



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 8/19

School number: 0408

School name: Springton Primary School

Springton Primary School is located on the edge of the Barossa Valley. We are a school committed to working collaboratively with our community to achieve the best possible outcomes and opportunities for our students.

Our school's size enables us to foster a supportive, family atmosphere with an emphasis on sharing, supporting, caring and cooperating with each other. Social skills are promoted and further developed. We run well-being programs across the school including You Can Do It where the keys to success of persistence, resilience, confidence, getting along and organisation are explicitly taught. In addition, Kimochis are used to teach emotional awareness and regulation. This creates a great school spirit, and a positive outlook and attitude as well as equipping students with the skills to be successful.

In our small school, student well-being is a high priority and each of the staff members know every student. Our school provides opportunities for maximum involvement and participation in extra curricula activities such as SAPSASA sport, swimming, visual arts and numerous school and community events.

We have an extremely well-resourced library, computer suite and classroom laptops and iPads accessible for every student. Through our innovative STEM program, all students are given the opportunity to develop skills in robotics and 3D printing and to use these skills to support learning across the curriculum.

At Springton Primary we teach and build sustainable habits in our students. We have an extensive vegetable garden and run a fortnightly cooking program using food grown in our garden so that children experience growing, harvesting and preparing their own food.

We offer a quality learning environment with air-conditioned classrooms, multiple learning spaces, spacious grounds, grassed playing areas, vegetable gardens and a nature play space.

1. General information

- Principal: Bec Jamieson
- Year of opening: 1879
- Postal Address: CMB Miller Street
C/O Post Office
Springton SA 5235
- Location Address: 25 Miller Street
Springton SA 5235

- Partnership: Torrens Valley
- Geographical location: 62.5 Kms from GPO
- Telephone number: 08 8568 2254
- Fax Number: 08 8568 2162
- School website address: www.springtnps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: dl.0408.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: No
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: Happy Haven OSHC Pty Ltd
- February FTE student enrolment: 36

Student enrolment trends:

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Reception	4	5	2	3	4
Year 1	3	4	4	5	1
Year 2	8	4	10	4	5
Year 3	3	8	6	8	4
Year 4	0	2	8	8	6
Year 5	6	1	2	10	6
Year 6	2	5	0	3	8
Year 7	7	0	6	0	2
Total	33	29	38	41	36
School Card	18%	21%	37%	42%	53%
ATSI Enrolments	0	0	0	0	0
NESB Enrolments	0	0	0	0	0

Staffing numbers (as at February census):

Teacher Staffing			Ancillary Staffing	
	R-7 Teachers	Leadership	GSE	SSO
Roles & time allocations	1 Full Time	Principal 1.0 (0.5 teaching role)	Groundsperson 5 hours/week	Admin/Finance 37.5 hours/week
	1 Part-time 0.8			3 Curriculum Support
	1 Part-time 0.6			Kitchen Coordinator
	1 Part-time 0.1			

Public transport access:

There is limited public transport available.

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics

The student population comes primarily from the town of Springton, with a small percentage of students coming from nearby farms and towns. The vast majority of students have parents working in the Barossa, while some students come from families whose adults commute to work in Gawler or Adelaide. School Card percentage in the last year has increased from 42% to 53%. Seven of our students with identified special needs are supported through their One Plans.

Student well-being programs

The school staff work proactively with parents, students and community members to support student well-being. The school has implemented the You Can Do It program and is currently working to further develop students' organisation, confidence, persistence, resilience and ability to get along with others. We teach emotional awareness and regulation using the Kimochis program. We have a Pastoral Care Worker on staff whose main role is to support student and community well-being.

Student support offered

Individual, group and whole class support is provided by both teachers and SSOs. Our Year 4-7 class works in two groups (4/5 and 6/7) 3 mornings a week for English and Mathematics. Small group reading support is provided by SSOs for students who are identified through our whole-school data monitoring processes. SSOs support individual students to achieve their One Plan goals.

The size of our school enables all staff to know each student well allowing us to easily identify, and then plan, interventions for students who may need support with their emotional wellbeing, behaviour or learning.

Student management

Behaviour is managed through a clear process that involves positive reinforcement and clear consequences. Parents are very supportive. The Principal and staff are actively involved in counselling children. The SRC, Governing Council and staff have developed a whole school code of conduct. At Springton Primary, high-level behavioural incidents are rare.

Student government

At the beginning of each year, five to six Student Council representatives are elected who meet fortnightly to discuss issues affecting student welfare, fundraising and whole school initiatives.

Special programmes

Digital Technologies: Springton Primary has a strong robotics program. The students are highly engaged by this program which provides stimulating opportunities to teach concepts in a variety of curriculum areas including the Digital Technologies curriculum. We also have a 3D printer which students use to support their learning in a variety of ways.

Kitchen Garden: Students at Springton Primary School grow, harvest, prepare and share fresh food from the school's vegetable garden in line with the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen/Garden model. All students are involved in fortnightly cooking sessions.

You Can Do It: Springton PS is a You Can Do It school. Students explicitly learn the Keys to Success of Getting Along, Organisation, Persistence, Resilience and Confidence. The language and concepts of this program are embedded in the culture of the school.

3. Key School Policies

Our mission is to provide a high quality educational program that will develop in each student a passion and purpose for learning and a commitment to maximising his/her learning potential. Our motto is 'Developing 21st Century Learners'.

Our Site Improvement Plan focus areas for 2019 are Writing, Numeracy and Reading.

Students are encouraged to:

- Be challenged to take risks in their learning in a safe, harassment free environment
- Use their 'voice' to learn
- Experience a relevant, challenging and interesting curriculum
- Be motivated and flexible powerful learners
- Develop the abilities of independent and co-operative learning
- Develop skills and abilities in all curriculum and cross-curricula learning
- Be aware of themselves and their role in the social environment of the broader world and operate effectively and autonomously within it.

4. Curriculum

Like all South Australian Government schools, at Springton we use the Australian Curriculum.

Subjects taught in our school:

- English
- The Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Technologies
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Languages Other than English (French)
- Health & Physical Education

Open Access/Distance Education provision:

We currently do not use Open Access. Our language program is delivered face-to-face

Special needs:

Approximately 17% of our students are verified as students with a disability. We have highly committed SSOs working with these students and receive excellent support from both DfE and NDIS support service providers.

Student assessment procedures and reporting

Term 1 – Parent Acquaintance Night & Student Led Conferences

Term 2 – Mid-Year Written Report

Term 3 – Student Led Conferences

Term 4 – End- of-Year Written Report

Parents/Teachers are encouraged to discuss student progress at other times of the year as needed.

We follow a yearly Assessment Schedule that includes PAT testing, Running Records, NAPLAN on-line, and Phonics Screening. Teachers continuously monitor student learning using formative and summative assessments.

5. Sporting Activities

Regular sporting clinics are held on site through the Sporting Schools Program.

Swimming and Water Safety lessons are held at The Rex in Tanunda.

Sports Day is combined with Palmer, Keyneton, Mt Pleasant, Truro, Light Pass and Cambrai Schools and is held towards the end of Term 3 each year.

There is strong support for community teams in football, tennis and cricket.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

The annual School Christmas Concert is a long standing tradition and one of the highlights of the school year.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Leadership

1.0 Principal (0.5 admin & 0.5 teaching)

Teaching Staff

1.0 Class teacher

0.8 Class Teacher

0.2 Class Teacher and 0.4 NIT (French, Arts, Technology)

0.1 Garden Coordinator (0.1)

Non-Teaching Staff

Full time Finance/Administration Officer

3 Curriculum Support Officers

Kitchen Coordinator

Pastoral Care Worker

Groundsperson

We are also fortunate to have a volunteer Library Coordinator who works 6 hours per week.

Staff at this school work together as a supportive and dedicated team. Strong working relationships have been developed. Teaching staff meet once a week (Wednesday) for professional development and discussion.

Leadership structure

1.0 – Principal (0.5 admin & 0.5 teaching)

Staff support systems

Opportunities to work collaboratively with staff from other sites are provided regularly. Budgets are set each year to support staff training, especially when it is relevant to the school's priorities. Springton PS teachers meet with Mt Pleasant PS teachers at least twice per term. Partnership leaders meet regularly to plan professional development. (The partnership includes Mt Pleasant, Birdwood, Lobethal, Gumeracha, Woodside, Kersbrook & Paracombe Primary Schools).

Performance Management

In line with the Department for Education's performance development guidelines, performance development meetings occur each term, and consist of observations, discussions, sharing of practice, formal recording of successes and written feedback. Participation in training & development, shared curriculum leadership and peer observation & feedback is encouraged. Discussion on programs to support the school's Site Learning Plan are an embedded part of weekly staff meetings.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

Complexity placement points	N/A
Isolation placement points	1.5
Shorter terms	N/A
Travelling time	N/A
Housing assistance	N/A
Cash in lieu of removal allowance	N/A
Additional increment allowance	N/A
Designated schools benefits	N/A
Aboriginal/Anangu schools	N/A
Medical and dental treatment expenses	N/A
Locality allowances	N/A
Relocation assistance	N/A
Principal's telephone costs	N/A

9. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds

The school's heritage building serves primarily as the Library and third classroom. In 2016, the two toilet blocks were refurbished and the Art Room was converted into a kitchen with three cooking areas. In 2017, the basketball court and surrounding fencing was completely replaced. 2019 saw the completion of all new fencing around the school as well as an outdoor play area accessible from the classroom for the younger students.

Heating and cooling

All class areas, the library and office have reverse-cycle air conditioning with the exception of the Kitchen which has a wall mounted AC unit.

Specialist facilities and equipment

The Kitchen is fitted out with three stoves, benchtops and sink areas to enable fortnightly cooking lessons. The Library is automated using Bookmark and has a good collection for a

school of this size. The school has one 3D printer and a range of robotics equipment. The Institute (community hall) is used by the school for large gatherings or as an extra space for curriculum activities. Students each have a laptop or iPad.

Student facilities

Local clubs use school sports facilities after school occasionally (e.g. tennis). Our school has a large garden on the school grounds as part of our sustainability focus.

Staff facilities:

A teacher preparation room is available for staff use. The library has a designated office area for use by staff. An extensive professional library is available for staff use.

Access for students and staff with disabilities

There is disabled access to the classrooms area. There is no disabled access to toilets.

Access to bus transport

Private contractors' buses are available for excursions. Link SA runs a service between the Barossa and Adelaide twice daily.

10. School Operations

Decision making structures

A very active Governing Council meets twice per term and is supported by a number of Sub-committees. These include Finance and OSHC.

- All staff attend a staff meeting on Wednesday. Staff members are involved in all negotiation via staff meetings or ad hoc discussions. Decision making processes focus on consensus.
- Student Representative Committee composed of 5-6 students with a focus on student issues, student events, student-initiated school improvements.
- PAC (Staffing, staff related issues, policies/finance advice).

Regular publications

The fortnightly school newsletter is published on the school website and SkoolBag. Paper copies can be sent home on request. The school has an extensive website that is kept up to date. School articles are submitted to the Springton Snippets, Herald and Leader. Assemblies are held twice per term with work presented from classes, certificates and news. Staff communication occurs face-to-face and through email and noticeboard.

School financial position

We are in a sound financial position and employ a permanent 37.5 hour/week Finance/Administration Officer to oversee our financial management processes.

11. Local Community

General characteristics

The community is a mix of urban and semi-rural, old and new, with a very strong sense of community. All families have an English speaking background and take an active interest in their children's schooling. Some students are third-generation at the school.

Parent and community involvement

Springton Primary School has an extremely supportive parent body who work closely with staff. We actively welcome and encourage parental involvement in all aspects of our learning and specialist programs.

Feeder or destination schools

Local secondary schools are Birdwood and Nuriootpa High Schools. We are a feeder school for Birdwood High. A school bus service operates out of Springton for Birdwood, whereas the Nuriootpa service runs from Eden Valley. Independent secondary schools are located at Tanunda and Gawler.

Other local care and educational facilities

- Children attend pre-school at the Mt Pleasant Kindergarten.
- Childcare centres are located at Angaston and Birdwood.
- TAFE colleges are located in Gawler and Nuriootpa.
- Springton Primary School has an OHSC operating after school and during all holiday periods.

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

There is a local store in Springton which sells fuel.

Other local facilities

A range of sports clubs and cultural activities are available locally, while travelling time by car to the centre of Adelaide is approximately 90 minutes for further opportunities. Other large facilities (e.g. shopping, medical and transport) are found at Mount Barker, Nuriootpa, Gawler and Modbury, all approximately 30 – 40 minutes away.

Availability of staff housing

There is no government staff housing available. Rental accommodation is limited.

Accessibility

There is limited public transport available to and from Springton which goes via Birdwood to Tea Tree Plaza. Limited bus services run to Birdwood and Angaston.

Local Government body

Barossa Council