School Context Statement August 2025

School Name: Kaurna Plains School

School Number: 1792

**School Profile**

Kaurna Plains School, located in Elizabeth, is dedicated to providing a culturally rich and supportive learning environment for Aboriginal students. Established in 1986, the school serves a diverse community, focusing on preserving and promoting Aboriginal culture and language.

Our education programs are designed to reflect our core values of cooperation, organisation, respect, kindness and acceptance.

Our committed staff, led by Angela Walkuski, work collaboratively with parents and local organisations to enhance student learning and well-being.

1. **General Information**

School Name: Kaurna Plains School

School Number: 1792

Courier: Kaurna Plains School

Year of opening: 1986

Principal: Ms Angela Walkuski

Deputy Principal: Ms Natalea Jenkins

Postal Address: 83 Ridley Road, Elizabeth, SA, 5112

Location Address: 83 Ridley Road, Elizabeth, SA, 5112

DfE Region: Northern

Distance from GPO: 27km from GPO

Telephone Number: (08) 8252 4419

School Website Address: <https://kaurnaas.sa.edu.au/>

School e-mail Address: dl.1792.info@schools.sa.edu.au

Out of School Hours Care: No

FTE student Enrolment: 170

1. **Students (and their welfare)**

**General Characteristics**

In 2024, the student population comprised of:

* 165 school enrolments
* Approximately 90% eligible school card holders
* 60% students from EALD backgrounds
* 51% students with disabilities
* 99% Aboriginal Students

Enrolments of the whole school are characterised by strong Aboriginal enrolments with a further range of complexities including disability, learning difficulties, transience and health issues. The school is classified as a Category One School on the Index of socio-economic disadvantage. Many students have experienced multiple traumas in their lives and present at school with complex vulnerabilities and additional needs.

**Trauma Informed School**

At Kaurna Plains School, trauma informed practice is used in everything that we do.

**Student Wellbeing**

Kaurna Plains School uses different wellbeing programs including Berry Street Education Model (BSEM), The Zones of Regulations, CPI Training and Play Therapy. Students are supported with whole class, small groups and individual support provided on a need’s basis.

The specialist learning areas in the primary consist of:

* The Arts
* Health and Physical Education
* Language – Kaurna
* Science
* Kitchen and Garden
1. **Key School Policies**

**Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies**

* Kaurna Plains School Learning Plan
* Kaurna Plains School Attendance Policy
* Kaurna Plains School Engagement Policy
* Kaurna Plains School Uniform Policy
* Kaurna Plains School Mobile Phone Policy
* Kaurna Plains School Bullying Policy
1. **Curriculum**

**Subject Offerings**

Kaurna Plains School uses the Australian Curriculum (Year R-10) to report against the following curriculum areas:

* English
* Mathematics
* Science
* Humanities and Social Sciences
* The Arts
* Health and Physical Education
* Technologies
* Language – Kaurna

South Australian Certificate of Education Stage 1 and 2 are used for our Senior students (Year 11 and 12). We offer a range of SACE subjects including:

* English
* Mathematics
* Integrated Studies
* Aboriginal Studies
* Activating Identities and Futures
* Research Project
* Creative Art
* Health and Physical Education
* Community Studies
* Cross-Disciplinary Studies
* Exploring Identities and Futures
* Health and Wellbeing
* Workplace Practices
* There are also modified versions of these subjects for those with learning disabilities.

Tailored Learning Program on/offsite and hybrid with a Youth worker - 20 students

VET subjects via NASSSA

**Student Assessment Procedure and Reporting**

Assessment: involves both formative and summative processes to support and enhance learning. Examples are

* Phonological Awareness Skill Mapping (PASM)
* Learning English: Achievement and Proficiency (LEAP) Levels
* Progressive Achievement Tests – Reading and Mathematics (PAT-R and PAT-M)
* National Assessment Program: Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)
* Multi-lit Programs

Reporting: involves both formal and informal communication to keep families informed about student progress. Examples are:

* One Plan Meetings – held in Term 1
* Interviews
* Formal Reports – sent home twice yearly, at the end of Term 2 and Term 4
* School Newsletters – distributed twice a term
1. **Co-curricular Activities and Events**

**School House Program:**

All students are connected to a School House Program. The school has 3 houses including: Ilya, Kardi and Tarnta. A house competition occurs across the year and includes awards for attendance, behaviour, academic success, and sport events.

**Sports Day**

Sports Day is a whole school event that includes athletics and novelty events. Students compete in their school houses and there is a healthy inter-house rivalry. At the end of the day, the overall Sports Day Shield is presented.

**South Australian Aboriginal Spots Training Academy (SAASTA)**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from years 10-12 have the opportunity to be involved in SAASTA.

1. **Staff**

**School Leadership Team**

School Principal: Angela Walkuski

Deputy Principal: Natalea Jenkins

Senior Leader B: Literacy Leader: Leayshia Gaston

Senior Leader B: SACE, VET & Career Pathways: Erin Ewart

Senior Leader B: Wellbeing and Engagement Leader: Tom Guerin

**Staffing Teaching**

Special Class Junior Primary teacher

3 Junior Primary teachers

3 Primary teachers

1 AET – 2 days a week

2 primary NIT teachers PE & Science

8 Secondary teachers – various fractions of time and includes some primary teaching to cover

**Ancillary Staff**

3 Admin SSO staff including Finance

3 SSO 2 Intervention R-12

1 SSO 2 Wellbeing R-12

1 SSO 2 Kaurna Language part time

1 SSO 1 Kitchen Garden

2 SSO 1 Special Class

10 SSO 1 Primary Classrooms

6 SSO 1 Secondary Classrooms

**Performance Management**

All staff members are supervised and supported by line managers as part of the site’s performance development process (PDP).

1. **School Facilities**

**Buildings and Grounds**

The school consists of –

* Administration Building
* 4 Leadership offices
* 6 primary classrooms
* 4 secondary classrooms
* Shared learning area
* Staff room
* Teacher Prep room
* Intervention room
* Wellbeing Hub
* Small gym
* Small Kitchen
* Wetlands
* Garden as part of Kitchen Garden program
* 2025 Term 4 New Admin Build
* 2025 Term 4 New classroom build completed for secondary
1. **School Operations**

**Decision Making Structures**

* Decision making is shared between staff, Governing Council and students
* Staff Meetings are held on Tuesdays from 3.10-4.30pm
* Staff are invited to participate in a variety of committees and school activities
* Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) provide time for teachers to plan and support each other and are supported by leaders.
* Leaders meet once per week
* Pupil Free Days provide the opportunity for planning and whole school professional development or training

**Regular Publications**

* The school newsletter is published twice a term
* The school has a Facebook page which allows the distribution and sharing of community development resources, information about special events and information pertaining to services in the local community.
* Sentral for Parents App is also used to send out weekly information about upcoming events as well as provides a way of communicating absences, reports, newsletters and other items.
* The school website is updated regularly and includes information for families.
1. **Local Community**

**General Characteristics**

Kaurna Plains School has predominately Aboriginal students within its community.

The City of Playford is redeveloping the area around the hospital precinct including the local shopping centre.

**Parent and Community Involvement**

Families are involved in Cultural Celebrations

Special nights – Book Week, Café Learning – parent teacher

Fundraising

Connected Beginnings connections including with Kindy

**Feeder or Destination Schools**

Most new Reception children transfer to our school from the Kaurna Plains Kindy & Enter for Success for secondary students – we are a site that can enrol a student from any area.

1. **Further Comments**