



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 24/05/2024

School number: 0389

School name: Saddleworth Primary School

School Profile:

Saddleworth Primary School is a small school located in the township of Saddleworth in the Clare and Gilbert Valley council region of the Mid-North. It is situated approximately 110 kilometres north of Adelaide, situated between the Clare and Barossa Valley regions. Saddleworth is surrounded by broad-acre cropping, properties and other agriculture businesses. The majority of Saddleworth Primary School students live in the township of Saddleworth or surrounding properties. Our school is a part of the Lower Mid-North Partnership of Schools and the Gawler 2 Portfolio.

The core values of the school are: Respect, Achievement and Kindness which are staples of our day to day school lives. Our school focus is to encourage life long learners, where students are encouraged and celebrated in their achievements. The school is supported by a strong, passionate and enthusiastic parent and broader community group. Together with the community we have a strong tie to all sporting clubs, community groups and businesses which is a fantastic addition and bank of resources for student learning.

Saddleworth Primary School has a strong focus on teaching and learning in small, age-appropriate or achievement-level groups. Diversity is recognised, with a variety of support structures in place for each and every student. Each class has extensive SSO support, where students are able to gain individual and small group intervention to clarify understanding and obtain extra learning support.

At Saddleworth Primary School wellbeing of all stakeholders is a priority. We employ a Wellbeing Support Officer for a day per week to support students, run events, provide extra-curricular activities and to run Breakfast Club.

Our school has a long and proud history in a range of sports and competitions. Each year we hold our SPS School Sports Day and also participate in the Small Schools Sports Day against four other surrounding schools. In 2024 we have participated in the Small Schools Splash Carnival which was highly valued and will continue long into the future.

During each term community connection, needs and continuity of learning is also supported through the provision of Breakfast Club, OSHC and sporting club visits.

1. General information

- School Principal name: Matt Norman
- Year of opening: 1966
- Postal Address: 7 Saddle Rd Saddleworth
- Location Address: 7 Saddle Rd Saddleworth
- DfE Region: Lower mid-north.
- Geographical location: road distance from Adelaide GPO (110 km)
- Telephone number: 08 88474227
- Fax Number: 08 88474003
- School website address: <http://www.saddleps.sa.edu.au/>
- School e-mail address: dl.0389.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: No
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: Yes
- February FTE student enrolment:

YEAR	STUDENTENROLMENT	SCHOOL CARD %	Non ENGLISH	ATSI
2020	49	24.5%	0	7
2021	39	36%	0	5
2022	30	34%	0	2
2023	24	32%	0	3
2024	25	32%	0	3

- Student enrolment trends: Pleasingly, at the time of typing this context statement enrolment numbers have increased from 25 at the beginning of the year to 31 mid way through term 2. Through promotion of our school and strong pedagogical practices numbers look set to increase over the coming years.
- Staffing numbers (as at February census):
 - Tier 1:
 - Principal – 1.0FTE (incorporating role as NIT provider), male
 - Teaching – 2.2 FTE; 3 teachers, all female
 - Ancillary – 92.5 hours/week; 7 SSOs, all female.
(Finance/Administration/Curriculum Support – 30.5 hours, Administration/Student Support – 60 hours, ACEO – 2 hours)
 - Groundsperson – 7 hours, male
 - Other – 7.5 hours/week; Wellbeing Support Officer, female
- Public transport access: NIL
- Special site arrangements: The R-6 School sits beside our Early Learning Centre Pre-school and playgroup. This allows a smooth transition from Pre-school to Primary school for the students.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General characteristics**

School Card 2024+ 8/25 students, 32%

A large portion of Saddleworth primary students are from families that have lived in the area for a long time. They are rural folk with strong family, community and school ties. Socio-economic factors range from families on welfare, to those who travel to work in regional centres and those that work farms locally. Saddleworth Primary is a Category 4 School on the Index of Educational Disadvantage.

- **Student well-being programs**

Students learn within the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum which underpins student knowledge, understanding and development for their own and others health, safety and wellbeing. Students from Year 4-6 work through the SHINE program in Health, with the focus being on positive relationships and wellbeing strategies. At SPS our daily learning and the basis of our school lives are focussed on our School Values of Respect, Achievement and Kindness.

- **Student support offered**

Student's health and wellbeing is closely monitored in small classes, with further support provided by the site's Wellbeing Support Officer. The WSO's scope extends to staff, parents and families.

Students of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage are additionally supported through access to a Partnership ACEO/ASEO resource. This includes both culture and wellbeing support.

Teachers differentiate learning for all students and SSO classroom support is available for the learning needs of students in 1:1, small group and whole class settings, as required.

- **Student management**

Student management is aligned to our code of conduct, behaviour expectations, procedures and processes for the management of poor student decision making and arising issues. This is performed in a consistent and widely communicated approach. This process aligns to our school values of Respect, Kindness and Achievement of which we implecate in a positive and restorative approach.

- **Student government**

Our Student Representative Council (SRC) are elected at the beginning of each year, voted by peers and staff. We have a strong focus on student voice, with elected SRC members being involved in a range of in school projects and community events. SRC work closely with Governing Council and SPS staff with a focus on school improvement.

- **Special programmes**

Students have access to a range of programmes to compliment curriculum learning. These include MacqLit, SHINE, Sporting Schools, Words Their Way.

3. Key School Policies

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

The SIP is focussed on improving reading fluency across each year level to improve all literacy outcomes. We are using Literacy Circles student lead discussions to improve reading comprehension and build a strong vocabulary base. This year we

are focussing specifically on reading fluency through the use of DIBELS monitoring and decoders of text.

In line with student progression and achievement we place a high emphasis on attendance, positive student behaviour and parent communication. All three policies directly align to positive school experiences for all stakeholders.

4. Curriculum

Staff at Saddleworth Primary School differentiate the curriculum to cater for individual needs, allowing students to progress at their own rate. Every effort is made to provide consistency across the school.

We offer a range of specialist subjects apart from the excellent teaching and learning that takes place in our classrooms.

Subject offerings: All 8 Learning Areas of The Australian Curriculum – English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences (History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business), Technologies (Design and Technologies, Digital Technologies), The Arts (Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music, Visual Arts), Health and Physical Education, and Languages (Auslan)

Special needs: Saddleworth Primary School also offers opportunities for students with disabilities and special needs to access necessary support provided by external support providers. These can include, however are not limited to: speech pathology, occupational therapy and play therapy.

Teaching methodology: Saddleworth Primary School prioritises students' health and wellbeing first and foremost, to ensure all students feel safe, cared for and valued. By doing so it enables students to feel able and ready to learn in a confident manner. Trauma-informed practices and Interoception are a staple of classroom pedagogy, which provide self-regulation tools for all students.

The Australian Curriculum provides the basis of all learning programs at SPS, with teachers utilising their knowledge of the local context to develop units of work that provide intellectual stretch, challenge and engagement for all students. Ongoing data collection and collaborative analysis between staff is an important aspect of site improvement and forms the basis of our programs, support, and intervention strategies.

Opportunities for student voice and choice is also provided through flexible seating arrangements, quality differentiated practice, individual devices for all students and student leadership programs. The implementation of digital technology for education ensures students are able to develop the skills, dispositions and critical thought required of global and lifelong learners, while keeping up with current trends and programs.

Student assessment procedures and reporting: At SPS staff make time for ongoing tracking and monitoring of student learning progress and achievement. Results and data are shared through a variety of methods of communication, including parent/teacher interviews and reporting processes.

Formally, written reports communicating levels of achievement in all learning areas of the Australian Curriculum are provided against the A-E scale for all students at the end of Semester 1 and Semester 2 (Term 2 and 4, respectively). Interviews are offered mid-term, as teacher-led discussions in Term 1 and 3.

5. Sporting Activities

- Swimming lessons occur at The Rex in Tanunda (5 lessons over a 1 week period) in term 3 of each year
- All students attend camps, with an aquatics focus for our Senior Primary class
- Our school sports day is held on the last day of term 2. Students are either in the Gilbert(blue) or Horrocks-Masters (yellow) House
- SPS are a part of the Gilbert Valley region for sport and as such we participate in swimming and athletics carnivals each year against 4 other schools within the district
- SPS tudents in Years 5-6 have the opportunity to compete in many SAPASA sporting events, both at Hub and District level. Some of the available sports are cricket, football, netball, softball, golf, soccer, athletics, swimming and cross country. Saddleworth Primary School are a member school of the Mid North District
- The Gilbert Valley Cricket Club utilise our school oval for junior cricket every Saturday during the summer. Through a close partnership between school and the GVCC we were recently successful in laying a new wicket and matting for both SPS students and GVCC members to enjoy.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- House Challenges, assemblies, end-of-term celebrations, P&F functions, community service, working bees, school concert and class productions

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile**
Principal 1.0,
UP teacher 1.0
JP teachers .6 and another at .6
SSO 2 finance .8, and another .2
SSOs classroom support 1 x.8, and 3 x .4
Groundsman .2

- **Leadership structure**
Principal – (Band A-2)
- **Staff support systems**
Most Saddleworth staff members have been working here for a number of years and have an imbedded support network. We are a small school where all teachers, SSOs and students are highly valued and respected by each other.
- **Performance Management**
All Saddleworth staff do a Performance Development Plan with the Principal each year as required by the DfE. Pricipal also does PDP with line management

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Nil

9. School Facilities

- **Buildings and grounds**
The current site has been operating since 1966, with the main building being at the front of the school. There are 3 buildings, The MP and JP classrooms stand-alone while the main building houses the UP classroom, a library, an art room, a kitchen, front desk and Principal offices. Outside we have a large area of playground equipment, paved areas for tennis, handball and basketball and a beautiful green oval surrounded by gum trees where we hold sports days and many other sports.
- **Heating and cooling**
All classrooms have airconditioning to provide warmth and cool.
- **Specialist facilities and equipment**
All students have access to a laptop. The Library is well stocked with books and musical instuments. The Library also serves as classroom for music, reading time and after hours care.
- **Student facilities**
All students have their own personal laptop provided by the school for use during school hours. We havea lunch shed and also covered sandpit shade to ensure students are able to utilise these spaces all year round. All classes have sets of ipads for use during lesson times to facilitate and support learning. In 2024 we have also created a Wellbeing Room space where students can go during breaks or times of need when they need a moment to find their calm in a quiet, safe and secluded area.
- **Staff facilities**
Teachers are allocated a Laptop computer to use for planning and admin work that can be used at home or at school.

Off street parking

Staff toilets

Private meeting room

Flexible teaching spaces

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

All classrooms have wheelchair access.

- **Access to bus transport**

There is a bus run that picks up students and drops them off in front of the school daily. The school does not own a bus, however we are able to hire from a bus company when needed.

10. School Operations

- **Decision making structures**

Principal is the decision maker for the school but also relies on advice from a Personel Advisory Committee (PAC), staff and student voice and finance officer. We have a strong and active Governing Council (GC). The GC employ the OSHC Director and oversee the running of the OSHC. Principal line-manages the OSHC director on behalf of the GC and reports to GC.

- **Regular publications**

There is a fortnightly newsletter, our website and our Facebook page.

- **Other communication**

Seesaw App

- **School financial position**

The school is in a strong financial position.

11. Local Community

- **General characteristics**

Saddleworth is a small country town of approximately 500 people. As a school we are very fortunate to be situated amongst an extremely supportive, loyal and passionate local community. As staff we are fortunate to have access to a range of resouces in our local community, which compliment students in class learning.

- **Parent and community involvement**

Parent involvement is highly valued through working bees, Breakfast Club support and on sports days.

- **Feeder or destination schools**

From Saddleworth Primary most students go to Riverton and District High School, which is situated 10kms south of Saddleworth. Students generally take buses which pick up from SPS and the Saddleworth Roadhouse.

- **Other local care and educational facilities**

Saddleworth has a fantastic early learning centre, which sits directly beside our school. The SELC provides kindergarten and additional care services.

At SPS we also provide an OSHC service to children aged between 4 and 12 years old. This runs after school from 3-6pm.

12. Further Comments

Saddleworth Primary School is a proud little rural school with high expectations of all stakeholders. It would be a rewarding experience for any teacher looking to work and grow at their profession in a school where everyone knows each other and provides genuine care. Provincial centres such Gawler and Clare are a 30 minute drive away and 90 minutes driving can have you in the heart of Adelaide.