-7.

Resourcing for these programs is dependent upon levels of staffing and varies from year to year. A Student Review Team has been established to coordinate referrals from class teachers.

- Special curriculum features

:A visiting authors program operates annually through the Resource Centre.

A 'Students at Risk' program aimed at improving students' physical activity is being trialled in 2005

An Aboriginal exchange program incorporating camps operates annually.

- Teaching methodology

:Teaming is encouraged. Staff meet regularly in Early Years, Primary & Middle Schooling teams.

- Assessment procedures and reporting

:Teachers use a range of assessment practices which include observation, annotated work samples, conferences and testing. Other formal reporting

processes include acquaintance sessions, family conferences and summative report. The reporting proforma is currently under review.

- Joint programmes
:Music workshops are held across the cluster. The aquatics program is on site and accessed by schools across the state.

5. Sporting Activities

:Sport is a very significant part of the curriculum and many students are involved with local sporting clubs for netball, basketball and football. SAPSASA is organised in most sports and students are encouraged to participate.

The school has a successful surfing team and program.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- General
:A choir coordinated by staff operates at various times throughout the year. Recorder and percussion groups practice and perform at school events. Sectional assemblies are held regularly and whole school assemblies are held in the last week of term.
- Special
:Opportunities for students to attend camps are provided – in particular Year 6 & 7.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile
:There are two principals (male and female) and two deputy principals (male and female) and three coordinators: Literacy, Numeracy and Special Education. There are 9 Junior Primary classes and 13 primary classes. There is a number of part time staff – the majority at 0.8. There are two teacher librarians (1.6), three LOTE teachers (1.4), Music (0.8), Information Technology, Special Ed , School Service Officers and a groundsman. The canteen has two managers and an instructor in charge of the aquatics team. The school has one chaplain.
- Leadership structure
:The senior staff team of two principals and two deputies work across the school R-7. The leadership team comprises principals, deputy principals, school counsellor and coordinators.
- Staff support systems
:Staff training programs are coordinated by the Senior Staff. The school has one AEU branch, PAC and School Council. A Site Learning Plan [2005-7] has been developed. Staff are responsible for budget lines and each teacher manages their own class budget. A Parent Network liaises

with both staff and the school community. Volunteers work throughout the school and are co-ordinated by a SSO.

- Staff utilisation policies
:N/A
- Access to special staff
:Instrumental music teachers visit the school weekly, along with regular visits from Guidance Officers, Speech Pathologists, Behaviour Support Unit staff, Peripatetic staff from Centre for Hearing Impaired, Down Syndrome and Autism Associations.
- Other
:SSOs meet weekly and are investigating cluster support structures.
Principals & Deputy Principals meet regularly in cluster groups.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Complexity placement points
:N/A
- Isolation placement points
:N/A
- Shorter terms
:N/A
- Travelling time
:N/A
- Housing assistance
:N/A
- Cooling for school buildings
:Refer to School Facilities section below.
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance
:N/A
- Additional increment allowance
:N/A
- Designated schools benefits
:N/A
- Aboriginal/Anangu schools
:N/A
- Medical and dental treatment expenses
:N/A

- Locality allowances
:N/A
- Relocation assistance
:N/A
- Principal's telephone costs
:N/A

9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
:Victor Harbor School is a relatively new school on this site, having been relocated to the Parkway site 15 years ago. Buildings are made up of a mixture of permanent structures, demac buildings and relocatable buildings. The school facilities include:
Gymnasium
Swimming Pool – heated and enclosed
Art Rooms
Science & Technology room
Specialist Music Suite
Activity room
Five withdrawal rooms
Special Education facility (Regional)
Aquatics facility (Statewide program)
Canteen
Resource Centre
Two Computer Suites
Two LOTE Specialist areas (Indonesian).
Home Base Units have areas that can be opened up to join classrooms, or are linked by covered open air structures.
Information Technology has been an important development. The school has been cabled with fibre optic cable linking all areas of the school to a file server located in the Resource Centre. Two computer suites have been established and are being used as teaching areas. Classrooms have links to the network.
The grounds are extensive with:
large grassed play areas
hard play areas
grassed courtyard area with adventure playground
exersite.

A Grounds and Facilities committee made up of school council members, staff, students and parents, provides advice regarding facilities and grounds development.

- Cooling
:Air-conditioning is provided throughout the school.
- Specialist facilities
:The school has a multi purpose gymnasium used by the school community and a heated and enclosed swimming pool. There are 90 curriculum computers, scanner, two visual display units, digital camera and 14 administration computers.
- Student facilities
:The Canteen is managed by a sub-committee of School Council, is open daily and provides a healthy menu of snacks and meals for students and staff. The school has extensive sporting fields and access to specialist athletics equipment.
- Staff facilities
:A new admin. building was completed in 2004.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities
:Ramps are located on site & toilets have been modified.
- Access to bus transport
:An 8 seater, a 12-seater & a 22-seater vehicle are available
- Other
:N/A

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
:The school has a decision making policy based on participation & consultation with majority and consensus decisions
- Regular publications
:Information is communicated via the Day Book which is photocopied and distributed to each staff member daily, a weekly bulletin is published on Mondays, a newsletter once per fortnight, staff handbook and TRT information. All new staff are taken through an induction program.
- Other communication
:School diaries/communication books are used for student communication between home and school. The local paper reports significant school events. A staff whiteboard situated in the staff room is used for mapping school events.
- School financial position
:The school utilises a global budget based on Resource Entitlement Statements.

- Special funding
:The school receives Commonwealth Literacy program grants for Junior Primary & Primary and significant disabilities funding.

11. Local Community

- General characteristics
:Victor Harbor is a seaside regional centre of approximately 12,000 that is well known throughout the state and country for its scenic surrounding areas. Whilst it has had a reputation as a retirement centre, recent growth in the school indicates that the population demographics are rapidly changing. The rural industry and tourism are the main local industries, although there are a wide range of cottage industries that manufacture furniture for larger stores. The school forms part of a cluster and has close ties with the following schools:
Yankalilla Area School
Mt Compass Area School
Pt Elliot Primary School
Goolwa Primary School
Rapid Bay Primary School
Victor Harbor High School.
The town has a high school of approximately 700 students and most students move from the R-7 School to this school at the end of year seven. Most of our students attend Victor Harbor Kindergarten prior to their enrolment at school. (A small number each year come from Pt Elliot Kindergarten.)
- Parent and community involvement
:There is a high level of parental involvement in the school through a variety of groups including school council, parent network, volunteer support in the library, canteen, LAP, sports and literacy intervention.
- Feeder schools
:N/A
- Other local care and educational facilities
:Victor Harbor Pre-School and Pt Elliot Child Care Centre
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
:N/A
- Other local facilities
:N/A
- Availability of staff housing
:N/A
- Local Government body
:N/A