SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT  Updated: May 2015
School Name: Victor Harbor R-7 School
School Number: 0453

1. General Information

Part A
Schoolname: VICTOR HARBOR R-7 SCHOOL
School No.: 0453 Courier: Fleurieu
Principal: Mr Brenton Robins
Postal Address: The Parkway, Victor Harbor 5211
Location Address: The Parkway, Victor Harbor 5211
Partnership: Fleurieu
Distance from GPO: 85 kms Phone No.: 08 85521166
CPC attached: NO Fax No.: 08 85525068
February FTE Enrolment
Primary Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.
Reception
Year 1
Year 2
Year 3
Year 4
Year 5
Year 6
Year 7
Secondary Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.
Year 8
Year 9
Year 10
Year 11
Year 12
Year 12 plus
TOTAL
July total FTE Enrolment
Male FTE
Female FTE
School Card Approvals (Persons)
NESB Total (Persons)
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment
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
- Leadership
  : Brenton Robins - Principal
  : Julie Kelly - Deputy Principal
There is an Australian Curriculum Co-ordinator: The Arts [tenured until end of 2015], 2 Numeracy Coaches, a Literacy Focus teacher and a Special Education Unit Co-ordinator [tenured until end of 2015].
- Staffing numbers
41 Teaching staff [including part-time], 1.0 Library, approx. 20 SSO’s and 1GSE [groundsman].

- OSHC
  - An Out of School Hours Care Program is run by the Governing Council and is located in the Activity Room and wet area of Home Base Unit 1. The service has an outreach program at Pt. Elliot P.S. and Goolwa P.S.

- Enrolment trends
  - Two non-government R-7 schools also operate in the town. Enrolments have been consistent with a slight increase from non-government transfers.

- Special arrangements
  - Two schools were formed on the current site in 1992. The schools underwent an amalgamation in 2013.

- Year of opening
  - Victor Harbor Primary School was opened in 1867. The school moved from its previous site [Woolworths] 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 DECD buses. 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 570 in total. The School Card population makes up about 40% of the total school population. The DECD Index of Disadvantage is 4. There are small percentages of Aboriginal students and NESB students. The school has a Disability Unit. An Aboriginal Community Education Officer supports students and families.

- (Pastoral) Care programs:
  - The school has two Christian Pastoral Support Workers.
  - The school focuses on a two-week “Laying the Foundations” values programme at the beginning of the year.

- Student management:
  - The school’s Student Behaviour Management practices are based on a rights and responsibilities model and reflects 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 Leadership:
  - The Student Representative Council is currently co-ordinated by teaching staff. The executive meets prior to fortnightly meetings to plan the agenda of each meeting and to communicate about events or issues. There are several working parties co-ordinated by staff members. The SRC is involved to a high degree in school decision making and actions.
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 offer a curriculum, which is consistent with the Australian Curriculum familiarisation and implementation timelines.
  We encourage students to achieve their potential.
  We actively promote self-esteem.
  We present quality learning experiences.
  We value our community.
  Victor Harbor R-7 School is an inaugural member of the South Australian Sustainable Schools network. Education for Sustainable Development is incorporated into all aspects of schooling.

- **School Improvement Plan Priorities: [Whole School]**
  **Teaching & Learning : Australian Curriculum – Familiarisation & Implementation**
  **Continuous Improvement in Literacy & Numeracy**
  **Wellbeing**
  Focus Learning Area for 2015
  **The Arts**

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, Health & PE R-7, and Information & Communication Technology. Resource based learning is provided by the Teacher Librarian. The aquatics program operates throughout the year and R-5 students access the swimming program while the year 6/7’s, swimming and surfing/aquatics.

- **Special needs**
  We have a regional Disability Unit, which caters for severe and multiply disabled students from across the partnership. Where possible, our school has adopted an integration policy for students with disabilities. A range of other extra learning programs is provided for students at risk. A Student Review Team has been established to coordinate referrals from class teachers.

- **Special curriculum features**
  A ‘May Gibbs’ visiting authors program operates annually through the Resource Centre.
  An Aboriginal Cultural Exchange Program [with Fregon Anangu School] incorporating camps, operates annually. A Flinders Camp is also undertaken annually.
Students are actively involved in sustainability programs with community groups [e.g. ‘YEC’ – Youth Environment Council]

- Teaching methodology
  - Teaming is encouraged. Staff meet regularly in Early Years, Primary & Middle Schooling teams. PLC’s (Professional Learning Communities) with a focus on Numeracy are incorporated into the school’s Numeracy improvement plan.
- Assessment procedures and reporting
  - Teachers use a range of assessment practices which include NAPLAN, PAT-M+, PAT-R, Running Records, observation, annotated work samples, conferences and other testing [both formative and summative]. Other formal reporting processes include acquaintance sessions, family conferences and summative reports incorporating the Australian Curriculum achievement standards.
- Joint programmes
  The DECD Aquatics Unit is on site and accessed by schools across the state.

5. Sporting Activities

- Sport and physical activity is a very significant part of the curriculum and many students are involved with local sporting clubs.
  - SAPSASA is organised in most sports and students are encouraged to participate.
  - Physical activity & sports clinics occur throughout the year as part of the curriculum.
  - The school has an active surfing program & opportunities for students to compete against other teams.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- General
  - A senior and junior choir [and a boys’ choir] coordinated by the Arts NIT teacher operate at various times throughout the year, including at community events. The school performs school musicals for the community.
  - Sectional assemblies are held regularly and whole school assemblies are held in the first week of term.
- Special
  - Extensive opportunities for students to attend camps are provided.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile
  - There are 9 Reception-Yr 2 classes and 12 Yr 3-7 classes.
  - There is a number of part time staff. There is one teacher librarian (1.0), two LOTE teachers (1.6), Music (1.0), Information Technology (0.6). The canteen has two managers and there is an instructor in charge of the aquatics team.
- Staff support systems
  - Staff training programs are coordinated by the Leadership Team. The school has one AEU branch, PAC and Governing Council. A School Improvement Plan
[2014-16] has been developed. Leadership staff are responsible for priority budget lines and each teacher manages their own class budget. Volunteers work throughout the school and are co-ordinated by a SSO.

- Access to special staff
  :Instrumental music teachers visit the school weekly, along with regular visits from Educational Psychologists, Speech Pathologists, Behaviour Support staff, Peripatetic staff from Centre for Hearing Impaired, Down Syndrome and Autism Associations and Kilparrin Teaching & Assessment Unit.
- Other
  :SSOs meet weekly and participate in partnership support structures. Principal & Deputy Principal meet regularly in partnership 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 28 years ago. Buildings are made up of a mixture of permanent structures, demac buildings and relocatable buildings.

The school facilities include:
- Two Gymnasiums
- Swimming Pool – heated and enclosed
- Large Admin./Staff building
- Art Rooms
- Science & Technology room *
- Specialist Music Suite
- Activity/Seminar room
- Marine Studies Room *
- Five withdrawal rooms *
- Disability Unit (Regional)
- Aquatics Unit (Statewide program)
- Canteen
- Library
- Computer Suite
- 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.

A new gymnasium/hall and library were completed in 2011 as part of the federal government’s ‘Building the Education Revolution’ initiative.

Information & Communication 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. A computer suite has been established and is being used as a teaching area. Classrooms have links to the network. Wifi installed in some areas.

[* Note: A fire destroyed a 10 room DEMAC building in November 2014. The areas marked * were affected. The school has relocated classes and specialist areas while a new Middle Schooling building is built. It is anticipated that the new building will be occupied in 2017.]

The grounds [5 Ha] are extensive with:
- large grassed play areas
- hard play areas
- grassed courtyard area with adventure playground
- exersite [play/fitness equipment].

A Grounds and Facilities committee made up of Governing 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 also accessed by the community.
- Student facilities
  : The Canteen is managed by a sub-committee of Governing 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. A new gymnasium and library and an update to the Disability Unit occurred in 2011.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities
  - Ramps are located on site & toilets have been modified.
- Access to bus transport
  - A 12-seater & a 22-seater and a DECD bus are available. A 22-seater bus with wheelchair access is also used by the special Education Unit.

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, an updated website & a 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 currently utilises one global budget based on 3 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 plus 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, tourism and service provision are the main local industries. Transience in the community is increasing.
The school forms part of a cluster and has close ties with the following schools:
Pt Elliot Primary School
Goolwa 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 Governing Council, volunteer support in the library, classrooms, canteen, 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