

# School Context Statement

Updated: June 2024

**School number: 1142**

**School name: Flaxmill School P-6**

**School Profile:** Flaxmill School is a Preschool to Year 6 site located in Morphett Vale, southern suburbs of Adelaide.

We strive to develop the individual, create inquisitive, competent, and capable learners and foster caring, compassionate and positive relationships.

The excellence of our teaching staff is reflected in the school's academic results. We are proud of our students' academic results, consistently improving and achieving at higher levels. Our staff have high expectations of students and supports them in negotiating assessment criteria, reflecting on their learning and setting goals for improvement. Flaxmill P-6 has a well-developed ethos of success and achievement which has been recognised and acknowledged

To provide environments that are welcoming, calm, focused and encompassing of a range of learning styles.

Our school offers:

- Individual academic support from high-quality teaching staff.
- A healthy lifestyle program through physical education and healthy eating initiatives.
- Outstanding performing arts and language opportunities.
- Excellent facilities – a large oval, a soccer oval, two playgrounds, a gym, nature play areas, kitchen, STEM workshop, robotics and 3D printing room, drama room, butterfly and vegetable gardens and a large interactive chicken coup.
- A digital focus in our teaching with state of the art resources.
- An environmental and sustainability focus.

At our school, students can learn and grow in a safe, inclusive and supportive environment

# 1. General information

School name: Flaxmill School P-6

School number: 1142

Principal: Peter Cobb

Assistant Principal: Jessica Chappell

Assistant Principal: Tina Wilson

Preschool Coordinator: Kylie Stewart

STEM Coordinator: Chloe Heffernan

Year of opening: 1972

Address: 80 Flaxmill Road, Morphett Vale 5162

DECD Region: Beach Road Partnership

Geographical location: 23kms

Telephone number: 08 8382 3057

Fax Number: 08 8382 9996

School website address: <http://www.flaxmillps.sa.edu.au>

School e-mail address: [dl.1142.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.1142.info@schools.sa.edu.au)

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: YMCA- 0429 534 624

### February FTE student enrolment data:

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>Reception</b>	41	61	51	37	36
<b>Year 1</b>	56	41	63	44	39
<b>Year 2</b>	63	53	44	59	41
<b>Year 3</b>	46	59	57	43	55
<b>Year 4</b>	44	49	57	57	42
<b>Year 5</b>	49	44	47	57	53
<b>Year 6</b>	51	48	48	42	52
<b>Year 7</b>	20	38			
<b>Total</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>318</b>

### February 2024 Breakdown:

Feb total FTE enrolment	318
Number of male students	165
Number of female students	153
Number of students on school card	122
Number of non-english speaking background students	22
Number of Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander students	32

## **Enrolment trends**

### **Year of opening:**

Flaxmill Schools opened in 1972. Prior to 1972 the schools operated as Morphett Vale Town Primary and Junior Primary Schools. In 2013 Flaxmill Primary and Junior Primary Schools amalgamated to become Flaxmill School P-6

### **Public Transport access:**

Regular bus routes travelling along South Road and Flaxmill Road

## **Staff**

### **The school leadership team and structure:**

Peter Cobb	Principal
Jessica Chappell	Assistant Principal
Tina Wilson	Assistant Principal
Sarah Spraakman	Business Manager
Kylie Stewart	Preschool Coordinator
Chloe Heffernan	STEM Coordinator

### **Staffing numbers (as at February census):**

There are currently 25 full time equivalent teachers on staff, which includes class teachers, specialist teachers and leadership staff.

### **School support officers**

A total of 562.5 SSO hours includes finance, front office/admin, student support, ACEO, IT and grounds staff.

Total number of teaching staff 27 (8 males, 19 females)

Total non-teaching staff                    23 (3,males, 20 females)

There is a well balanced mix of youth and experience within the staff.

## **2. Students (and their welfare)**

### **General characteristics**

The school population is consistent with the normal spread of abilities and behaviours that one would expect in a Category 3 school and Category 1 Preschool.

Preschool = 40, Junior Primary 116 =, Primary = 202

122 families have qualified for school card. Approximately 38% of our primary population are identified under the School Card Grants.

### **Pastoral Care Programmes**

School Behaviour Management Policy supports Teachers, Parents and Students

### **Support Offered**

Support offered through the Department for Education Support Services

### **Student Management**

There is a Student Behaviour Management Policy and Anti-Harassment

(Anti Bullying) Policy which includes code of conduct, expectations, teacher and parent support mechanisms.

### **Student government**

Students R-6 have the opportunity to be part of the decision making process through class meetings and learning activities.

### **Special Needs**

Students identified through the “Students with Disabilities” Policy receive classroom support from SSOs.

ESL, Early Intervention, Gifted and Talented students are identified through school-based assessments and receive support from a teacher and SSOs employed to operate these programs.

Our major intervention programs are Multi/Mini/Pre – Lit and Quicksmart.

Students have the use of iPads/laptops in Reception-Year 2 and laptops in Years 3-6. ESL students are supported utilising SSOs and teacher expertise as are students identified through the NAPLAN testing and internal testing.

Indigenous students and curriculum are supported by an ACEO and an AET.

SSOs support students' learning both individually and in small groups focusing on Literacy and Numeracy skill development.

A Student Wellbeing Being Leader is appointed across the Pre-School to Year 6 student cohort.

### 3. Key School Policies

- Site Improvement Plan
- Literacy Agreement
- Numeracy Agreement
- Assessment Schedule
- Attendance Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Bullying Policy
- Complaint Management
- ICT Policy and Agreement

#### Schools' Values

- **Friendship** – being kind, caring and friendly to others.
- **Respect** – actively listening, using good manners and considering others' needs.
- **Responsibility** – fulfill tasks and duties. Accountable for one's actions and decisions.
- **Learning** – always trying our best and never giving up. Acquiring knowledge, new skills, or understanding new information or experiences.
- **Honesty** – trustworthiness and taking responsibility for our actions.

## Priorities for development

- To support the literacy & numeracy development of all students
- To support Student well-being through a range of initiatives and activities
- To support the needs of students with specific learning disabilities
- To support students with specific social needs
- To support access to information Technology for all students
- To maintain the profile, and culture of Flaxmill School and develop a sense of pride in the school amongst parents, students and staff.
- Recognising student achievement and supporting students to achieve their potential.
- To provide environments that are welcoming, calm, focused and encompassing of a range of learning styles.

The staff, parents and students will maintain strategies, targets and performance indicators for priorities in Strong beginnings, Engagement and Well Being, High Achievement and Making Connections

## 4. Curriculum

### Subject offerings:

The 3-dimensional Australian Curriculum includes learning areas, general capabilities, and cross-curriculum priorities. Together, the 3 dimensions set out essential knowledge, understanding and skills all young Australians need so they will be able to learn, contribute to and shape their world now and in the future.

The Australian Curriculum can be used flexibly by South Australian schools, adapting it for the South Australian context and making local decisions on how it is delivered to best meet the needs and interests of their students.

Through content descriptions and achievement standards, the Australian Curriculum sets out what students should be taught and achieve as they progress through school.

## **The Australian Curriculum learning areas include:**

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities and Social Sciences – History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship (from Year 3) and Economics and Business (from Year 5)
- Health and Physical Education
- The Arts, incorporating Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music and Visual Arts
- Technologies
- Languages – French

ESL students are supported utilising SSO's and teacher expertise as are students identified through the NAPLAN testing and internal testing.

Indigenous students and curriculum are supported by an ACEO and an AET.

SSOs support students' learning both individually and in small groups focusing on Literacy and Numeracy skill development.

## **Special curriculum features**

The school has a strong focus on sustainability and this is reflected in the development of the Natural Play spaces, Vegetable Garden, Aquaponics Shed and Chicken Shed.

Our dedicated Aboriginal Education Team is committed to supporting our Aboriginal Community. We have a dedicated Aboriginal Community Education Officer (ACEO) and Aboriginal Education Teacher to connect with families and the community. We ensure that students have a strong sense of cultural identity and connection to culture. Students are supported



in their learning through evidenced-based programs and literacy and numeracy interventions.

Our ACEO works with teaching staff, students and families to embed Aboriginal culture, histories and knowledge. We celebrate culturally significant events and our Flaxmill Reconciliation Action Plan drives our whole school approach to strengthening relationships, respect and opportunities in the classroom, school and community.

## **Teaching Methodology**

All teachers include constructivism practices in their implementation of the Australian Curriculum Framework, Preschool -6.

## **Assessment procedures and reporting**

Assessment and reporting to parents using the Australian Curriculum Framework document is incorporated into our assessment and reporting formats.

Currently reporting to parents occurs through:

- Interviews (early Term 1 and Term 3)
- Reports in Terms 2 and 4.
- Written Summary report at the end of the year.
- NAPLAN Testing for year 3 and 5 students
- PatMaths and PatR Testing.
- Dibels
- Brightpath

## **Joint programmes**

Reconciliation Week, PE Week, Science Week, Book Week Programs, NAIDOC Week, Outdoor Nature Play Day, French Day and a variety of other whole school activities.

## 5. Sporting Activities

Sporting Activities include a PE program.

The Governing Council supports school sporting teams as required.

Flaxmill students are encouraged to participate in

- SA School Sports (SAPSASA) football, netball, hockey, softball, swimming and tennis.
- Inter- school events – cross country, athletics, netball and basketball.
- Community programs – Auskick and Sporting Community Clubs.

## 6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

Flaxmill School promotes co – curricular activities and events. Some of these include

- Sports Day
- Book Week
- Science Week
- PE Week
- Nature Play Day
- French Day

### Swimming and Aquatics

Year R – 2– Noarlunga Leisure Centre

Year 3, 4 and 5 Noarlunga Leisure Centre

Year 6 - November – Port Noarlunga Aquatics Centre

### Easter / Christmas

Teachers plan lessons or activities to inform students about this significant day prior to Easter and Christmas.

Parents/caregivers are informed as there may be some who wish to seek exemption for their child.

### Anzac Day / Remembrance Day

Teachers plan lessons or activities to inform students about these significant days.

## **7. Staff (and their welfare)**

### **Staff Profile**

Principal: Peter Cobb

Assistant Principal: Jessica Chappell

Assistant Principal: Tina Wilson

Preschool Coordinator: Kylie Stewart

STEM Coordinator: Chloe Heffernan

### **Teaching staff**

20 Classroom teachers

0.4 EALD/AET

0.6 Nature Play

0.8 French

1.0 Physical Education

562.5 SSO hours including Administration Staff, Groundsmen and ACEO

### **Staff Support Systems**

Staff well-being is a focus of leadership and OHS&W. They receive flu injections once a year.

### **Performance management**

All staff have Performance Development meetings during the year.

### **Staff utilisation policies**

Ancillary staff members are used to support the administration of the school, classroom support, Library, Preschool, Grounds, Early Intervention and Special Education.

## **Access to special staff**

Access to Special Staff includes

Inclusive Educator, Speech Pathologists, Psychology ED Services, Behavioural Support Educators and Social Work Truancy.

CAFHS (screen in Preschool), CAMHS and Families SA

## **9. School Facilities**

The facilities at our school include a gym, activity rooms, 17 permanent classrooms, a cooking area and drama area, a preschool, a Resource Centre (completed in 2015), a large oval, a soccer field, age-appropriate playgrounds (Pre-School Nature Play yard), one with sun-safe shelter, safe, clean, fenced grounds, before and after school care (OSHC), a Uniform Shop, a French room, a Nature Play classroom, a STEM workshop, and a Robotics and 3D Printing room. Please note that there will be a driveway upgrade in 2024. All school buildings are air-conditioned and heated.

### **Specialist facilities and equipment**

French, Physical Education, Nature Play, STEM Workshop, Robotics and 3-D printing room, Kitchen and Aquaponics.

### **Student facilities**

All students have access to either an iPad or Laptop and the school is wireless.

Breakout spaces in all classrooms and senior floor lounge area.

### **Staff facilities**

Staff facilities include access to IT including EDSAS, and wifi. All staff have their own laptop and email address.

Staffroom and meeting room.

### **Access for students and staff with disabilities**

Two main buildings have ramp access and two disabled toilets, one situated in the southern building and the other in the main Administration Area.

### **Access to bus transport**

Bus stop in front of school on Flaxmill Road for community bus or DECD or contractor buses

## **10. School Operations**

### **Decision making structures**

Governing Council, Staff Meetings, PLC/Unit Meetings, Class Meetings, SRC and Assemblies

### **Regular publications**

School newsletter, curriculum information handbooks, staff handbooks, daily notices, School Website, Parent information booklet, Facebook, Dojo and SeeSaw.

### **School financial position**

Flaxmill School is operating under the Local Management framework with a Global Budget and use of the Governing Council Report

## **11. Local Community**

### **General characteristics**

The suburb of Morphett Vale has an approximate area of 13 km<sup>2</sup>.

It is surrounded by the suburbs of Christie Downs, Hackham, Hackham West, Lonsdale, Noarlunga Centre, Old Reynella, Onkaparinga Hills, Reynella and Woodcroft.

In the local community, housing is evenly split between private and rental, including housing trust options. The school is conveniently located close to the beach.

### **Parent and community involvement**

Parent and community involvement in the school includes:

Governing Council, Volunteers who help in the Garden, Reading, Preschool, Sports, Fundraising, school grounds and maintenance.

### **Feeder or destination schools**

Our school-based Preschool

Emu Child Care Centre

Morphett Vale Early Learning Centre

Eden Academy

Emali Early Learning Centre

Calvary Kindy

Wirreanda High School

Christies Beach High School

### **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**

Shopping Facilities – Colonnades; Marion; Southgate Plaza; Woodcroft

### **Accessibility**

The school can be accessed easily through public and private transport.

### **Local Government body**

The local Government body is the City of Onkaparinga Council.

## **12. Further Comments**

Flaxmill site comprises of a Preschool and R-6 school, both operating on a single campus. The school has an enthusiastic, friendly, and hardworking Governing Council and staff who collaborate to enhance the school. The school underwent a structural change in 2013, amalgamating the JP & Primary School to create Flaxmill School (P-6).

The primary goal is to establish a safe, welcoming environment where the Principals, Staff, Governing Council, and School Community collaborate as a team to support each other in achieving improved outcomes for all students from Preschool through 6th grade.