

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 06/13

School Name: Stuart High School

School Number: 1195

1. General Information

Part A

School Name : STUART HIGH SCHOOL
School No. : 1195 Courier : Eyre & Western
Principal : Ms Veronica Conley
Postal Address : PO Box 621, Whyalla 5600
Location Address : Bastyan Crescent, Whyalla Stuart 5608
District : Eyre & Western
Distance from GPO : 394 kms Phone No. : 08 8649 1022
CPC attached : NO Fax No. : 08 8649 3598

June FTE Enrolment	2013
Secondary Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.	
Year 8	69
Year 9	73
Year 10	73
Year 11	2
School Card Approvals (Persons)	100
NESB Total (Persons)	1
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	47
ESL	1

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

Assistant Principals

Stephen Walker and Brett Spangenberg

School email address

dl.1195.info@schools.sa.edu.au

Staffing numbers

As at June 2013

	Female	Male	Total
Principal	1		1
Senior Leader2		2	2
Senior Leader1		2	2
Coordinators	3	1	4
Teacher Librarian	1		1
Total Teaching Staff	9	5	14
AET		1	1
ACEO2	30hrs/pw		30hrs/pw
SSO time (hours per week)	384	153.50	537.50
SSO (temporary)			

- **Year of opening**

Stuart High School first opened in 1972.

The Whyalla Secondary College was formed in 1989 by the restructure of the high schools in Whyalla. In 2012 the Secondary Alliance was reformed. There are three sites in the Alliance: the senior (years 11-12 +) campus at Edward John Eyre High School and two sites catering for year 8-10 students at Stuart High School and Whyalla High School. An R-7 Primary School (Whyalla Stuart Campus) is co-located on the Stuart High School grounds in term 4, 2006. Some facilities and resources are shared due to this initiative.

- **Public transport access**

:The school is serviced by the Des's Transport bus service which includes a special school bus route in the morning and afternoon. Students living at Iron Knob seeking education in Whyalla have access to a bus and Stuart High School is included in its route.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General characteristics**

:Students attending Stuart High School come from a wide range of economic and cultural backgrounds. A large number of students are school card holders, and there are Aboriginal students plus students with disabilities enrolled.

- **Pastoral Care programs**

:Students are allocated to a Care Group and remain with this group for morning and after lunch care group sessions. The care group teacher also teaches a structured pastoral care program that operates across the school. Care group teachers for each year level operate as a team with the leadership of year level coordinators. Where possible, care group teachers and their students remain together for the three years 8-10. Transition programs (years 7/8 and 10/11) and work and career education are provided. Students in year 8 – 10 also have the chance to participate in Youth Opportunities Personal Leadership Programmes.

- **Support offered**

:A Student Counsellor works with students in individual counselling and career counselling. A Special Education team led by the Special Education Teacher manages support programs for students with disabilities within the special and supported classes, as well as in mainstream classes. An Aboriginal Community Education Officer provides support for Aboriginal students. The Aboriginal Education Teacher ensures that Aboriginal Cultural Studies and perspectives are included across the curriculum. Year level coordinators work in teams with care group teachers to provide transition programs to ensure that students are well prepared for senior secondary school. This preparation is mainly through active involvement in the development of a Personal Learning Plan which is completed by the end of year 10 (as part of SACE stage 1). The school provides flexible learning options to meet the needs of students experiencing difficulties.

- **Student behaviour support**

:The school has a strengths base approach to behaviour development. The school has structured and explicit behaviour management procedures based on the principles of Restorative Justice and Rational Emotive Behaviour Education. In the main, the teacher manages logical consequences. Year level coordinators and administration staff support teachers in the case management of students using a range of strategies that primarily involves working very closely with parents and other support personnel to develop positive behaviours and goal setting.

- **Student voice**

:Opportunities are provided for students to participate in decision making groups that directly affect them. Students can nominate to be a part of the schools Governing Council and we also set up Student Action teams, including the Youth Environment Council, where there is a need. There is a structured Active 8 program and a Youth Opportunities' programme that specifically develop leadership skills. The school also is a part of the South Australian Aboriginal Sports Training Academy. Year 10 Aboriginal students can be a part of this program.

3. Key School Policies

- **Mission Statement**

:We will work together in a safe, caring and enjoyable environment to achieve successful educational outcomes for ALL students.

:Values: CREWS (Caring, Respect, Enjoyment, Working together, Safety = Success).

- **School Development Priorities**

:All faculties have analysed literacy aspects of the curriculum and implemented agreements + strategies to address student needs. The school has a literacy agreement to ensure literacy practices across the school are explicit and consistent. All students are tested by the school twice a year to ascertain Literacy And Numeracy levels and their progress.

All learning programs are supported by a structured systematic student support program. This includes students at risk, with high intellectual potential, with disabilities. There is also support for students who are below the National Minimum Standard in NAPLAN

Staff programme their lessons to be inclusive of the wide range of students needs. We believe in differentiation of the curriculum and a more personalised learning approach.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is a focus in the school and is extensively used as a strategy to address literacy and numeracy across the curriculum and to support students in their learning programs. All students are issued with a Laptop for use at home and school.

Teachers are encouraged to explore alternative curriculum and methodologies through Collaborative Learning Teams, across a variety of school priority areas.

An extensive leading edge network of computers has been developed to provide a 1 to 1 ratio of students per computer respectively. Staff access ongoing training, and incorporate Information and Communication Technology (ICT) into all learning programs.

Attendance has significantly improved from 73% to 83% over the last 4 years. Chronic

Non- attendance has been reduced from 100 to 16 students.

4. Curriculum

- **Subject offerings**

Stuart High School offers a curriculum aligned to the SACSA framework, in some areas. However we are mainly using the Australian Curriculum to plan and programme.

The timetable is based on a six line structure. The school is arranged into lessons of differing length: 40 minutes, 45 minutes and 105 minutes with each subject having equal time in any given week. School finishes at 2.00 pm on a Monday to allow for teachers to have a 2 hour staff training meeting for the purposes of Curriculum Development. On the other days school finishes at 3.20 pm which allows for the required 1600 minutes of instruction time.

All students study Mathematics, English and Science for a full year, History and Social Science (HASS) Health/Physical Education for a semester each. Students in each year level choose another four semester units from a range of subjects including Japanese, Music, Art, Drama, Technology and Food & Nutrition. In Year 10 there is a compulsory semester of Work Education. Year 10s also undertake the Personal Learning Plan (the PLP). Students will complete this in year 10 and this will also gain credit towards their Future SACE.

Stuart High School has a very strong tradition in music and many students perform in the Whyalla Secondary Alliance Stage Band. Instrumental lessons support this area of the curriculum.

- **Special curriculum features**

Stuart High School promotes and supports a range of Enterprise Projects that are embedded across the curriculum. All faculties have some special features that are designed to maximise student participation and engagement.

Notable projects include:

- o A modern Aquaculture and Horticulture facility. This has an additional Tourism feature that incorporates students working as Tour Guides
- o Active 8 classes
- o Specialist Flexible Learning options that focus on Literacy and Numracy development to support students who have been disengaged
- o Touring Concert Band
- o A Specialist Physical Education Course is available at Year 10 level

- o Programme for students with skills above their peers
- o SAASTA.

Students at Risk have a range of additional support structures that enhance their learning. Many core classes have additional SSO support. Selected students are in vocational programs that centre on working in the Aquaculture and Horticulture Centres. The school is delivering TAFE units in Aquaculture Certificate 1 and 2 to students in year 10, 11 and 12 as VET courses and Certificate 1 and 2 in Horticulture to year 10. School Based Apprenticeships are supported and promoted in the school and are proving beneficial for students who want to be part of the work force and still continue their studies.

- **Assessment procedures and reporting**

Parents are reported to 4 times a year in a variety of ways including staff, student and parent conversations. We undertake assessment for learning and assessment of learning. Students are assessed against stated objectives with levels of SACSA/Standards of Australian Curriculum achievement being assigned.

5. Sporting Activities

The school is committed to knockout sport as a means of allowing students to pursue their interests and skills in this area. Students have experienced considerable success in a range of sports.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- **General**

Students are encouraged to participate in a range of co-curricular activities which include camps, excursions, public speaking activities, clubs, fundraising and community service activities. We also encourage and support students to pursue individual strengths, interests and endeavours. The school has its own bus and troop carrier that are used for excursions and camps. We also have a boat and kayaks for students to obtain boat licences and engage in aquatic activities. We are proud to be the first stop on the Eyre Peninsula Aquaculture Tourism Trail. Students have access to a range of competitions and state-wide talent development programs that evolve year to year. Other activities are offered during lunchtime, often organised by students themselves with the support of SSOs and teachers. The library is open at lunch for student use.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile**

Staff are a united, highly committed group. Teams of staff work together on planning and delivery of curriculum and special projects in a range of areas. Parents and community members say they can 'feel' the positive nature of the school when they visit.

Section 8

- **Incentives**

This site draws the full benefit of the Country Incentive Scheme (2002) and is classified as a Category 2 School.

- **Housing assistance**

Teachers residing in country locations more than 40kms from their 'home' are eligible for 'Government housing'. The rental at Whyalla is subsidised by 15% against the market rates. Teachers moving to the country have the right to access government housing through Real Estate Management (REM). If there is no housing available, REM will find private rental, enter into a lease agreement and the teacher will receive the subsidy

9. School Facilities

- **Buildings and grounds**

Stuart High School consists of partly air-conditioned brick buildings apart from a Demac servicing as a Music Suite and Recording Studio, and is set alongside expansive oval facilities.

- **Specialist facilities**

The school has a gymnasium and specialist Technology, Aboriginal Education, Drama, Science, Art, Music and Home Economics and Aquaculture/Horticulture areas. Computing facilities are in line with DECS expectations. The school has effective wireless access so students are able to access internet on lap tops.

- **Access for students and staff with disabilities**

Facilities for the disabled including a wheelchair lift are provided.

10. Local Community

Situated on the western shore of the upper Spencer Gulf, Whyalla is approximately 394km northwest of Adelaide by road, and less than an hour by air. The area was originally inhabited by the Barngala people but has since been home to many Aboriginal people from around Australia. Whyalla is a place where respect of traditional Cultures is strong.

Its population of 23,000 enjoy a Mediterranean climate with an average 300 days of sunshine a year.

Whyalla is referred to both as the Education City and where the Outback meets the Sea.

(a) Whyalla's education facilities include campuses of TAFE and UniSA. It has a range of public and private schools at every level from Child Parent Centres to senior schools. Child care and Family Day Care is available.

(b) The Whyalla community supports education through work experience programs and school-based apprenticeship opportunities.

Facilities include a Health and Leisure Centre, twin cinemas and thriving theatrical, art and craft community. A very wide range of sports is available. Other facilities include a hospital and a public library. Whyalla is well-known for its excellent fishing and boating. The annual Australian Amateur Snapper Fishing Championship attracts national attention and diving amongst cuttlefish is a unique experience world-wide. Although Whyalla was established as a shipbuilding, steelworks and heavy industry city since the closure of the shipyards in 1978 this focus has declined.

Whyalla's housing and industry growth is strong. It is also a popular tourist destination, has a developing aquaculture industry and serves as a major regional shopping hub.

Housing is readily available to rent or buy.

The major employer in town is OneSteel/Arrium. The other employers include the Health Department, Education and Police Departments, SANTOS and various (metals) engineering firms and small businesses. Further information about Whyalla can be obtained from the Whyalla City Council Information Service on 8645 1955.

I certify that this is a true statement.



Signed:

VERONICA CONLEY

Position: Principal

Date: 25th June 2013