

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2/20

School Name: YORKETOWN AREA SCHOOL

School Number: 0767

1. General Information

Part A

School Name YORKETOWN AREA SCHOOL
School No. 0767
Courier : Yorketown
Principal Ms Fiona Haselgrove
Postal Address PO Box 104, Yorketown SA 5576
Location Address Stansbury Road, Yorketown SA 5576
Partnership Southern Yorke

Distance from GPO 230 km Phone No: 08 88521233
CPC attached NO Fax No: 08 88521024

February FTE Enrolment

		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Primary	Reception	12	5	13	6	8	2	5
	Year 1	10	13	5	17	6	10	2
	Year 2	6	12	13	5	11	7	12
	Year 3	11	7	14	16	6	11	7
	Year 4	11	11	11	15	14	4	12
	Year 5	10	11	12	11	14	13	6
	Year 6	20	13	9	14	12	14	14
	Year 7	15	20	15	10	11	17	15
Secondary	Year 8	40	31	35	27	24	16	27
	Year 9	29	41	28	33	25	23	16
	Year 10	35	27	32	23	21	20	18
	Year 11	16	33	24	26	20	18	15
	Year 12	27	12	26	20	20	17	15
	FLO			4	16	11	1	1
Total		242	236	239	239	203	172	165

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
School Card Approvals (Persons)			69	71	64		

Aboriginal FTE Enrolment		4	5	4	9	7	7
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Part B

- Deputy Principal: Ms Beth Walsh
- Email Address: dl.0767.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Staffing numbers : Teachers 13.7 FTE
: SSO's 13 SSO's
GSE 1
- OSHC : N/A
- Enrolment trends: 2014 - 242 students 2020 – 165 students
- Special arrangements: Nil
- Year of opening 1943: 1922 - Higher Primary
1943 - Area School
1976 - Relocated to current site
- Public transport access: A bus service to Adelaide operates 5 days per week.

2. Students (and their welfare)

Yorke town Area School is an R-12 school that is situated on the Southern Yorke Peninsula. It draws its students from localities within this region including Yorke town, Edithburgh, Coobowie, Wool Bay, Port Moorowie, Warooka, Point Turton, Corny Point and Marion Bay. Feeder schools include the Yorke town Community Children's Centre, Warooka Primary and St Columba's Memorial School. School Cardholders comprise approximately 30% of the school population reflecting a variety of socioeconomic groups. The school is serviced by 5 school buses all operated by private contractors, which transport approximately 60% of the student population.

Students are organised into classes/home groups for Pastoral Care and daily routines. A Pastoral Care program runs weekly with a focus on meeting the needs of students at that particular age. The program includes a mindfulness program – "Smiling Minds".

Special needs

Currently the school caters for students with special needs within mainstream classes. When students are identified through an intervention process, a OCOP (One child, one plan) is developed in collaboration with families and external agencies. Students with special needs (R – 12) are supported individually or in small groups by their classroom/subject teachers, SSOs and community members.

Student management

The students are managed in three sub-schools; R-6, Years 7-9 & Years 10-12. There is a whole of school Student Behaviour Management policy based on encouraging students to be responsible for their own behaviour. The strategies for implementation are developed through whole school and sub-school meetings. Behaviour strategies/consequences have been developed in consultation with students, staff and parents. Counselling and support services assist us in our management of student behaviour. Student behaviour contracts are developed for students needing support with Behaviour Management. Student Wellbeing is a strong focus at the school with a Student Wellbeing Coordinator for both primary and secondary students being available. Students are also supported by a Pastoral Care Worker for approximately 15 hours per week.

The school vision of “Growing Minds, Shaping Hearts and Changing Lives” is a focus for the implementation of all school expectations.

Student Representative Council (SRC)

Student Voice has a strong focus at Yorketown Area School. Students are encouraged to be involved in the school’s decision making. There is a functional SRC with representatives from R-12. Students are represented on the Governing Council, Grounds, Curriculum, RIF, Agriculture, Presentation Night, and Canteen Committees. They are also responsible for running class meetings in their Home Groups, R-6 and R-12 Assemblies and Presentation Night at the end of the year.

Special programmes

Students are encouraged to participate in a variety of extra-curricular activities which depending on student interest include knockout sporting competitions, SAPSASA and lunchtime sporting activities, which are organised and run by the Student House Captains. Students also facilitate the running of the school social and are actively encouraged to be involved in community-based functions.

The school is committed to Vocational Education and to working with neighbouring schools to increase student curriculum options and to add relevance to the curriculum. Yorketown Area School is a member of the Southern Yorke Partnership and is aligned with Minlaton District School, Ardrossan Area School, and Maitland Area School as part of a bid to provide certificate training for our communities through the Commonwealth Trade Training Centre Programme. The Yorketown Trade Training Facilities have the capability to deliver engineering, automotive and hospitality. Certificate II Automotive is being delivered in 2020. Shark Tank is being delivered in partnership with Ardrossan Area School in 2020.

The school is engaging with the Marna Banggara project (Great Southern Ark) project with student representatives on the Community Consultation group, middle school students using a Problem Based Learning approach to investigate the project and students participating in base line biodiversity surveys.

Electives are run an afternoon a week across school (R-12). This program offers a range of learning activities for students to explore - Creative Writing, Grounds Group, Puppetry, Plain Speaking, Murals, Choir, Dance, Specialist Sport, Newsletter, School Magazine, Photography, Horticulture are some of the options that are rotated on a term basis. Senior students are encouraged to develop leadership by leading or assisting with electives.

The school won a “Specialist Schools” grant for STEM late in 2016. The grant was used to develop use of drones and ICT in agriculture. This work is shared across local schools. The school participated in the 3-D

printing project in semester 2 of 2018. YAS had 2 students and a mentor teacher participate in the STEM Ambassadors program in 2018 and one student in 2019.

3. Key School Policies

VISION: “Growing minds, Shaping hearts, changing lives”

MISSION: Yorketown Area School provides a progressive centre for quality learning that develops students intellectually, emotionally and socially to succeed in an unpredictable world.

At Yorketown Area School we support every student to achieve their highest possible level of learning and wellbeing through a focus on the four directions from External Review 2018:

1. Develop a school statement of vision and moral purpose that clearly identifies improving student academic learning outcomes as the core business of the whole, and each sector, of the school.
2. Prioritise performance and development strategies that include focused classroom observations and formative feedback for staff.
3. Ensure every teacher is accountable for continuously improving their practice through the implementation of agreed whole-school curriculum and pedagogies, as informed by training and development.
4. Develop data practices in the school to track and monitor student learning growth over time and to inform short cycles of intentional, differentiated teaching.

The review in 2019 found that:

- Improving student academic learning is clearly identifiable as the school’s core business.
- Collaboration and performance and development processes are building teacher capacity.
- Agreed, whole school curriculum and pedagogical approaches ensure learning coherence for students
- Data is used effectively to track growth, and to intentionalise and differentiate teaching.
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The school will be reviewed against these directions in 2021

A **Site Improvement Plan** using the new Department for Education process has been developed with three goals for 2019-2021:

1. Increase phonic recognition R-2
2. Increase student achievement in reading comprehension Year 1-10.
3. Increase student achievement in number in Years 3-10

4. Curriculum

Yorketown Area School provides options and opportunities for all Reception to Year 12 students, enabling them to reach their potential socially, emotionally, physically and academically.

There is a transition program between YAS and the Yorketown Community Children’s Centre and between YAS and its feeder schools (St Columba’s Memorial School and Warooka Primary.)

The curriculum is designed to provide a balanced program that not only equips students with the necessary tools for learning but also prepares them for effective participation in society and meets their needs for progress to further education, training and/or employment.

The Australian curriculum has been implemented years R – 12. The Teaching for Effective Learning Framework guides pedagogical improvement and Learning Design is used as a planning tool.

In Years R-9 students undertake all areas of study to prepare them better for future choices. In Year 10 students complete Personal Learning Plan (PLP). In Years 11 and 12 the framework is SACE, designed to enable young people to make a successful transition from school. A comprehensive range of SACE Stage 1 and 2 subjects is offered. Open Access and Local Delivery are used to supplement the range of curriculum offerings at Stage 1 & 2. YAS is developing a new model of Stage 1 science in partnership with Open Access. Year 11 science students study their chosen science (s) through Open Access but are also programmed 4 lessons a week with specialist teachers to support and enhance their science learning. Students also have the opportunity to be involved in a range of VET/ASBA opportunities all of which involve Structured Workplace Learning

In the Junior and Middle Schools there is an emphasis on comprehension with Guided Reading used R-6 (measured by Running Records and Literacy Pro Lexiles) and Reciprocal Teaching used in the middle school. A Literacy Professional Learning Community is supporting this work. Big idea in number testing has been introduced to identify conceptual misunderstandings and teachers are developing Big Idea in Number strategies through a Numeracy Professional Learning Community.

Individual programs are negotiated for students with identified or special needs including those with high intellectual potential. YAS sponsors a small number of students to access “Gifted & Talented” workshops. Students are encouraged to participate in a range of competitions and in 2017 and 2018 YAS students were winners in the ANZAC prize and travelled to Vietnam. In 2018 3 Junior School Teams (Year 2-5) participated in the Oliphant Science Awards.

The middle school students work across year levels on a “Problem Based Learning” task during Term 3. Students engage in a local problem, research including interviews with involved parties and present their findings at the annual Learning Expo held in September. The 2018 topic was on the Hillside Mine located at Ardrossan, in 2019 the topic was the Great Southern Ark Project.

The school has a range of Digital Technology programs including Digital Technology courses Year 7-11, a STEM elective, use of drones in Agriculture, digital learning R-6 including introductory coding using Bee Bots. A specialist STEM space was created in 2019.

Agricultural Studies has a whole school focus with students engaging in both theoretical and practical activities, the latter individually or in groups. Work Experience and projects involving cattle, goats, poultry, pigs, rabbits, sheep, cropping and vegetables are practical components. The Led Steer and Led Goat programmes, culminating in attending the Royal Adelaide Show are a feature. YAS has had outstanding success showing chickens which is led by a volunteer.

In junior school Spanish is the language delivered. There is some delivery of Narrungga Language and a native plant/food trail is under development with Narrungga signage.

Visual and Performing Arts in R-6 is offered through a combination of class programs and purchased instruction (Dance). Visual Arts has a strong program in secondary. A small group of students access Instrumental Music Lessons and participate in the Southern Yorke Band. Unfortunately the Department

cannot meet demands for some areas of instrumental music. Some secondary students have accessed music through distance education. The electives program provides opportunities including Choir and Puppetry.

Reporting:

- R-6** Descriptive reports against all areas of Australian Curriculum in Term 2 and Term 4
Student led conferences are facilitated in week 2, Term 2
Family/teacher/student interviews are optional in Term 3
- 7-12** Descriptive reports in Term 1 and Term 3
Tick-a-box reports Term 2 and Term 4 (no reports for year 12's in Term 4)
Student led conferences week 2, Term 2.
- R-11 Learning Expo (R-11) Thursday Week 10, Term 3**

Student learning is celebrated at the annual Presentation Night in December.

5. Learner Management System

Daymap is the LMS used. At this stage it is used for attendance, bulletins and resource booking. All teachers have course outlines on Daymap. Secondary staff load tasks and resources on to Daymap. Written reports are produced on Daymap.

6. Sporting Activities

In addition to the vibrant school Sports Day the school actively participates in a wide range of sporting activities e.g. SAPSASA, SASSSA knock out sports, primary and secondary interschool athletics and sport days, 9-side boys and girls football, bushwalking, surfing, canoeing and sailing. YAS surf team took out the U16 Boys, Open Boys and Team Event in 2018 and in 2019 in School Surfing.

7. Other Co-Curricular Activities include:

- Aquatics
- Camps/Field Trips - across all year levels
- Canberra Trip – once every three years for Year 7-9
- Operation Flinders (some students have gone on to become mentors)
- Meet the Writers
- Student Governance activities
- Surf and Beach Safety Days
- Young Leaders Days
- Youth Driver Education
- Wellbeing Ambassadors
- STEM Ambassadors

8. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile

A committed staff works R-12. The school is working towards increased cohesion between the Junior and Secondary schools through initiatives such as electives, bringing the Sports Days together, secondary providing NIT in the Junior School, R-12 Professional Learning Communities (Literacy and Numeracy) and the R-11 Learning Expo.

Leadership structure:

Principal	R-12, HR, professional development, whole school teaching and learning, wellbeing, pastoral care, governance
Deputy Principal	7-9 Middle School, middle school pedagogies, WHS, Daily Routines, transitions
Coordinator	R- 6 Junior School – teaching and learning, management & Intervention & Support R-10
Coordinator	10-12 Senior School, SACE Improvement, Open Access, VET & Wellbeing 5-12

Staff support systems:

Sub – School groups – All teaching staff are affiliated with one of the sub-school teams and they meet as a team on a regular basis. Leadership team meets each Thursday night and whole school meetings are held each Tuesday.

The school maintains a comprehensive performance support commitment. All staff are supported by a line manager, with whom they meet on a regular basis. There is a set expectations for performance development meetings with emphasis on professional development, goal setting and meeting the needs of the school's Improvement Plan. Observation is embedded in the performance management process and peer observations are encouraged.

The PAC in consultation with the principal defines deployment of staff and staff use in specialist areas. All staff deployment is based on a philosophy of equity in the delivery of curriculum R-12.

Four full time School Support staff provide direct administration support. The remainder assist in class programs, working with teachers to support students with literacy and/or numeracy gaps as indicated by the data sets. School Support staff are encouraged to multi-skill themselves so that they have the capacity to take on a number of roles as the need arises.

Access to specialist staff

An instrumental music teacher works with students on a weekly basis to teach woodwind and brass instruments. Other music instruction is resourced when available; currently many students access piano, guitar and drums lessons privately. If school facilities are available, students are able to attend private lessons at school.

The school has access to Special Education Support personnel from Yorke and Mid North Regional Office as required in terms of providing training and development and support for staff.

Other

WHS – A School Support Officer maintains records and supports the Deputy Principal.

9. Incentives, support and award conditions for

Staff

Complexity placement points

: 0.0 points

Isolation placement points

: 3.5 points

Cash in lieu of removal allowance

: Yes

Housing assistance

: Rental is subsidised if sufficient government housing is available.

Country Incentives

: Fortnightly allowance paid to teaching staff

10. School Facilities

Canteen

The Governing Council runs a viable canteen three days a week run by a paid employee and wonderful team of volunteers. They service YAS students and St Columba's Memorial School students and cater for additional events such as Sports Days and Professional Learning Day.

Buildings and Grounds

The school's learning areas are a mix of open space and separate general learning areas and reflect the design of schools built in the 1970s with the following improvements:

- In 2010 BER funding was used for major refurbishments to the Front Office, Science and Language/ICT areas, Library and the Gymnasium/Drama buildings.
- An extensive Trade Training Centre was developed in 2013/14 including light engineering facilities and a commercial grade kitchen.
- A STEM space was created at the end of 2018 where students engage in Science, Mathematics, Coding, Digital Technology in the one space.
- The secondary block was refreshed over the 2018/19 summer to provide more flexible learning spaces to accommodate different teaching strategies.
- The Junior School was refurbished in 2019 and a linked outdoor learning space developed in 2020 will complement the Junior School.

The extensive grounds are pleasant and functional. The school boasts extensive oval and play areas and a playground area for junior school students. The Grounds Committee provide a constant ongoing evaluation and improvements to grounds. An active grounds group is working to improve the outside spaces with parents assisting with painting, planting, building a sandpit. An electives group supports this work.

Heating/Cooling

The air conditioning system was completely updated in 2015 and classrooms have very good heating and cooling .

Specialist facilities

- A well-equipped Gymnasium, drama and suite
- STEM Space
- School community library
- Class laptops provided R-9, Year 10- 12 students BYOD or borrow from the library.
- Approximately 9 hectares are available for Agricultural purposes with accommodation for chickens, steer, goats, pigs, rabbits and facilities for plant studies – a hot house, an established orchard.

Student facilities

Students have flexible learning spaces with spacious classrooms and shared spaces. Interactive Televisions have replaced interactive whiteboards 2016-20. They have access to a canteen which provides lunches for all students for 3 days a week. Year 12 students enjoy a common room.

Staff facilities

Office spaces are available for staff preparation and there is a range of meeting spaces. All teacher preparation areas have IT access to admin and email facilities.

Access for students and staff with disabilities

Most areas of the school have wheel-chair access.

Access to bus transport

The school leases a 12 seater mini bus for small group learning activities/ Private buses are available for excursions.

11. School Operations

Decision making structures

The Governing Council providing the main forums for discussion of issues and decision making for parents. Sub school meetings deal with issues relevant to those parts of the school. All staff is involved in the implementation of agreed current school priorities through Priority Improvement Plan focus groups and performance management. There are a number of sub-committees linking to Governing Council that have student, staff and parent representatives.

Regular publications

Student Journals and staff handbooks are published annually, a school newsletter is distributed three times per term and a computerised staff bulletin is generated daily.

Senior School guide are available for students / parents.

Other communication

Class newsletters, Annual Report, newspaper articles, Yorketown Area School website, Facebook page, SeeSaw, Daymap Learner Management System, policies when developed are distributed to parents.

School financial position

The school is in a sound financial position. The Parents and Friends group actively pursues fundraising.

12. Local Community

General characteristics

Yorke Peninsula Area School is an easy 2½ hour drive from Adelaide. Yorke Peninsula and district is a draw card for boating, fishing, diving and swimming. There are calm waters surrounding most of the peninsula with fast, hollow beach breaks and powerful reef set ups for surfers in the southwest. The town and district support mainly agricultural activities with some small industry and tourism. The district is a rural community with an ideal climate and a relaxed lifestyle. Yorke Peninsula is a service town for the surrounding community and a large number of visitors to the district. The Innes National Park at Stenhouse Bay is the second most visited park in South Australia.

Parent and community involvement

Parents are involved in the school through Governing Council, Parents and Friends and classroom support. Parents are involved in a number of sub-committees that are linked to Governing Council. The school receives fantastic support from parents who support the wide variety of events/activities that take place at school, in the nearby, surrounding areas and far away places.

Other local care and educational facilities

Regional TAFE SA - Kadina

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

Shopping facilities afford a range of goods and facilities.

Other local facilities

There are a number of churches and associated branches. Sporting and other community facilities are well patronised and include, football, netball, golf, basketball, table-tennis, croquet, lawn bowls, cricket, hockey, tennis, BMX track, playground, ambulance and CFS. There is a junior surf lifesaving club based at Berry Bay. Other local activities include "Park Run" and local fitness and wellbeing groups. There is medical centre in the town, an emergency facility and a government hospital. There are two Police Officers stationed in the town.

Availability of staff housing

Government housing is available in Yorke Peninsula. Private rental (can be subsidised) is generally available in most towns.

Local Government body

Yorke Peninsula Council