

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 03/2022

School Name: Renmark West Primary School

School Number: 0378

1. General Information

Part A

Schoolname : RENMARK WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL
School No. : 0378
Courier : Renmark
Principal : Ms. Judy Cottam
Postal Address : PMB 4, Renmark 5341
Location Address : 327 Tarcoola Street, Renmark 5341
District : Murray & Mallee
Distance from GPO : 260 kms
CPC attached : NO
Phone No. : 08 8595 1340
Fax No. : 08 8595 1226

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Reception	19	20	29	24	20
Year 1	16	18	19	30	25
Year 2	19	17	18	24	29
Year 3	22	14	18	20	22
Year 4	22	25	13	17	20
Year 5	24	21	24	19	15
Year 6	14	27	19	23	16
Year 7	27	16	30	20	0
TOTAL	163	158	170	177	147

School Card Approvals (Persons)	51	35	35	45	36
NESB Total (Persons)	29	27	25	26	28
Aboriginal FTE	1	0	3	14	12

Note: Placement points for Complexity and (Base plus Isolation) can be obtained from the document 'Placement Points History' in the 'schools/placement' section of the 'Legal and Policy Framework Library' available on the departmental CD-ROM or web-site.

Part B

- **School E-mail Address**
dl.0378_info@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Staffing Numbers**
7.5 teaching staff, 134 permanent SSO hours, 48 contract hours and 9 permanent GSE hours. The teaching staff is comprised of 9 females and 1 male.
- **Partnerships**
Yes
- **OSHC**
No
- **Enrolment Trends**
Enrolment capacity of 184. Restricted local enrolment policy in place.
- **Special Arrangements**
Nil
- **Year of Opening**
1912
- **Public Transport Access**
No

2. Students and their Welfare

- **General characteristics**
School population profile consists of the following:

School Card	24%
Girls	52%
Boys	48%
NESB	19%
Aboriginal	8%
Students with Disabilities	5%
- **Student Wellbeing**
A Behaviour Code and Anti-bullying and Anti-Harassment Policy are in place to manage student behaviour. Strong parental support. Staff work with students on building the school values: Honesty, Respect, Responsibility. We are a Sunsmart school and a Dress Code Policy is in place.
- **Student Voice**
Representation from each class on SRC. School Counsellor co-ordinates SRC with weekly meetings.

3. Key School Policies

- **Site Improvement Plan**

Priorities with strong focus on raising standards with particular emphasis in Literacy, Numeracy, Australian Curriculum and Student Wellbeing.

- **ICT**

A computer room housing 30 desktop computers and a pod of 30 Laptops are available to support learning programs in classrooms. There are some additional computers in classes as well as another pod of computers in the resource centre for research. IT is upgraded regularly and kept in working order. All computers are networked and have access to the Internet. All classrooms and Resource Centre have Interactive TVs or Smartboards.

4. Curriculum

- **Subject Offerings**

All required areas of study, LOTE (0.4 Greek Specialist), History and Geography HASS (.4 specialist)

- **Open Access**

Nil

- **Special Needs**

Nil

- **Support Features**

SSO support is provided in classes or through withdrawal in small groups and sometimes 1:1, during Literacy and Numeracy lessons over the week. Additional support is provided by support services. The school works collaboratively with NDIS providers and supports their access to clients during school hours.

- **Teaching Methodology/Curriculum**

Our teachers use the Australian Curriculum and teach across all of the 8 learning areas.

Junior Primary Students access the Initial Lit program from Reception to Year 2 to develop their phonic knowledge, spelling and reading skills.

Teachers implement the Child Protection Curriculum and Friendly Schools Plus across all year levels.

- **Assessment Procedures and Reporting**

Interview with all parents in Term 1 with a focus on literacy, numeracy and social development, detailed written report in all areas of study in Term 2. Optional Interviews in Term 3 and detailed written report in Term 4.

5. Sporting Activities

- School netball and cricket teams and SAPSASA participation. The school supports local hockey, soccer, football, basketball and tennis teams.

- School pool is used by all classes in appropriate weather.

- Sports Day held annually. The school has at present three school houses – Tarcoola (blue), Kulkyne (red) and Ontario (yellow).

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- **General**

School Choir participates in Riverland Combined Choir, class productions for end of the year concert, special events celebrated and shared luncheons. Premier's Be Active and Reading Challenge supported within the school by staff. Students assist with SRC, assemblies, End of Year Concert and the sports store.

7. Staff and their Welfare

- **Staff Profile**

Stable permanent staff

- **Leadership Structure**

Principal (1.0), School Counsellor (1.0)

- **Staff Support Systems**

Primary and Junior Primary and Pre-school working co-operatively.

- **Performance Management**

All staff participate in regular Performance Management meetings with Principal. Staff are required to have a current Role Statement and set personal achievement goals. All staff participate in T & D, which is linked to the Site Improvement Plan.

- **Staff Utilisation Policies**

SSOs allocated to Resource Centre, Classroom Support and Administration.

Access to Special Staff

Instrumental music provided through direct teaching. Generally students travel to a site within the Renmark cluster of schools. Guidance Officer, Speech Pathologists and Hearing-Impaired Services available through the DfE : Berri Office.

8. Incentives, Support and Award Conditions for Staff

- **Isolation Placement Points**

1.0 (total points for school = 2.0)

- **Housing Assistance**

Yes

- **Cooling for School Buildings**

Yes

- **Cash in lieu of Removal Allowance**

Yes

- **Relocation Assistance**

Yes

- **Principal's Telephone Costs**

Yes

9. School Facilities

- ***Buildings and Grounds***

The school community has continued to support the school in developing the grounds and buildings including the swimming pool, barbecue area, computer room, playground and garden areas. In 2021 a nature play area was developed near the school oval. School buildings include one unit (three classrooms, Computer Room and administration area), four single transportable classrooms, a solid brick staffroom, a resource centre, a small canteen and a disabled toilet. A Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA), Multipurpose Hall, Learning Support Area are part of the shared spaces available for learning. The Learning Support Area is set up with Teacher Resources, Literacy and Numeracy Resources. SSOs use this area when working with students either individually or small groups. A staff preparation area is also in the staff room with computer access and photocopier.

- ***Cooling***

All buildings have ducted reverse cycle air conditioners.

- ***Specialist Facilities***

Swimming Pool, Computer Room, Activity Hall, Art Room and Learning Support Area.

- ***Student Facilities***

Sports Store available during lunch times, playground and shaded area. Hall, Computer Room and Resource Centre opened during lunchtimes on designated days.

- ***Staff Facilities***

Access to EDSAS, email and internet in administration area Computer Room and classrooms.

- ***Access for Students and Staff with Disabilities***

Ramp access is provided to Main Building, Resource Centre, Activity Hall, Learner Support Area, Art Room and Disabled Toilet.

- ***Access to Bus Transport***

There are no school buses however a privately paid bus runs to and from school every day. Buses hired for excursions from local businesses. Limited private bus service available.

- ***Other***

Pre-School on school site.

School continues to build working networks with neighbouring schools.

10. School Operations

- ***Decision Making Structures***

The Governing Council meets twice a term.

- ***Regular Publications***

Fortnightly online newsletter for parents is accessible through a Facebook link. Teachers use Class Dojo to keep parents informed about classroom matters and student achievements.

The school produces an Information Folder for new parents and new staff, TRT Information Folders and Policy Folders. The school has a website www.rnmkwestps.sa.edu.au which is in the process of updating.

- **School Financial Position**
Sound financial position. Fundraising and grants received, directed towards initiatives in Information Technology, Literacy and developing school facilities.
- **Special Funding**
Rural Index funding under Partnerships 21.

11. Local Community

- **General Characteristics**
Renmark West Primary School is in a horticultural area, six kilometres from Renmark township. The Renmark District has a population of almost 10,000. Parents come from a diverse range of cultural backgrounds. (Turkish, Greek, Aboriginal, Punjabi, Italian and Islander families are represented.)
- **Parent and Community Involvement**
The school has a tradition of a high level of parent involvement and the local community takes pride in the school, giving generously of their time and energy and also making substantial financial contributions.
- **Other Local Care and Educational Facilities**
Preschool on Renmark West Primary School grounds, Renmark Preschool, Secondary schooling available within Renmark District, OSHC and Family Day Care and Child Care Centres in Renmark.
- **Commercial, Industrial and Shopping Facilities**
Renmark and Berri have major shopping and commercial facilities.
- **Other Local Facilities**
Medical Clinic, hospital, churches, temples, many sporting clubs, theatre, community library, airport, Recreation Centre, swimming pool.
- **Availability of Staff Housing**
Some government housing and limited private rental accommodation.
- **Accessibility**
260 kms to Adelaide. Twice daily bus service to Adelaide. No regular air service. Travel to Adelaide via Sturt Highway.
- **Local Government Body**
Renmark and Paringa District Council. Local information on area available from Renmark Tourist and Information Centre.

12. Further Comments

Our aim is to continually build and enhance the school community. There is strong parental support, cross-age activities of many kinds, which involve the Preschool from time to time, opportunity to teach composite classes, a small and supportive staff. School fees are kept to a minimum due to positive community support with fundraising. Significant history of the community - business and recreational activities arise from the influence of the River Murray.