



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT 2024

School number: 0204

School name: Kersbrook Primary School

School Profile:

Kersbrook Primary School is a vibrant public school that is open to all students. We are situated in the heart of the Adelaide Hills' apple and cherry growing region. Educating students since 1850, Kersbrook Primary is in an attractive setting, surrounded by grazing land in one of the most biologically diverse areas of South Australia. As a small school our staff pursue the highest quality education for all of our students.

Kersbrook Primary School is founded on the philosophy of inclusion and community. The motto of our school is 'Small School, Big Family' embodying the ideal that the school and student learning belongs to the whole community, staff, students and parents. We aim to equip students with abilities both academic and social, for life in the 21st Century. Our values are courage through curiosity, creativity and communication. Students are inspired to the highest standards, encouraged to think critically and creatively, to work collaboratively, to act ethically and develop a commitment to contribute to their community.

We take pride in our grounds with shady trees, a large oval and play areas. Our facilities include a large library where we encourage reading for learning and leisure.

We value, promote and encourage positive family relationships. Our active Governing Council are involved directly in the decision-making processes of the school as well as fundraising.

1. General information

Part A

School Name - KERSBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL
School No. - 0204
Principal - Mrs Tara Sheehy
Postal Address - 1 Bowden Street, Kersbrook 5231
Location Address - 1 Bowden Street, Kersbrook 5231
Partnership - Torrens Valley
Distance from GPO - 43 kms
Phone No. - 08 83893068
Fax No. - 08 83893346
CPC attached - NO
Category of Disadvantage - 7
Web address - www.kersbrookps.sa.edu.au

February FTE Enrolment

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Reception	5	8	5	7	5
Year 1	11	5	7	6	8
Year 2	10	11	6	8	6
Year 3	6	11	10	6	8
Year 4	4	5	11	11	6
Year 5	5	4	4	12	12
Year 6	4	4	2	3	12
Year 7	8	4			
TOTAL	53	52	45	53	57
July FTE	54	52	48	52	62
Male	27	27	27	31	33
Female	27	25	21	21	29
School Card	8	6	5	8	4
NESB					
Aboriginal	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

Staffing numbers:

Principal 1.0

Teachers 3.8

Approximately 73 hours ancillary time

Total Staff: 10 plus PCW

School's email address:

dl.0204.admin@schools.sa.edu.au

OSHC

OSHC was established as an independent service in 2005. In Term 3 2018, OSHC was outsourced to Happy Haven and is now housed in the Old School Building.

Enrolment trends

School enrolment had fluctuated between 50 and 81 students over the past 20 years.

Year of opening

1868

Public transport access

Nil

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics

Our families and community are engaged with our school in many different ways. We enjoy being an integral part of the township of Kersbrook and the support we receive ensures that we are always well resourced and have the ability to bring the best to our children's education.

We are not zoned. Most students who attend the school live in Kersbrook, some travel from neighbouring communities. A small percentage of our students live on properties outside Kersbrook.

We invite you to come and visit our school to meet the people who work here educating children to be confident, caring and articulate learners of the future.

Student well-being programs

The wellbeing of students is at the centre of everything we do at Kersbrook Primary School. Our staff use up to date methods of pedagogy to assist children to do their individual best and to shine in their own unique way. The school aims to provide a high degree of pastoral care and encourages the strong 'family' atmosphere. The school has a Pastoral Care Worker for 2 days per week who assists with student wellbeing. Berry Street Education Model Practices are used. The Zones of Regulation implementation commenced Term 2 2024.

Student support offered

We are supported by DfE personnel e.g. Students with Disabilities, Speech Pathologist, Psychologist, Inclusive Educator and Behaviour Support Educator. SSOs provide additional support for identified 'One Plan' students.

Student management

Our Student Behaviour Management Policy is based on our values, restorative practices and Positive Behaviour Support. We believe our policy is responsive to the needs of students, staff and parents and fits with current educational theory. Students negotiate class rules and all classes have a positive system of behaviour education.

Student government

Our Student Representative Council (Reception – Year 5) and Senior Leaders (Year 6) consisting of Student Voice, Environmental, Sports and Wellbeing are vital parts of the decision making structure. Class meetings are held fortnightly allowing all students to be a part of decision-making processes. Students are encouraged to share their thoughts and ideas across all aspects of school routines: raising issues, discussing ideas and student driven initiatives.

Special programmes

- SAPSASA sports (various)
- Choir (run by a teacher volunteer)
- Sporting Schools program
- Whole school outdoor camp (every 2 years)
- Various lunch time activities

3. Key School Policies

All policies can be found on our school website.

Vision statement

Kersbrook Primary School gives students opportunities to be courageous through creativity, communication and curiosity. We provide rigorous, purposeful and engaging learning experiences that promote inquiry, collaboration and problem solving as well as current, differentiated best practice in all learning areas.

As a teaching team, we work collaboratively to provide consistency of pedagogy, resourcing and language. We use purposeful student data to inform the planning of teaching and learning alongside the professional observation and judgement gained through experience, professional development and collegial networks in our partnership.

We are focused on the Department for Education's vision of creating World Class Education and providing high standards of teaching and learning in all subject areas. Students are engaged in opportunities to shine, grow and achieve across a wide range of modes and experiences with information and communication technologies utilised to strengthen students' understanding and capabilities.

4. Curriculum

Subject offerings – Australian Curriculum

English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, The Arts, Technologies, Health and PE and Languages (Auslan). Auslan is taught by classroom teachers who have been undergoing training throughout 2024.

Special needs

Students with special needs are supported through careful planning, appropriate resourcing and continued review. Students receive extra support in class or in intensive small group work with an SSO.

Special curriculum features

The school has a specialist teacher in PE and STEM.

Early interventions, in both Literacy and Numeracy, are based on the needs of individual students. Special targeted interventions for students with One Plans are established with support services personnel.

We have been successful participants in both the Premier's Reading Challenge and Premier's Be Active Challenge.

Teaching methodology

We currently have three multi-year level classes with student numbers in each class less than the Department for Education guidelines. SSOs support learning in each class providing targeted and small group support.

All staff use the Australian Curriculum to plan, program and assess student learning. Our focus is Literacy and Numeracy and to stretch and challenge all students, ensuring they reach their full potential.

Assessment procedures and reporting

Term 1 Parent Information Night, with information sharing and informal discussion.

Term 2 written reports

Term 3 Parent Teacher Interviews

Term 4 written reports

NAPLAN Tests – students participate in NAPLAN online testing.

PAT testing – students participate in Numeracy and Reading testing.

Teachers or parents may request an interview as required.

5. Sporting Activities

Each term we apply for Sporting Schools funding and are usually successful.

Kersbrook Sports Day, generally held in Term 1 each year.

Interschool Sports Day, generally held in Term 4 each year, with Paracombe and Gumeracha schools. In 2024, Mt Pleasant and Springton will also be joining us.

Students attend Elizabeth Aquadome for water safety lessons in Week 1 of Term 4. During that week Year 6 students attend a day of sailing, surfing and canoeing at West Lakes Aquatics.

The school has a strong affiliation with SAPSASA. Year 4-6 students can participate in a variety of sports throughout the year.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

We have a whole school outdoor education camp every two years.

Playgroup meet each Thursday morning at school.

We hold three school assemblies per term. Assemblies are well supported by parents.

At the end of the year, we have a whole school concert.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile

We have 11 full time and part time staff. This includes the Principal and Pastoral Care Worker. There are 3.8 F.T.E teaching staff and a 1.0 Principal.

Leadership structure

We have a full-time Principal and no other leadership.

Staff support systems

Collaborative decision making and a high degree of communication are features of the school, with involvement and participation by all staff. Regular formal and informal meetings occur between the principal and staff. Other support for staff is offered through the Torrens Valley Partnership.

Performance Management

All staff members have formal performance development meetings with the principal twice per year. Professional goals, curriculum and student issues are discussed. All staff are involved in writing their own Personal Development Plan (PDP). This is connected to the Professional Standards for Teachers and the Site Improvement Plan.

Staff utilisation policies

All staff member support a PAC and make decisions ensuring that the needs of students / staff / school are met. Staff are consulted widely.

Access to special staff

Our partnership office at Para Hills provides support staff that are available on request.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

N/A

9. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds

Currently, our Reception / Year 1 class occupies what was previously the schoolhouse. This has been converted to facilitate teaching and learning. This building upgrade was completed in 2003. In 2018, the exterior of the Old School Building (OSB) was repaired and repainted in preparation for our 150 Year Sesquicentenary Celebrations. The OSB is shared now by Playgroup on Thursdays and Happy Haven OSHC.

The main school building was built in 1980 and original office upgrades were completed in 1998. Administration and staff facilities, toilets, a canteen, resource area and a wet area share this space with our upper Primary Class. The area was upgraded in 2011 with new stove, storage cupboards, sink, rangehood and new tiling. The staffroom area was again upgraded in 2007 with new kitchen facilities and a more practical working space.

In 2010, construction of our new library began. This was completed at the end of 2011.

During the holidays of 2020/21 the main building ceiling was completely replaced. In 2020 a nature play area was constructed and a native garden established. This has proved to be another enhancement of our school grounds and provides an interesting and engaging learning environment.

Currently the Junior Primary (R/1) is housed in the Stone House, the Middle Primary (Years 2/3/4/) is housed in the Transportable and the Upper Primary (Years 5/6) are in the main building.

Over the last two years, the playground has been upgraded and extended. The outside court has a COLA (covered outdoor learning area) which was constructed early 2024. Outside facilities also includes two playgrounds, a nature play area and sandpit with access to running water.

Heating and cooling

All classrooms are airconditioned and heated.

Specialist facilities and equipment

3D printer, Library, Kitchen, WiFi is available throughout the school, all classes have interactive whiteboards, ipads and laptops.

Student facilities

Play areas are extensive and varied.

Staff facilities

Self-contained staffroom including kitchen and photocopying facilities, one single cubicle for shared staff toilet and a shower.

Access to bus transport

None. All students travel to school using parent transport, walk or ride their bikes.

Other

Students can order their lunches on Fridays from GG's café on a pre order basis. This is run out of the local hall directly across from the school.

10. School Operations

Decision making structures

The following groups are active in school decision making:

Governing Council, Finance Committee, OSHC Advisory Committee, PAC (all staff) and student (via class meetings and SRC).

Regular publications

Our school newsletter is published 3 times per term (Week 3, 6 and 9) via the school website. Minutes for Governing Council meetings are circulated to GC members. All staff utilise class Dojo as an application for class based and whole school

communications. Staff send home regular updates and parents are encouraged to interact with these posts. OSHC also communicates information to families via email.

Other communication

Parent handbooks, school information booklets, school Facebook page, Classroom communication and flyers as needed.

School financial position

The school is in a sound financial position.

Special funding

N/A

11. Local Community

General characteristics

Kersbrook Primary School is part of the Torrens Valley Partnership and is 43kms from the Adelaide GPO. Although Kersbrook is an orchid and grazing area, subdivision had redeveloped the area into a small township surrounded by many hobby farms. The parents mainly commute out of the district to work. Most children continue with secondary education at Birdwood High School.

Parent and community involvement

Parent and community involvement in the school is valued. Parents and the wider community support the school in all school functions. Informal contact with parents is the norm. Parents value the learning that their children receive and seek to participate in school activities.

Feeder or destination schools

We receive students from Torrens valley Child Centre, Gumeracha Kindergarten, Williamstown CPC and One Tree Hill Kindergarten. There are also several students enrolled who reside in the northern suburbs and choose to commute to our school.

Birdwood High School is our local High School and the majority of our students move on to there for Years 7 – 12.

Other local care and educational facilities

Kersbrook Playgroup – currently in operation once per week (each Thursday morning) providing a fruitful opportunity for non-school community member to become familiar and comfortable with our school environment.

Commercial / industrial and shopping facilities

These facilities include a general store and petrol station, post office, equestrian centre, chemist, tavern, wine cellar door sales and a hardware and cold storage co-op.

Other local facilities

Community facilities include a Kersbrook Soldiers Memorial Park, with a large oval, bar and dining facilities, tennis court and pony club, men's shed and playground. There is one active Church of Christ, Kersbrook Hall with regular craft, yoga and dance classes, medical practitioner clinic and CFS station.

Availability of staff housing

Rental housing is difficult to obtain.

Accessibility

Adelaide is approximately 43 kms from Kersbrook, travelling down the freeway.

Local Government body

Adelaide Hills Council

12. Further Comments

The Kersbrook School Community is busy, energetic and focused on quality educational outcomes. The development of excellent facilities and resources and the implementation of exciting school initiated curricula have resulted from a high level of collaboration, planning, enthusiasm, engagement and professionalism. As we continue to be more data driven, we work with students to reflect, set goals and targets for improvement and celebrate success.

Many improvements to the school facilities have been undertaken in the past few years. These have included upgrading the parent carpark by Adelaide Hills Council, school crossing with flashing lights, maintenance and painting of the Old School Building and various signs and aesthetic improvements to the school grounds. Our school undertook a lengthy consultation process to identify and agree on our school values. They are now proudly displayed at the front of the school and are reflected in our day to day interactions and certificates at assemblies.