

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

School number: 0384

School name: Robe Primary

SCHOOL PROFILE:

Robe Primary School (RPS) is a Reception to Year 6 school, which serves a small coastal town, approximately 350 kilometres South East of Adelaide. The total population of Robe is 1550 and our current enrolment is 86 students.

RPS has provided education on its current site since 1886, totalling 137 years.

We promote the values of respect, courage, and integrity. Student wellbeing and self-regulation have become areas of focus, hence staff have been trained in the Berry Street Model of Education which is embedded into our classrooms. Teachers are also using the Smiling Mind program with students in their classes.

OUR VISION

Our 'Vision Statement' is that we are a caring community, encouraging excellence, fostering healthy and happy lifestyles, and promoting lifelong learning.

Our Mission Statement is to build a positive, productive and inclusive learning environment that inspires learners to be their best self, in a constantly changing world.

We aim to provide this through a caring environment, encouraging excellence, fostering health and happiness, and promoting life long learning.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

We have strong connections with our community. We contribute to community projects and events and the community closely support our school. Our annual Easter Fete is a major event that is run with support from our community in the way of donations, volunteer hours and participation. The school and community work closely together to celebrate NAIDOC Week, Remembrance Day and other significant events.

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Students at RPS are provided with many opportunities including sporting opportunities (Sporting Schools, Millicent Basketball, SAPSASA, golf clinics), camps, excursions, swimming lessons, Premiers Reading Challenge, Premiers Be Active Challenge, Little Leader and Parents and Friends fundraisers, Bookweek, the garden program, visiting artists and performances.

1. General information

- School Principal name: Anne Grayson
- School Co-ordinator name: Jane Hayes
- Year of opening: 1886
- Postal Address: PO Box 146 ROBE 5276
- Location Address: 1 Union Street ROBE
- DECD Region: Limestone Coast / South East Coast and Vines Partnership
- Geographical location: 350 km South East from the Adelaide GPO
- Telephone number: 08 87 682 168
- School website address: www.robeps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: dl.0384.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: No
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: No
- February FTE student enrolment:

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
RECEPTION	11	14	12	12	16	5
YEAR 1	15	10	14	11	13	17
YEAR 2	10	15	11	14	11	16
YEAR 3	14	10	15	11	15	12
YEAR 4	12	14	10	17	10	14
YEAR 5	16	11	14	10	14	10
YEAR 6	9	18	11	14	10	15
YEAR 7	17	9	15	11	0	0
SCHOOL CARD STUDENTS	16	11	10	16	18	20
NON ENG.SPEAKING BACKGROUND	0	0	0	1	3	0
ABORIGINALor TORRES STRAIGHT ISLANDER	0	0	1	1	2	2
TOTAL	104	101	103	101	92	89

- Student enrolment trends:

Over the years our reception student enrolment trends have remained at a constant level. Transience, both in and out of the school, have balanced each other out. Year 7 classes leaving primary schools to be part of secondary schools has amounted to a slight decline in numbers beginning in 2022.

Staffing numbers (as at February census):

Our F.T.E. at the start of 2022 is 7.2 teaching staff. This consists of:

1. A Principal working 1.0 FTE with a 0.2 teaching component.
2. Five full-time permanent teachers, one of which fills the role of our 0.2 FTE 'Teaching and Learning' co-ordinator role.
3. Two contract, part time teachers; one at 0.6 FTE, another at 0.4 FTE
4. We do not have a teacher-librarian, an Aboriginal Education teacher, or any Tier 2 staff.
5. We have 7 SSO's. Each involved in a variety of roles. One is a full time Finance Officer / ICT support person. Another SSO is a full time Administration Officer who is also involved in our intervention support programs. Our remaining 5 SSO's are part-time; all of them are involved with IESP support (Cystic Fibrosis, Diabetes, Behaviour, Speech) and running intervention programs (Quick Smart, MultiLit, Spelling Mastery, InitaLit).
6. A Well-being co-ordinator is released to support children.

- Public transport access:

There is no public transport. Premier Stateliner provides a bus service to Mt Gambier and Adelaide.

- Special site arrangements:

There are no special site arrangements, except for the use of our school hall by some local and school sporting bodies.

Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics

We have seen recent growth in cultural diversity at RPS. Parents work either in a full or part time capacity and our students come from relatively diverse socio-economic backgrounds. Approximately 5% of students come from a family where English is their second language. Our students mix freely with each other.

Currently we have 3 Cystic Fibrosis children, they have a category 8 level of support.

We also have one student with a category 6 level of support, and two students with a Category 4 level of support.

Many of our students enjoy a healthy, active lifestyle.

- Student well-being programs

1. Quality Start Program
2. Berry Street Education Model
3. Smiling Mind
4. What's The Buzz
5. Student leadership program (Little Leaders)

- Student support offered
 1. A 'Teaching and Learning' coordinator.
 2. Additional SSO hours for intervention (MulitLit, Quick Smart, Spelling Mastery and InitaLit).
 3. Well-being coordinator
- Student management

The Berry Street Model of Education underpins student management. Management, SSOs and teachers support children to self-regulate and provide co-regulation as required.
- Student government

We have a 'Little Leaders' group. The executive members of this group are made up of students who have written an application and participated in an interview. They are selected according to the quality of their written application, interview comments and votes from students. Our 'Little Leaders' team meets regularly to discuss student issues, give suggestions and arrange fundraising activities, and to organise whole school activities.
- Special programmes

There are none.

3. Key School Policies

- Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:

Our 2022-2024 Site Improvement Plan has a Literacy focus. There are 2 goals; writing and reading. All goals are focussed on teacher pedagogical practices to improve student's learning.

**** GOAL 1:** To improve students' achievement in writing.
CHALLENGE OF PRACTICE FOR GOAL 1: If we explicitly teach writing then we will improve student achievement across the whole school.

**** GOAL 2:** To improve students' achievement in reading.
CHALLENGE OF PRACTICE FOR GOAL 2: If we explicitly teach reading then we will improve student achievement across the whole school.

Other key statements and policies can be found on our web site.

4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings:
Australian Curriculum subjects: English, Maths, Science, Technology, Health and PE, Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS), The Arts, Chinese and Spanish.
- Open Access/Distance Education provision:
We are currently use the Open Access College to deliver LOTE (Spanish and Chinese).
- Special needs:
Students with special needs are supported through small class sizes and individual attention.
Support services are accessed wherever possible.
- Special curriculum features:
None are required.
- Teaching methodology:

- Student assessment procedures and reporting
Written reports are emailed to parents at the end of semester 1 and 2. English and Maths are reported on each semester as are Science and HASS. HPE, Technologies. The Arts and Spanish/Chinese are reported on at least once a year.
Parent Teacher Interviews take place between week 6 and 8 of Term 1. Interviews are open to all parents and teachers meet with those requesting interviews.
Teachers are regularly assessing children on reading (IntiaLit and PM Benchmarks with comprehension, spelling (Spelling Mastery and InitialIt), Writing (Brightpath). Children also sit NAPLAN and PAT testing from Year 3.

5. Sporting Activities

- Sport plays a major role both in school and in the local community. Robe township has strong and successful football, netball, tennis club and surf lifesaving clubs. Many families have connections with these clubs.
- One week of swimming instruction for all students at the Kingston Community School pool.
- School sports day in Term 1.
- SAPSASA sports including football, netball, athletics, golf, softball, soccer, tennis and hockey.
- The Sporting Schools Grant is utilised to provide children with coaching in a variety of sports including golf, football, lawn bowls and basketball.
- Millicent Basketball Association provide opportunities for students to participate in coaching clinics (at school) and round robin days (at the Millicent Basketball Stadium).
- Children participate in weekly PE lessons.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

At the end of the school year, we have a school concert / presentation night which has a community focus. At this event, children from all classes provide singing and dance focussed around a central theme.

Camps occur on a biannual basis. On odd years, there is a Whole School Camp where all children stay at the same campsite for 2 nights. On even years, R-1 students have an excursion, Year 2/3 children go to Naracoorte Caves for 2 nights, Year 4/5 children go to Victor Harbour for 3 nights. Year 6 go to the Little Leaders camp in Adelaide, Aquatics camp in Murray Bridge and complete a transition camp in Robe (for children attending Kingston in Year 7).

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile

Our staff make every effort to support each other. We have a real collaborative and collegiate team that values being involved in decision making and professional development. As a collective team we have a wide range of experience and expertise.

Ancillary time caters for teacher and student support as well as administration and clerical duties.

- In total we have 15 staff members, 9 teachers and 7 SSO's. The gender balance is 13 females and 2 males.
- We have a mixture of permanent and contract staff.

- Leadership structure

As a relatively small school, our leadership positions include:
The Principal (0.8 admin time / 0.2 teaching commitment).
A 0.2 Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator.

We also have roles including Wellbeing Coordinator, Sports Coordinator and an Autism Inclusion Teacher.

- Staff support systems

- Staff members participate in professional development with colleagues from nearby schools as part of our S.E.C.A.V. partnership.
- Staff access professional development that is specific to our Site Improvement Plan.
- Staff members mentor each other in both formal and informal modes.
- We comply with the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement.
- Limestone Coast Regional Education Office offer a variety of support systems.

- Performance Management

All staff have Professional Development Plans that focus on the National Professional Standards for Teachers.

Professional conversations between the principal and individual staff members are held each semester.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Travelling time
Negligible within the local community... Kingston is 25 minutes away (45 kilometres), Millicent is 50 minutes (80 kilometres), Mount Gambier is 1 and a half hours (130 kilometres), Penola is 1 hour away (106 kilometres) and Naracoorte is 1 and a quarter hours (112 KM).
- Housing assistance
Yes, a subsidy is available.
- Locality allowances
Minimal
- Relocation assistance
Yes

9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
Our grounds are extensive. We have a large school oval, 2 playground areas (including nature play), a basketball/netball court, a school hall, 2 outdoor learning areas, extensive walkways, a spacious administration area, 5 relatively new class rooms, as well as other dedicated learning areas. We outsource the maintenance and gardening responsibilities to a local maintenance and gardening business.
- Heating and cooling
All learning areas have reverse cycle air conditioning.
- Specialist facilities and equipment
 - School hall and kitchen
 - Art/Science/HASS room
 - A computer room with 22 computers
 - On site Library area
- Student facilities
Nature play, library, computer room
- Staff facilities
 - Staff room
 - Teacher preparation room
- Access for students and staff with disabilities
There is disability access to most areas, especially classrooms, school hall and toilets.
- Access to bus transport
Chartered buses are used for school camps and excursions. We do not have any school buses.

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
 - Governing Council with Finance, Grounds, and Parents & Friends sub-committees.
 - Little Leaders.
 - Regular class meetings, where students discuss specific class or school issues.
- Regular publications
 - School newsletters
 - weekly staff meeting minutes
 - Staff Timetree App
- Other communication
 - School assemblies each week
 - Emails to parents, Class Dojo, Edsmart, Facebook and Audiri app
 - Text messages to parents
 - School website
- School financial position

The school and its finance committee have actively ensured that the school is in a positive financial position. They are proactive in its approach to support successful learning within our school.
- Special funding

Our school qualifies for Rural and Isolated Index funding.

11. Local Community

- General characteristics
- Robe Primary School has provided Reception to Year 6 education for children on its current site since 1886. Robe is located in a picturesque Limestone Coast setting, 350 km from Adelaide. The school is located in the central part of town within walking distance of shops, services and the beach. The school population is relatively stable. Most students travel to school by car, bicycle or they walk.
- Parent and community involvement

We have a large number of parents, grand parents, and general community members who volunteer their time to assist with fundraising, student learning and the maintenance of our grounds.

- Feeder or destination schools
 - Robe Soldiers Memorial Kindergarten is our sole feeder school.
 - Kingston Community School is the 'school of right', approximately 95% of our Year 6 students transition here.
 - Kangaroo Inn Area School is a 'school of choice'.

- Other local care and educational facilities

The Robe Soldiers Memorial Kindergarten is on an adjacent block to the school. The community has a Medical Clinic with resident doctor, support staff, and associated medical services. There are also ambulance and CFS services. There is a child care facility for pre-school / kindergarten age children. This is a mobile service that services our local district area, it is available on all weekdays.

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities/Other local facilities

The township is serviced by a library/Visitor Information Centre, post office, bank and churches of various denominations. Robe also has a large supermarket, hardware store, chemist, newsagency, cinema, petrol station, specialty shops, hotels, motels, caravan parks, holiday houses, and a variety of restaurants and cafes. Robe also has fish processing factories and an industrial estate.

- Availability of staff housing

Government Employee Housing own 3 houses in the town. Two have been allocated to SAPOL. One house has been allocated to DfE. House prices range from \$350,000 to \$1,500,000. There are a select number of properties valued in excess of \$2,000,000. The average rental is approximately \$300 to \$600 / week. Available housing is very competitive, in high demand, and therefore not always readily available.

- Accessibility

Adelaide is 350 kilometres away. This equates to 4 hours of travel time. The rural city of Mount Gambier is 150 kilometres away and Millicent and Naracoorte are approximately 1 hour away. Both of these towns have considerable shopping and recreational facilities.

- Local Government body

District Council of Robe - telephone no. 08 8768 2003.

12. Further Comments

NONE