



Government of South Australia

Department for Education and
Child Development

Respect, Responsibility and Teamwork

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT Updated 01/2017

School number: 1019 & 7952

School name: Christie Downs Primary School and Disability Unit

School Profile

General Information

Christie Downs Primary School seeks to provide a supportive and nurturing environment in which students are able to learn, play and grow together for a successful future. The school's values embody personal responsibility, respectful relationships and teamwork.

The school fosters effective partnerships with the local community and works closely with families to promote tolerance, resilience, critical thinking and positivity.

Principal:	Gail Evans		
Postal address:	Elizabeth Rd Christie Downs 5164		
Location address:	Elizabeth Rd Christie Downs 5164		
District:	Southern Adelaide		
Phone no:	08 83823266		
Fax no:	08 83822205		
Distance from GPO:	30 kms	CPC attached:	NO
Courier:	Southern Adelaide		
Website:	www.cdownssch.sa.edu.au		
E-mail:	gail.evans374@schools.sa.edu.au		

Enrolments:

February FTE enrolment:

Year Level	2014			2015			2016			2017		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Reception	16	15	31	4	9	13	12	16	28	17	13	30
Year 1	15	7	22	17	17	34	21	18	39	13	16	29
Year 2	8	14	22	13	6	19	23	19	42	24	16	42
Year 3	15	10	25	13	6	19	30	11	41	35	20	55
Year 4	11	9	20	12	14	26	9	20	29	30	15	45
Year 5	12	8	20	12	8	20	19	14	33	12	18	30
Year 6	11	5	16	15	11	26	22	17	39	18	16	34
Year 7	11	7	18	10	3	13	22	9	31	20	16	36
Other Primary	69	16	85	64	16	80						
TOTAL	168	91	259	160	90	250	158	124	282	169	130	299

ATSI enrolment:

Year Level	2014			2015			2016			2017		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Reception	3	5	8	0	5	5	0	2	2	3	1	4
Year 1	1	3	4	4	7	11	1	8	9	0	3	3
Year 2	4	3	7	3	2	5	4	5	9	2	6	8
Year 3	4	1	5	1	3	4	4	1	5	6	3	9
Year 4	3	1	4	4	2	6	2	4	6	3	6	9
Year 5	2	0	2	2	1	3	3	3	6	3	3	6
Year 6	3	1	4	2	3	5	4	1	5	5	3	8
Year 7	4	0	4	2	0	2	2	0	2	5	3	8
Other Primary	7	1	8	6	1	7						
TOTAL	31	15	46	24	24	48	20	24	44	27	28	55

Summary:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total students	248	259	286	281	299
ATSI enrolments	47	46	48	44	55
School Card	79%	77%	81%	61%	65%
EALD enrolment	62	68	74	75	73
Students with disabilities	90	85	80	123	113

Staff and Staff Welfare

Staff profile

Christie Downs Primary School has a total of 37 Teaching staff and 35 Ancillary personnel.

Leadership Structure

Gail Evans	Principal
Jo Swift	School Counsellor
Leanne Jacobs	Senior Leader 1 Disability Unit
Todd McGrath	Senior Leader 1 Engagement for Learning & Well-being
Arran Steirman	Senior Leader 1 Curriculum Coordinator

Intervention Team

Obi Ind	Aboriginal Education Teacher
Maria Centofanti	Early Years Special Education Teacher
Jo McGill	EALD
Trish Hendrick	Upper Primary Special Education and Math Intervention
Alex Mc Grath	Literacy Intervention

Staff support systems

A wide range of support structures are in place for staff to access: These include the Inter-agency Support Team, Novita and Autism SA as well as close links with Guidance and Speech Services, Disability SA and an Interagency Referral Manager.

Performance Development

A rigorous Inquiry process exists for all staff members based on the National Standards and DECD performance procedures. Inquiry performance meetings with Leadership are in Term 2 & 4. Step 9 teachers are reviewed under DECD guidelines yearly in term 4.

Staff Management

The Beach Road Partnership Schools have an arrangement with Human Resources to ensure any contract teacher about to be appointed will have the opportunity to discuss the expectations of the role with the Principal prior to actually accepting the position in order to facilitate success at the schools.

Admin Staff meetings are held for 15 mins every Tuesday mornings. Professional Learning communities based on De Four's model and Inquiry Learning teams are held on an alternative weekly basis. The purpose of meetings is to support the Site Improvement plan and move into actions on Key projects.

Students and Student Welfare

Student support and well-being:

The school provides a range of self-esteem and self-awareness programs including the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program, Rock and Water, Drum Beat and Building Mob as well as specific pastoral care programs such as the Breakfast Club. Students in the classroom engage with mindfulness and yoga.

In 2014, School Captains were appointed and incorporated into the governing body of the school. This provides significant opportunities for leadership development and shaping school priorities. In 2017 we add a student executive team to underpin the work of school captains and ensure student voice is an integral part of how our school is run.

Outdoor learning activities include a range of sporting opportunities such as SAPSA, SA as well as: computing, dance, a physical fitness program. We also run a curiosity program at lunch outdoor learning time to enhance problem solving skills and develop a sense of joy in learning.

Each year the school plays an active part in Book Week, Science Week, Come Out, Reconciliation Week and Physical Education Week.

Students within the Disability Unit have access to support from both DECD support services as well as a range of external support services such as Novita, Disability SA and Autism SA and students NDIS plan are implemented and supported on site.

Student Development:

A School Behaviour Development Policy for class and playground is in effect with a systematic approach to student behavior development based upon a comprehensive student behaviour learning research and is inclusive of staff input.

Special programs

- Creative Body Based Learning
- Enterprise & City School program in year 7 mainstream
- Building Mob
- Students with Attitude
- Kitchen/Garden Program
- Sports Day
- Aquatics program for Year 6 and 7 students across site
- Swimming classes at Noarlunga and Minda pools for Rec to Yr 5 students across site
- Alternative concerts at Hopgood Theatre or at Wakakkiri
- Xmas Community night
- Learning Together program
- Student Voice activities on Friday afternoon

Curriculum

The Australian Curriculum identifies 8 key areas of learning with general capabilities and cross curriculum priorities embedded in all learning areas. We use Creative Body Based strategies to engage students in their learning.

Key areas:

English
Mathematics
Science
Humanities and Social Sciences
The Arts
Spanish - LOTE
Health & P.E.

Teachers are encouraged to work collaboratively in year level groups and within the principles and philosophy of Reggio Emilia. That is, children:

- Have some control over the direction of their learning
- Learn through sensory experiences
- Must be allowed to explore
- Have endless opportunities for self-expression

Whole child philosophies underpin all of our work at Christie Downs Primary

Assessment and Reporting:

At Christie Downs, assessment must be a part of all teaching strategies to help identify areas for development and chart progress. It helps us to strengthen learning across the curriculum and helps teachers enhance their skills and judgements. Assessment for Learning is important to our approach to teaching and learning at Christie Downs. Staff uses learning intentions, success criteria, marking, and peer marking and peer and self-assessment to involve pupils in their learning and to inform them of their next steps.

Assessments for learning opportunities are identified in planning through the use of the TfEL. Marking is against the learning objective and should identify successes and areas for improvement.

At Christie Downs we have an Acquaintance night in term one and written reports in term 2 & 4. There is a strong emphasis on gathering data and using this to inform teaching.

Partnerships that support learning:

- Student Teachers from Flinders and UNISA
- DECD, UNISA & Carlew partnership in research project on Creative Body Based Learning
- Flinders University - year7's transition program with The River Run Journey

- Flinders University – Inspire Program – mentors in Enterprise Education
- Kick Start – mentors for student well-being and literacy extension as well as breakfast program
- Breakfast Bellies – breakfast & lunch program

School Facilities

Buildings and grounds:

In 2015 the school was allocated for a 4.5 million upgrade. At the end of term 1 2017 restructuring will start with a possible finish by end of 2019. This will allow 8 new classrooms, personal care areas, sensory rooms and natural sanctuary play spaces as well as a new taxi area. Existing use of space allows for flexible use of buildings and caters for all students' needs. There is an oval for outdoor play, as well as 2 basketball/netball courts, 3 sets of play equipment, with one being specifically designed for wheelchair access. Lucy the Golden Dragon, sensory garden allows students to engage with play and was completed in 2013.

Cooling:

All buildings are air-conditioned.

Specialist facilities and equipment:

The school has a computer suite, which incorporates laptop trolleys and iPad trolleys available for in class learning.

Access for students and staff with disabilities:

The whole school has wheelchair accessible, personal care facilities for students with disabilities were upgraded in 2012 and are excellent.

School Operations

Decision making structures:

Staff are expected to be involved in the various committees that operate throughout the school. The PAC is active in making recommendations for site management of Human Resources. The Governing Council meets regularly and oversees staff/parent committees.

Regular publications:

The school publishes a newsletter in weeks 3 and 6 each term, which is distributed to the school community.

Other communication:

The schools' website is continually being developed to increase community access to information about the site and individual classes. We also use Skoolbag to communicate with parents as well as Facebook.

School financial position:

Financially sound

Special funding:

The school receives Index of Disadvantage funding Category 2.

Local Community

General characteristics:

The Christie Downs School Community is situated 30 kilometers south from the city center. It is in close proximity to the Noarlunga Centre, which has excellent facilities – sporting, shopping, health services, Police station, recreational and council services. The area also has many schooling options – Pre-schools, Primary Schools, and High Schools both private and public.

The Christie Downs community has a strong sense of local pride. The area is predominantly housing trust which caters for emergency housing and the Southern Women's Shelter. There is a great deal of transience within the community. Students are significantly affected by the degree of unemployment, which is impacting upon the third generation. Our students in the Disability unit come from outside Christie Down's area and are transported to school predominantly by taxi or bus.

Feeder schools:

The local kindergartens and pre-schools act as the primary feeders for the school. The Disability Unit accepts students from a wide range of educational facilities across southern metropolitan Adelaide.

Local Government body:

The Onkaparinga Council is the local government body and the school has cooperative links with the council.