

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

School Name: Minlaton District School

School Number: 0781



1. General Information

Part A

School Name	: MINLATON DISTRICT SCHOOL	Courier	: Minlaton
School No.	: 0781		
Principal	: Mr Andrew Dickinson		
Postal Address	: 2 North Terrace, Minlaton 5575		
Location Address	: 2 North Terrace, Minlaton 5575		
Website	: www.minlatonds.sa.edu.au		
Email	: dl.info.0781@schools.sa.edu.au		
Region	: Yorke and Mid North Region		
Distance from GPO	: 199 kms	Phone No.	: 08 88532346
CPC attached	: NO	Fax No.	: 08 88532531
Cat of Disadvantage	: 5		
ICSEA	: 984		

	2020	2021	2022	2023
February Enrolment				
Primary				
Reception	14	26	23	21
Year 1	23	12	20	22
Year 2	16	23	18	23
Year 3	27	16	17	17
Year 4	18	27	16	19
Year 5	18	18	25	17
Year 6	23	16	21	21
Secondary				
Year 7	19	28	13	26
Year 8	19	20	27	15
Year 9	27	14	20	24
Year 10	28	23	13	15
Year 11	12	23	19	11
Year 12	23.2	11	20	16
Year 12 plus	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	267.2	257	252	261
School Card Approvals (Persons)	81	72	Tbc	57
NESB Total (Persons)	0	0	0	0
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	18	18	22	27

Part B

- **Deputy Principal**
Greg Hackett
- **Staffing Numbers**
24 Teaching Staff Inc Leadership; 22 SSO Staff
- **OSHC**
N/A
- **Enrolment Trends**
Student numbers have shown a small increase over recent years; numbers remain strong throughout primary years.
- **Special Arrangements**
Nil
- **Year of Opening**
1992
- **Public Transport Access**
A bus service (Yorke Peninsula Passenger Service) operates 1 day per week to Adelaide. There is no public transport or taxi service in proximity to the school.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General Characteristics**
Minlaton District School officially became R-12 in 1992 for students of the surrounding communities of Minlaton, Brentwood, Hardwicke Bay, Port Vincent and feeder schools at Stansbury and Curramulka. In general, students are co-operative and reflect supportive family backgrounds and an active community. School Cardholders comprise 25% of the school population, reflecting the variety of socio-economic groups and there has been an increase in transient families in recent years. The school is serviced by five school buses that transport approximately 60% of the student population.
- **Resilience and Wellbeing Program (CPC)**
All R-12 classes are involved in this program. It provides grounding for the years ahead and students will develop similar expectations regarding study and behaviour and build positive relationships with other students, staff and the community. The program also provides a focus on; student wellbeing, bullying, social skills, collaborative skills and values. The SHine program also supports student wellbeing and is incorporated through the HPE curriculum.
- **Support Offered**
All teachers are teachers of wellbeing and a Pastoral Care Worker/School Care Worker triages students of concern with a case management approach being undertaken by the leadership team with close links to outside agencies.

- ***Student Management***
Our school has a regularly reviewed Student Behaviour Management Policy in line with DfE Policy. Teachers establish classroom expectations with their students and a range of mechanisms are utilised across the school to support students to comply with these expectations. Teachers utilise whole school processes as required.
- ***Student Agency***
Students have leadership opportunities at a variety of levels within the school. A House competition is lead by student leaders and involves all aspects of school life. Student leaders represent the school on formal occasions and run school assemblies. Students are able to form interest groups where further leadership opportunities and engagement in decision making arise. Training and staff support in both leadership and meeting management is provided.
- ***Special Programmes***
Individual case management of students support their engagement, wellbeing and future pathways.

3. Key School Policies

- ***Site Improvement Plan***
The plan for 2023 and beyond has been developed, taking into consideration; Minlaton District School Priorities, the Southern Yorke Partnership plan and DfE Strategic Plan.
[See SIP on MDS website for further detail](#)

Minlaton District School - where everyone thrives!

Our vision is to foster a connected school community, where every student is empowered to thrive in their academic and personal lives. We are committed to ensuring that all students confidently express themselves through eloquent expression and apply numeracy in diverse life situations.

We value Zest for Learning, Deep Understanding and Mastery, Transfer of Learning, Building Personal Capacity, Close Connections, Identity and Belonging

Factis non Verbis – by deeds not words

4. Curriculum

- ***Subject Offerings***
R-10 curriculum is based on the Australian Curriculum. A comprehensive range of SACE Stage 1 & 2 subjects is offered for Year 11-13 students. The middle and senior secondary sub-schools operate on a 5-day, six lesson timetable. By adopting 50 minute time slots across the school, teaching and non-teaching staff are able to move more more efficiently between R-12 classes and many teach across multiple year levels.
- ***Open Access and Local Delivery***
The Open Access College is used to supplement the range of curriculum offerings at SACE Stage 1 and 2. Students are able to access a range of

learning opportunities through neighbouring schools where subjects are not accessible within our school and MDS teachers also provide delivery to students from neighbouring schools. Students are supported with teacher mentors in designated subjects and supervised study time, and supported by School Support Officer time for administration and student monitoring.

- **Special Needs**

Students with disabilities are part of our mainstream classes supported by staff from DfE support services and other agencies. School Support Officers engage with individuals and small groups of students and follow specific programs designed by teaching staff to support their learning in areas of identified need. Specific programs support individual learning needs as required.

- **Special Curriculum Features**

A Year 10 Careers Trip to Adelaide is an annual event focussing on Tertiary / Industry and Business Site visits as well as orientation around city environs using public transport.

Students are encouraged to participate in VET programmes (both within and outside of school), School Based Apprenticeships and regular Work Experience.

The use of digital technologies and the Daymap system support these students to keep up with their subject requirements.

- **Assessment Procedures and Reporting**

A continuous assessment and reporting structure, student work samples, complemented by parent/teacher/student learning conversations and written reports is in place across R-12. The R-10 reports provide feedback on the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards. Year 11 and 12 reports are based on the SACE requirements.

- **Joint Programmes**

Southern Yorke Peninsula Trade Training Centre

Local community partnership VET Programs.

Transition programs – Pre-school to Reception; Primary into High School.

Events with community involvement.

5. Sporting Activities

The school actively participates in a wide range of sporting activities eg SAPSASA, SSSSA Knock Out and Yorke Peninsula Zone sports, Primary and Secondary Interschool Athletics, SSSSA Athletics, DfE aquatics programs.

6. Other Co-Curricula Activities

- **General**

Instrumental tuition is provided by DfE Instrumental Music Services teacher who visit the school on a weekly basis. Tuition is free and is currently available for woodwind and strings.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff Profile**

Minlaton District School has a competent, stable and committed staff, working across a range of learning areas, in each sub school (Primary; R-5, Middle; 6-9, Senior; 10-12). Staff in specialist areas work across year levels.

- **Leadership Structure**

Principal, Deputy Principal and three B1 leaders.

- **Staff Support Systems**

A well-structured performance management programme with regular meetings and verbal and written feedback is in place. Staff participate in Peer Observation and Feedback while mentoring and coaching are also undertaken to build the capacity of our teachers and support staff.

Our staff work closely with other staff across the Southern and Northern Yorke Peninsula Partnerships and are supported by the Kadina Portfolio LET.

- **Staff Utilisation Policies**

There is an emphasis on non-teaching staff supporting student learning and Tier 2 staffing is directed toward One Plan students.

- **Access to Special Staff**

There is access to DfE Support Services staff and local Community Health services.

8. Incentives, Support and Award Conditions for Staff

- **Complexity placement points**

Nil

- **Housing assistance**

Rental is subsidised if sufficient government housing un-available.

9. School Facilities

- **School Community Library**

The Minlaton School Community Library is a joint use venture between the Department for Education, Yorke Peninsula District Council and the Public Libraries Board of South Australia. The Minlaton School Community Library was established in 1980. In 2020 the library undertook an ambitious program to provide our students and the wider community with 'Minlaton Story Time' in response to the Covid pandemic and gained a commendation in the LGA Awards for this work which was supported by school staff.

The Library aims to provide a quality library service to both the school

population and the Minlaton and District communities. Facilities such as free public access to the Internet and a wide range of resources including books, newspapers, magazines, DVDs, CDs, and videos are available to patrons. The Library is able to access resources both within South Australia and Australia wide. The communities of Port Vincent and Curramulka are serviced by Depot Libraries which are open once a week.

- ***Buildings and Grounds***

The standard of buildings and facilities is good and the extensive grounds are pleasant and functional. Significant upgrades to school building have been undertaken in the last 12 years through both government and site funding. A plan to make the grounds more environmentally friendly has been initiated.

- ***Heating and Cooling***

All general learning area classrooms are air-conditioned.

- ***Specialist Facilities***

Gymnasium, Home Economics Centre, Technical Studies Centre, Science Labs, Art Studio, as well as computers in classrooms, wifi throughout, Middle School Learning street and large grassed/oval areas. We house components of the Southern Yorke Peninsula Trade Training Centre within our Home Ec and Tech Studies facilities.

- ***Student Facilities***

Canteen – The menu has a focus on healthy eating and is available 3 days per week.

Designated classroom blocks for Primary, Middle and Senior school classes.

Study room for senior secondary students who are off line – supervised for all lessons. Computer access available for all R-12 students, via a one to one student digital device program 6 – 12, and pods of laptops and iPads in the primary years.

- ***Staff Facilities***

Office space is available for staff preparation and there is adequate meeting space and relatively newly refurbished Admin area with staff facilities.

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

All areas of the school have wheel-chair access.

- ***Access to Bus Transport***

Private buses are available for excursions through a range of operators on the Yorke Peninsula.

10. School Operations

- ***Decision Making Structures***

These are clearly mapped for access by all members of the school community with management, staff meetings and Governing Council providing the main forums for discussion of issues and decision making. Separate sub school meetings deal with issues relevant to those parts of the school. All staff are involved in the implementation of agreed current school priorities through meetings and performance management.

- **Regular Publications**

A school newsletter is distributed fortnightly via an email distribution list. Within school, staff and students communicate through Daymap where daily bulletins and message boards are used. All parent information can be accessed on the school's website. www.minlatonds.sa.edu.au and a school Facebook page is updated regularly.

Curriculum handbooks are produced for students and parents to inform subject selection processes and these can be found on the school website.

- **Other Communication**

Daymap whole school communication

Daymap 6 – 12 student/parent communication

Class Dojo R – 5 parent/teacher communication

Annual Report

Newspaper articles

Minlaton District School web site

MDS Facebook page

Community Newsletter

- **School Financial Position**

The school is in a sound financial position. A Fundraising Committee works towards funding small targeted projects.

11. Local Community

- **General Characteristics**

Minlaton is located in the centre of lower Yorke Peninsula with access to the seaside both east and west from the town. This provides opportunities for seaside recreation activities. The bottom end of the Peninsula is an easy afternoon's scenic drive with a burgeoning tourist trade.

The town and district support mainly agricultural activities with some small industry and tourism.

The township itself has a strong supportive community who work hard to present a neat, tidy town with a good variety of commercial services.

Minlaton is a comfortable two and a half hour drive from Adelaide.

- **Parent and Community Involvement**

Parents are involved in the school through the Governing Council, committees as required, and some classroom support.

- **Feeder Schools**

Stansbury and Curramulka Primary Schools.

- **Other Local Care and Educational Facilities**

The Minlaton Early Learning Centre operates Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Playgroup on Mondays and Occasional Care on Friday.

- **Commercial/industrial and Shopping Facilities**

Local shopping facilities afford a range of goods and services.

- **Other Local Facilities**

There are a range of churches and associated branches. Sporting facilities are well patronised and include, football, netball, golf, polocrosse, hockey, Indoor Basketball Stadium, tennis, gun club, lawn bowls, sailing, indoor soccer and cricket. The local medical centre is a training facility managed by the University of Adelaide and provides a 9 – 5 weekday clinic.

Local veterinary clinic service available.

- **Availability of Staff Housing**

Government housing is very limited in Minlaton and surrounding towns. Private rental is generally available in most towns, particularly the coastal settlements.

Local Government Body

Yorke Peninsula District Council.