



# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2019

**School number:** 0994/1621

**School name:** Wandana Preschool – Year 7 School

## *School Profile:*

Wandana P-7 School is a strong multicultural community that values and respects the learning and success of its students.

Our school vision of **empowering our community to flourish in their relationships and learning**, is taught through the overarching philosophy of P.E.R.M.A + (Positive Emotion, Engagement, Relationships, Meaning and Accomplishments.) Students are encouraged to use the twenty four character strengths from the Positive Education program to establish strong connections between personal emotional growth, learning and community relationship building.

The school core values of **Respect, Belonging and Learning** are explicitly taught with the collaboration of students, teachers and families. This is achieved by goal setting, deep analysis of the Australian Curriculum, using innovative pedagogies and keeping open communication channels.

The school plays an important role in the community by bridging the gap between families, school and Allied Health Services through the **Better Access Medical program** by offering services on site such as a GP, Psychologist, Speech Therapist and Occupational Therapist. This program allows our families to gain a holistic approach, meeting the needs of student's wellbeing along side their academic growth.

## *General information*

### **Leadership Team**

- School Principal: Belinda Smith
- Deputy Principal: Tegan Sims
- Student Wellbeing Leader: Cuc Doan

### **About our School**

- Year of opening: 1961
- Postal /Location Address: 2-12 Cowra Ave, Gilles Plains SA, 5086
- Department Region: Flinders Park, Torrens Partnership

- Geographical distance from GPO (km): 12 kms
- Telephone number: (08) 82611699
- Fax Number: (08) 82662919
- School website address: [www.wandanac7.sa.edu.au](http://www.wandanac7.sa.edu.au)
- School e-mail address: [dl.0994\\_info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0994_info@schools.sa.edu.au)
- Pre-School attached: Yes
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: Shared service with families accessing at Para Vista Primary School for before and after school care.
- February FTE student enrolment:

Year	Enrolments	Percentage ATSI	Percentage SWD	Percentage EALD
2019	141	29.08%	30.50%	38.30%
2018	153	28.76%	30.72%	38.56%
2017	162	25.31%	23.46%	43.83%
2016	164	25.61%	20.73%	37.80%
2015	179	25.14%	17.88%	30.73%

- Approximately 65% of the student population are on School Card.
- The school is unzoned.
- Student enrolment trends: Currently enrolments are declining due to the growth of Pinnacle College and having a shared OHSC program with Para Vista Primary. A new development close to the area will hopefully boost enrolments.
- Staffing numbers (as at February census):

<i>Staff numbers</i>	
Leadership	3
Full time equivalent teaching staff	10.2
Non-teaching Staff/SSO	9.3

- Public transport access: A Metro Bus Service has a pick-up and drop off point approximately 200m from the school gate on Wandana Ave, Gilles Plains.

Special site arrangements: Pinnacle College currently share Wandana's school oval for play times and extra sporting activities. Wandana Schools use the Pinnacle small bus to transport the two special classes to weekly swimming lessons.

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

- General characteristics: Wandana Primary School is a category 2 of disadvantage and Pre-School is a category 1.
- Our Pre-School has been awarded *Exceeding* by the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority in 2017.
- **Student well-being programs:** What's the Buzz program, Baptist Care Drumming, Friendship Groups, Mentoring, Art Therapist, Therapy Dogs, In-school Psychologist, Social Skills programs and Breakfast Club/emergency lunch programme.
- **Student support offered:** ACEO and AET support students who identify as Aboriginal with social, community and emotional needs.  
EALD teacher supports students and their families who identify that English is their second language.  
Student Wellbeing Leader and Better Access Program co-ordinator support students and families to access additional services such as counselling, GP, OT and Speech Therapy.
- **Student management:** The school has high expectations of students. These include regular attendance, active participation and success in learning, whilst respecting others, their backgrounds and/or cultures. Behaviour and attendance processes and policies to support students and families.
- **Student government:** Wandana Action Team and Aboriginal Leadership Group which have been elected by their student body, attend regular meetings to discuss Site Improvement Goals, fundraising opportunities, student learning opportunities and teacher pedagogy.
- **Special programmes:** Our Pre-School offers 15 hours of pre-school for eligible children and one play group session per week. A Speech Program and Intervention Program are other strategies that operate to support all students. Special funding assists students in poverty to access special initiatives such as swimming, excursions, performances and incursions to extend and enrich student learning.

Students have a lot of opportunities to learn through experiences:

1. Gardening and cooking programs
2. Digital technology and coding programs
3. Choir
4. Whole school performances
5. Ngarrindjeri and Auslan lessons

- 6. Cultural groups
- 7. Student led activities

### 3. *Key School Policies*

- Site Improvement Plan (can be viewed on the Wandana school website: [www.wandanac7.sa.edu.au](http://www.wandanac7.sa.edu.au) )
- Goal 1. To increase student achievement and growth in Mathematics, leading with Number & Problem Solving (4 Operations). Focus: R-4
- Goal 2. To increase students writing achievement, leading with text and sentence structure: Focus 5-7
- Wandana has supported the implementation of the Positive Education program by training all staff on site inclusive of SSO's, informed community and Governing Council Members, to ensure that there is holistic approach to overall positive mental, emotional and physical health.
  - **Recent key outcomes:** A copy of our Annual Report can be viewed on the Wandana school website: [www.wandanac7.sa.edu.au](http://www.wandanac7.sa.edu.au) . Improvements noted are 88% of Year 3 students meeting NAPLAN SEA reading.
  - Whole school focus on STEM to utilise the new building (Tirkatha) which was funded by the STEMWorks initiative. The implementation and associated pedagogy/ software for teachers using Makers Empire and the 3D printers, drones, spheros and movie making devices.
  - Monetary grant through the Department for Education to support the upper primary class with movie making, acting and filming classes.
  - Monetary grant through the Languages area of the Department to implement Ngarrindgeri across school.
  - Dymocks fund raising to support the purchase of over \$8,000 worth of new books for the library.

### 4. *Curriculum*

#### **Subject offerings:**

**School context:** The specialist subjects offered during NIT are Performing Arts, Digital and Design Technology and Auslan. English, Humanities and Social Sciences, Health and Physical Education, Science and Mathematics are taught against the Australian Curriculum achievement standards.

**Pre-School context:** Achievement standards against the Literacy and Numeracy indicators in the Early Years Framework. Nature Play and Learning through Play pedagogy is a main focus.

- **Special needs:** Wandana P-7 School has a Junior Primary special class that caters for 8 students and an Upper Primary Special class that caters for 12 students. Leadership, teachers and families collaborate with support services

to create student specific One Plan documents to meet the emotional and educational needs of individual students. There are also over 30% of Wandana's mainstream population that are also verified through the Department as having a disability.

- EALD and students who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander can access additional support through small group intervention, after school academic support, learning plans and specialist teachers.
- **Special curriculum features:**
  - Positive Education is led by the teachers and the leadership team. Character strengths and growth mindsets are explicitly taught and reflected in Assemblies, Newsletters, teachers programs and students learning activities.
  - Wandana Warriors Aboriginal Boys group and Mi:Minar Aboriginal Girls group cater for a culturally inclusive activities that have literacy and numeracy outcomes.
  - Child Protection Curriculum and proactive social skills programs are run across the school by staff and are supported by the Student Wellbeing Leader.
  - The AET and EALD Teacher support staff to ensure that a culturally inclusive and language inclusive program is taught to all students, and are respectful of a variety of cultures and languages. Small groups of students who require intervention have access to these teachers on a regular basis.
  - Read, Write, Inc and Fresh Start Program is embedded from Reception to Year 7, using a phonics based approach to reading and writing.
  - Swimming Classes for students in Reception – Year 5 annually. Aquatics program for Year 6/7 students. Weekly swimming classes for JP special and UP special classes.
- **Teaching methodology:** A high commitment to implementing 21<sup>st</sup> Century pedagogy, inclusive, challenging and technology rich curriculum, through student centered activities is an expectation at Wandana. Teachers have learning communities where they participate in vigorous action research cycles to inform practice. They use a variety of tools such as TfEL and AITSL standards to lead their programming and practice. SSO support is used to support students with additional needs, intervention programs and special classes.
- **Student assessment procedures and reporting:** Assessment procedures and reporting structure are based on the Australian Curriculum. Student data is collected on a whole school data base and used when differentiating the curriculum. Reports go to families twice a year along with interviews once a year. Families are encouraged to join See Saw to gain additional information on their children and to have regular formal and informal contact with teachers throughout the whole year.
- **Joint programmes:** Training and development opportunities for staff are at times offered through a partnership approach.  
Valley View Secondary and The Avenues College at times offer our school musical and theatric opportunities to participate in.

## 5. *Sporting Activities*

- SAPSASA- Sport Schools Clinics, these include football, soccer, gymnastics, tag rugby, tennis and volleyball.

## 6. *Other Co-Curricular Activities*

- Festival of Music Choir is offered for student in Year 5-7. The performance is held annually at Festival Theatre. Come Out excursions
- Children's University is offered for students in Year 2-7. Opportunities to gain hours to attend graduation at Adelaide Hall.
- Assemblies held fortnightly in the Gym; Fridays 9.00am
- Sports Day
- Reconciliation Day, NAIDOC week and Sorry Day excursions
- Colour Fun Run-Fundraising event
- Book Week, Science Week, Numeracy, Literacy Week
- Homework Club: with Cultural Class
- Basketball Club
- Coding Club
- School Productions: R-2 and 3-7, held annually.
- Whole school performance at the end of the year.
- Harmony Day
- Grow your Mind day: Linked to the Positive Education whole site program
- Pancake Breakfast
- Whole School excursion to the Adelaide Zoo and Largs Bay
- Auskick football- Shared service with Pinnacle School
- Father's Day and Mother's Day Stalls- Run by Governing Council Members
- Celebrating Success for graduating Aboriginal Students
- Year 7 Graduation, Ceremony and Celebration
- Variety's special excursions for JP and UP special classes.

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile:** Length of service at the school ranges from under one year to approximately 27 years.
- **Leadership structure:** The leadership structure at the site consists of a full time Principal, B2 Deputy Principal 0.4 with 0.6 AET and B1 Student Wellbeing Leader 0.9 and 0.1 teaching load.
- **Staff support systems:** The school provides numerous Professional Development opportunities for staff, particularly in areas related to the Site and Partnership goals and priorities Staff Wellbeing and training has been a focus from 2018-2020 with 100% to be trained in PERMA.
  - Classes and staff work collaboratively in year level groups and in cross age situations. A buddy system supports the induction of new staff.
  - Staff Committees: ICT, Student Intervention Team, Flourishing Team, Aboriginal Education Team, Sports Day committee, School Improvement Team, Review and Planning Team and Social Club.
- **Performance Management:** A structured Performance Development Plan operates regularly for teaching and support staff. Twice a year, staff are provided with performance feedback in meetings with their Line Manager. Observations and continual communication on programming, planning and assessments allow for reflection and feedback to ensure practice relates to research and improved learning outcomes.
- **Access to special staff:** Para Hills Support Services ie. Behaviour Coach, Special Educator and Speech Pathologist, Social Workers, Psychologists, EALD Hub Coach, Literacy Coach, Brightpath Project Officers, SLLIP and LET team.

## 8. School Facilities

- **Buildings and grounds:** Newly refurbished STEM unit (Tirkatha) Meaning: Future Learning, funded by the Department Stem Work initiative. New flexible learning 'campfire' furniture purchased by school and STEM work budget. The school is housed in three solid single story buildings. The grounds include a tiger turf play area, several lawned areas, a large oval, nature play pre-school area, playground equipment with shaded sand pit area and a landcare enclosure.
- **Heating and cooling:** Classes have access to heating and cooling systems.
- **Specialist facilities and equipment:** Kitchen and Garden, school library, interactive TV's, Gymnasium, technology and performing arts classrooms and class sets of laptops and Ipads.
- **Student facilities:** Better Access medical room, nature play, gymnasium, oval and playground
- **Staff facilities:** Staff lounge and car park which is gated.
- **Access for students and staff with disabilities:** Ramps are provided at each entry point to provide access for staff and students.
- **Access to bus transport:** School uses Pinnacle School bus to transport both Special Classes to their swimming programs.

## 9. School Operations

- **Decision making structures:** All decision making groups operate on a democratic decision making model. Various structures exist to enact the policy currently in place and include Staff meetings, WHS, Governing Council, Finance Committee, and SSO meetings. Children's decision making is enacted through regular class meetings and through the Wandana Action Team.
- **Regular publications:**
  - Staff handbook updated annually
  - Staff Bulletin fortnightly
  - School Newsletter is published fortnightly- emailed, printed and put on social media
  - Notices published when required
- **Other communication:** See Saw, Facebook and School website
- **School financial position:** Wandana P-7 School is a financially viable institution with its major commitment being towards student growth and learning in literacy and numeracy.
- **Special Funding:** In school Tuition program supports Aboriginal students. Homework club is funded.

## 10. Local Community

- **General characteristics:** Low socio-economic community with 60% of families on School card. Many are single parent families. Mobility of families is high because of increasing rentals. Wandana's Aboriginal and EALD population is growing. There is a new development starting in the area. Housing varies from Aboriginal Housing, SA Housing, rentals and privately owned. Large housing blocks are being sold and re-developed.
- **Parent and community involvement:** Volunteers support classroom teachers with reading, school excursions and special events.
- **Feeder or destination schools:** Wandana Pre-school and The Avenues College
- **Other local care and educational facilities:** Wandana Child Care and Pinnacle College
- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities:** Near Grand Junction Rd, Junction shopping complex and local petrol station. Tea Tree Plaza is within 6kms of the school.
- **Other local facilities:** local parks within walking distance, Dry Creek and a golf course and driving range.
- **Local Government body:** Two Councils share management of this community, Port Adelaide and Enfield City Council and the Tea Tree Gully Council. Wandana Ave forms the boundary of the two council areas.  
Dana Wortley MP- Member for Torrens