



**LOCK AREA SCHOOL**  
WITH HEAD HEART AND HAND

# School Context Statement

Updated: November 2021





# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: NOV 2021

**School number:** 0230

**School name:** Lock Area School

## School Profile:

Lock Area School is centrally located on the Eyre Peninsula in a farming area, growing broad-acre cereal crops and sheep. It is approximately 1 hour and 40 minutes from Port Lincoln, and 50 minutes from Cummins, Elliston and Wudinna Area Schools. It caters for children from Reception to Year 10. Enrolments are in decline due to local demographics, and are currently 46.

The school offers a wide range of teaching and learning activities, focussing on literacy, numeracy and Digital Technologies as well as offering LOTE (Indonesian) to the end of Year 8. Children participate in a wide range of sporting and social learning activities. School performance tours are funded through the Rural and Isolated Children's grant.

The school has excellent ICT resources to improve access to learning and reduce rural isolation. The school is listed in Zone 4 as a designated school attracting 5 isolation points.

Students in Upper Primary participate in the Festival of Choirs biannually.

School camps are offered biannually to all year levels.

Governing Council, Parents and Friends and the community have a strong presence in the school through its various sub-committees and the Community Library facility.

There is a Pastoral Care Worker available to support the school community.

# 1. General information

- School Principal name: Miss Beth Sampson
- Year of opening: 1964
- Postal Address: PO Box 15, LOCK SA, 5633
- Location Address: 2-16 West Terrace, LOCK SA, 5633
- DECD Region: Central Eyre 1 Partnership
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): Centre of Eyre Peninsula approximately 613kms from GPO
- Telephone number: (08) 8689 1019
- Fax Number: (08) 8689 1184
- School website address: <http://www.lockas.sa.edu.au/>
- School e-mail address: [dl.0230.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0230.info@schools.sa.edu.au)
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: NO
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: NO
- February FTE student enrolment:

CALENDAR YEAR	INDEX OF COMMUNITY SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE (ICSEA)	Enrolments	Percentage ATSI	Percentage SWD	Percentage NESB
2021	NA	44	4.55%	2.27%	0.00%
2020	NA	44	9.09%	2.27%	0.00%
2019	NA	52	1.92%	3.85%	0.00%
2018	976.00	56	5.36%	1.79%	0.00%
2017	993.00	58	1.72%	5.17%	0.00%

2021 School Card: 36% of students qualify for school card

2021 EALD FTE: 4.55% of students are EALD

- Student enrolment trends: Enrolments have steadily declined over the past five years.
- Staffing numbers (as at February census): The school is classified as R-10, but will provide teaching and learning support to Year 12, with curriculum delivered through the Open Access College or Local Delivery. Staffing is as follows:  
Currently there are 8 teachers (including leadership) made up of the following:
  - Principal/Coordinator leadership
  - 3 full time primary staff
  - 3 part time secondary staff

There are also 5 SSOs who fill following roles:

- 24 hours of Finance work

- 27 hours of students support
  - 15 hours of GSE (grounds support)
  - 25 hours of School Community Library Assistant
  - 7 hours of ICT support
  - 13 hours of Administration
  - 10 hours student support for senior secondary students
- Public transport access:  
There is no public transport to Lock. The nearest bus service is from Cleve to either Port Lincoln or Adelaide.
  - Special site arrangements:  
Our school has amalgamated with the Preschool, with Kindy integrating into the Junior Primary class. A CAP bus is shared between Wudinna, Karcultaby and Lock Area Schools. The community library is on site at Lock Area School. Local business operators support students in the Senior Years with work placement opportunities. Students participate in cluster sporting activities.

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics
  - : Around 90% of students are in the Primary sector, the remainder in the secondary secondary. In both areas there are mixed year levels in classes. This arrangement adjusts each year based on student numbers. Lock Area School offers curriculum from Reception to Year 10. Senior Secondary students can access curriculum/SACE via Local Delivery and/or the Open Access College. From Year 10 students can access VET programs.
- Student well-being programs
  - : Local agencies are used to support curriculum and student wellbeing. Special services can be obtained from Port Lincoln on request.
- Student support offered
  - : SSOs deliver intervention programs to students on a needs basis. This is supported through Student Support Services where applicable.
- Student management
  - : School Behaviour management practices are successful, with students generally motivated and the frequency of serious incidents being extremely low. Procedures are clear and are consistently implemented.
- Student government
  - : There is a Student Representative Council (SRC), with 2 leaders elected from the senior class for the whole year. A Class Captain is elected for each class per term to stand as SRC members. The SRC meet regularly

and have an active student voice in the school. They also lead fundraising events for camps and charities and hold social student activities.

### 3. Key School Policies

- Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:
  - : A Site Improvement Plan was approved by Governing Council for 2021 with writing improvement identified as a priority area.
  - : A Site Literacy Agreement is currently being developed in consultation with staff.
- Recent key outcomes:

Our NAPLAN data shows growth across all areas since 2019. We have also seen improvements in our Brightpath data in writing during 2021.

### 4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings:

A broad curriculum encompassing all 8 areas of the Australia Curriculum is taught R-10, with senior secondary subjects delivered by Local Delivery or the Open Access College. The LOTE is Indonesian and is delivered via the Open Access College from R-8. VET and school based apprenticeships are possible pathways for students from Year 10.
- Open Access/Distance Education provision:

Senior secondary subject choices are delivered via the Open Access College or Local Delivery.
- Special needs:

A small group of students qualify for a One Plan. These students have been diagnosed with a disability, identify as ATSI or are GoM children. Additionally, identified students are supported through teacher and SSO support.
- Special curriculum features:

Senior secondary students can undertake Vocational Education Training (VET) by participating in School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships. Subjects are accessed via the Open Access College and Local Delivery. Accelerated Reading operates from R – Year 10 as a focus for literacy development. SSR time operates daily and students participate in a variety of reading behaviours during this time, including silent reading or group reading. Daily Physical Activity supports the fitness and physical wellbeing of our students.
- Teaching methodology:

All classes have combined year levels and all staff differentiate the learning for individual student needs. All students are encouraged to work at a level that maximises learning outcomes. Teachers plan and deliver using the Australian Curriculum.

- Student assessment procedures and reporting

Staff formally report to parents by conducting parent/teacher interviews in terms 1 and 3, and written reports in terms 2 and 4. The school has a formative assessment schedule, with data collated and stored in individual student assessment folders.

## 5. Sporting Activities

Sport plays an important part in the community and this is reflected in student commitment to sport and general behaviour. Individuals and clubs support students well in their sporting aspirations, and the school is involved in intra and inter-school sporting competitions for Athletics, Swimming, Rugby, Netball, 9-a-side Football, Long Distance Running, as well as SAPSASA and SASSSA events.

Daily Physical Activity is timetabled every day for all classes.

## 6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

Camps are offered to classes biannually. Participation in the Festival of Choirs is also a biannual event. Four visiting performances are provided to students yearly and the Religious Education program focuses on personal and spiritual development once a term, and is delivered by the local combined churches.

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile

: The staff is a blend of long term residents as well as staff from neighbouring communities. Staff Professional Development is strongly supported within the school with many staff initiated and run activities. Staff are a mixture of permanent and contract employees.

- Leadership structure

: Leadership consists of a Principal and a B1 Coordinator.

- Staff support systems

: Partnership and Regional Leadership links are strong. The staff participate well in collaborative decision-making. Experienced staff members support their newer colleagues and in return the new staff share new initiatives. Access to Professional Development has been strongly supported. The school allows for additional TRT days to enable staff to attend PD related to the Site Improvement Plan.

- Performance Management

: All staff members are allocated a line manager and meet at least twice per year. Induction meetings are held depending on the individual staff member's needs. Regular leadership team meetings enable sharing of information and resolving of matters of concern to be prompt.

- Staff utilisation policies

: Teachers often teach in areas outside of their particular training and broaden their skills base. Secondary staff may teach primary classes and primary teachers interact daily with secondary students. Teaching staff are

well supported by ancillary staff in administration, in the classroom and with IT support.

- Access to special staff

: The Regional office in Port Lincoln provides student support services such as Speech Pathologists, Educational Psychologists, Hearing Support personnel, Guidance Officers, Behaviour and Attendance Officers. Invaluable support has been provided for special needs or at risk children.

- Other

: A homework club is offered once a week and is supported by staff. In addition, the school participates in Sporting Schools from time to time.

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

- Complexity placement points

:0.0

- Isolation placement points

:5.0

- Shorter terms

: Lock Area School dismisses one day earlier than metropolitan schools at the end of Term 4.

- Travelling time

: Lock is 6½ hours (driving time) from Adelaide, 1½ hours from Port Lincoln and 50 minutes from the neighbouring towns of Wudinna, Elliston and Cleve.

- Housing assistance

: Government Employee Housing (unfurnished) is available in Lock and rental prices are reasonable.

- Cash in lieu of removal allowance

: Yes - please contact DfE for more information.

- Additional increment allowance

:

- Designated schools benefits

: There are designated school benefits for employment at Lock Area School. Please contact DfE HR for more information.

- Aboriginal/Anangu schools

: No

- Medical and dental treatment expenses

: Yes - please contact DfE for more information.

- Locality allowances  
: All staff are eligible for locality allowances. Please contact DfE for more information.
- Relocation assistance  
: This service is available for teaching and leadership staff.
- Principal's telephone costs  
: Telephone rental and departmental calls reimbursed.

## 9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds  
The school is well maintained and comprises of an administration block incorporating a Community Library, and a mix of classroom and curriculum transportable building. A preschool facility is on-site. The school has a gym which has a full sized basketball court and several other sports lined on the court surface. A new playground has recently been installed.
- Heating and cooling  
All teaching areas are air-conditioned. There are overhead fans in all classrooms.
- Specialist facilities and equipment  
On site we have a science lab, art room, pottery shed, technical studies room, home economics room, computer room and assembly room. We also have an oval, cricket nets and outdoor tennis/netball courts as well as a gym that has several sports marked on the court surface. There is also a playground. The school has a good ICT network, with computers in the computer room, library and every classroom. Laptop computers and iPads are also available for classroom use. We have a resource storage room.
- Student facilities
- Staff facilities  
There is a spacious staffroom as well as a staff common workroom. The front office area is spacious and welcoming. Staff have access to video conferencing facilities. This enables staff to professional learning opportunities online.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities  
The Community Library has a disabled access ramp. The triple block and Preschool building also have a disabled access ramp.
- Access to bus transport  
Currently there are 2 bus runs, serviced by two small buses. Both buses are available for daily school use. The school also shares a CAP bus with two other schools and it is available all year on a booking system.

- Other

Occasional Care and Playgroup are available from the Early Learning Centre.

## 10. School Operations

- Decision making structures

Most decisions are made in consultation with staff, students, parents, and committees. Decision making guidelines are established and followed. The Governing Council meets twice a term; subcommittees meet on a needs basis. Staff meetings occur weekly on a Monday afternoon. A strong Student Representative Council also contributes to decision making, meeting regularly. The Parents & Friends Committee is also a strong forum supporting the school.

- Regular publications

The school newsletter is published every second Wednesday and a year book at the end of each year.

- Other communication

: Families access electronic forms of communication via School Stream and a private Facebook page.

- School financial position

The school funds its programs within the Resource Entitlement. There is a reserve of funds for specific programs. Grants are applied for to bring additional resources or activities into the school.

- Special funding

The school receives IESP funding for special needs along with Rural and Isolated Index funding to address the geographical isolation students' face in a variety of ways.

## 11. Local Community

- General characteristics

The Lock community is a rural, farming community, which hold high traditional family and sporting values. The town is small and the population of the district is shrinking as farms amalgamate.

- Parent and community involvement

Parent involvement in any activity is excellent. The local community also works hard to include the school in many forums.

- Feeder or destination schools

All students come from the broad Lock community. Many students leave from year nine to attend schools in Port Lincoln, Cleve or Adelaide. Those students who stay achieve well in Lock.

- Other local care and educational facilities

A Preschool program operates two days a week. Occasional Care is available from the Early Learning Centre (ELC) on Fridays. Playgroup is

held in the ELC fortnightly. Rhythm and Rhyme is offered through the Community Library.

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

In the township of Lock there is a supermarket, deli, hotel/motel, Caravan Park, second hand shop, motel, tyre store, two farming supply agencies, a hairdresser and two grain receival companies. There is a postal agency which offers Commonwealth banking services. EFTPOS facilities operate through the local supermarket, the hotel and the Post Office.

- Other local facilities

A medical centre is strongly supported by the community and offers a doctor one day a week. Medical and other specialised needs are available in Wudinna, Cleve or Cummins. Medical and other practitioners visit Lock on a regular basis. A nursing team are available at the centre during opening hours. The ambulance is supported by a strong volunteer group. There is a hall and sporting complex that are both utilised by the school. The sporting facility has netball/tennis courts and a football oval. There is also a community swimming pool and community gym. Local Catholic, Lutheran, Uniting and Free Presbyterian churches are all located in Lock and services are either held weekly or on roster with other parishes.

- Availability of staff housing

Teacher housing is available within the township. The housing officer supports prompt maintenance and repairs.

- Accessibility

There is no public transport to Lock but a bitumen road in each direction from Lock. Staff wishing to travel to Adelaide can choose to leave their car in Port Lincoln in secure lock up and fly.

- Local Government body

Lock is part of the Elliston District Council and they show responsibility to the school and especially the Community Library, which they fund.

## 12. Further Comments

Lock Area School provides a safe and rewarding learning environment for both staff and students. It is located within a farming community with families committed to their children receiving the best education possible, and who will assist the school in many ways to achieve this. The area is central to untouched patches of Conservation Parks, fishing and leisure beaches and sporting venues. It is a comfortable drive to Port Lincoln and all other destinations across the Eyre Peninsula. The community are supportive of the staff and the town provides a pleasant lifestyle. There is a Lions Club, LADS (Lock and Districts Services – formally APEX) group and Progress committee. These groups support projects around the community. Drought conditions have impacted the community but families still rally around to support each other and their community.