SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

School number: 0720

School name: Clarendon Primary School

School Profile:
Clarendon Primary School is a small, picturesque school in the Southern Mount Lofty Ranges situated near the Onkaparinga River, on the edge of the Clarendon Township, an area which was traditionally the country of the Peramangk and Kaurna First Nations people. Established in 1885 at the current site, Clarendon has traditionally been a small school with enrolments consistently between 50 to 70 students over the last few decades. Clarendon Primary School is a Category 7 school on the index of disadvantage and services students from 14 different surrounding towns, suburbs, locations and districts. We have less than 10% of students receiving school card assistance and very few students from Non-English speaking backgrounds. In 2013/14 we had no students who identified as being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. Approximately 10% of our students have a verified disability and qualify for extra support with their learning.

2013 saw the appointment of a new principal, Josh Anderson, who has been appointed to the school as Principal for five year tenure. Neil Beverley, the previous principal left the school pending his retirement after 18 years at the helm at Clarendon. Clarendon Primary School prides itself on being a tolerant, supportive and inclusive community school. Clarendon has had a stable staff over the last several years with minimal turnover. The school is part of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program and students participate in weekly gardening and cooking lessons. Environmental, moral and virtues education underpin much of the teaching and learning undertaken at Clarendon, in line with the requirements of the Australian and South Australian Curriculum. Clarendon is a small school but is well regarded for our great school community. Quality Teaching and Learning, Learner engagement and wellbeing are emerging strategic priorities at Clarendon.
1. General information

- School Principal name: Mr Josh Anderson
- Year of opening: 1885
- Postal Address: c/o Clarendon Post Office, Clarendon SA 5157
- Location Address: Potter Road, Clarendon SA 5157.
- Local Network: Sea and Vines Cluster / Mount Barker Education Office
- Geographical location – i.e. road distance from GPO (km): 27
- Telephone number: 08 83836110
- Fax Number: 8383 6453
- School website address: www.clarendnps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: dl.info.0720@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: No
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: Shared with Kangarilla PS
- February FTE student enrolment: 75
  - 2013 Feb FTE: 67
  - 2012 Feb FTE: 67
  - 2011 Feb FTE: 58
  - 2010 Feb FTE: 46

- Student enrolment trends:
  School enrolment trends have traditionally indicated numbers between 50 and 70 students.

- Staffing numbers (as at February census):
  - Principal - Band A2 1.0 FTE
  - Teachers: 3.2 FTE (4 teaching staff) with three classes.
  - 6 ancillary staff
  - 1 Grounds Staff
1. Pastoral Care Worker (Commonwealth Funded position)

- Public transport access:
The Golva/Adelaide bus passes through Clarendon twice daily. We are on
the route of the Aberfoyle High School bus service, which students access to
travel to Kangarilla for OSHC. Taxi services and other public transport
options are extremely limited.

- Special site arrangements:
Clarendon Primary School is part of the Sea and Vines local school network,
in partnership with Clarendon Kindergarten, Madge Sexton Kindergarten
(McLaren Vale), Aldinga Kindergarten, Aldinga Beach Children’s Centre,
Willunga Kindergarten, Kangarilla Primary School, McLaren Flat PS,
McLaren Vale PS, Willunga PS, Aldinga Beach B-7 School, Myponga PS and
Willunga High School. We are under the jurisdiction of the Mount Barker
Education Office.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics

Students attend Clarendon Primary from across 14 different districts and
the vast majority of children commute by car to school. Students are
grouped in cross age composite classes, often with family members and
siblings. Students come from predominantly Anglo-Saxon backgrounds.
10% of children access school card support and there are no children from
Aboriginal backgrounds enrolled currently at Clarendon PS.

- Student well-being programs

Students are engaged in a range of programs centred on wellbeing
including kitchen garden lessons, virtues lessons, class meetings, What’s
the Buzz activities and have access to pastoral care worker or DECD social
worker if required. Being a small community school, there is significant
support for students from within and outside the school.

- Student support offered

Intervention services provided by DECD support services
Mulitlit and Quicksmart literacy intervention programs
SSO support when available for children with Learning disabilities and
difficulties.
Barefoot Club coordination program for Junior Primary Children.
Support from DECD Learning Support Services.

- Student management

Our school provides a safe, caring, orderly and stimulating learning
environment where the rights of all students to learn and all teachers to teach
are supported and protected. Staff, parents and students work together as a
cooperative team to develop and promote consistent behavioural expectations and consequences. We believe in a collaborative problem solving method in relation to behaviour management and strive to use principles of restorative justice when resolving behaviour management issues.

Appropriate behaviour is actively encouraged. Appropriate behaviour is achieved through a success-oriented learning environment catering for the needs of all students. Students are responsible for their own decisions and behaviour and are taught to accept the consequences of their behaviour. We find that logical and natural consequences have a more positive long term outcome for students than punitive and unnatural consequences.

Conflicts are inevitable in all human relationships and we will help to develop non-violent strategies to address and resolve these conflicts using restorative methods.

Particular examples of these rules are determined following consultation with students in each class and with the Student Council.

If students have difficulty in following these rules they will be asked to have time to themselves to consider their actions. Persistent problems will lead to suspension and referral to other agencies for assistance.

Regular communication between families and teachers will help with combined efforts to maintain and develop excellent behaviour.

For more details on the school's Behaviour Management Policy please contact the school office.

- **Student government**
  - SRC and Young Leaders / Safety Ambassadors

- **Special programmes**
  - Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program
  - SAPSASA Sport and Bike Education
  - SRC and Circle Time Class Meetings
  - Virtues and What's The Buzz Program
  - Readers Theatre
  - Safety Ambassadors and Young Leaders
  - NRM Youth Forum

3. **Key School Policies**

- **Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:**
  
  Our school community has a vision of the school, that as a community of learners, we will all experience success and fulfilment in achieving the skills, knowledge and competencies needed for lifelong learning and adaptability to an uncertain future. Our goal is that all students will achieve at their best through high quality teaching and learning, a focus on engagement and
wellbeing. We strive for excellence and enterprise and to use our unique environment and wider community to assist in the development of leadership skills, environmental stewardship and awareness. The shared values which underpin our work are community, global awareness, teamwork, learning for life and positive relationships. Our key strategic directions informed by these values are Quality teaching and learning, Engagement for learning and Wellbeing for learning. See School Web Site for up to date information on Site Improvement and most recent annual report.

- Recent key outcomes:

Trends in student achievement data at Clarendon Primary School present some level of complexity in their interpretation due to the small cohorts involved in the data collection and processes involved at each year level. Thus, while we endeavour to collect, review and monitor data on school wide and year level achievement, we acknowledge that averaging data can skew the figures to some extent. Hence, during 2013 we have implemented a more consistent approach to collecting data on student achievement that allow us to track and monitor individual levels of student achievement, in line with personal learning goals and Individual Learning Plans / Negotiated Education Plans. At Clarendon Primary School, we are now collecting achievement data using multiple measures, including use of Running Records and PAT-R reading tests, as well as observational, anecdotal recording of student learning. Other factors, such as attendance, behaviour, participation and engagement are also considered when analysing data. 2013 has seen the school collect baseline data consistently across the school to provide benchmark levels by which we will be able to measure progress of each student, and importantly, the efficacy of our teaching, curriculum and pedagogy against agreed benchmarks.
4. Curriculum

- **Subject offerings**: Australian Curriculum and South Australian Curriculum. Kitchen Garden Program. Asian Studies / Indonesian. Some access to private music instruction and senior class is involved with Festival Choir.

- **Open Access/Distance Education provision**: nil

- **Special needs**: Children with learning difficulties and disabilities are able to access some levels of learning support through programs such as Multilit and Quicksmart with ancillary and volunteer staff.

- **Special curriculum features**: Kitchen Garden Program / Environmental Education / Sustainability education / Virtues Education. Access to UNSW ICAS assessments.

- **Student assessment procedures and reporting**

  Clarendon PS has an open door philosophy in regards to working alongside parents and carers to keep them informed about the progress of their child/ren. Formal assessment and reporting practice include 3-Way conversations to develop and review student ILP’s in terms one and three and formal written reports are provided in terms two and four. Children also are involved with NAPLAN testing in Years 3, 5 & 7. We offer the ICAS assessments for children each year from year 4 onwards in areas including science, maths, English, writing and computing. PAT R and PAT M standardised tests are used from Year 2 onwards to provide teachers with diagnostic data about performance in maths and reading comprehension.

- **Joint programmes**:

  2014-5 Clarendon Primary School will be involved in a project with Clarendon Kindergarten titled ‘Reimagining Childhood – exploring the provocations of Thinker in Residence Carla Rinaldi’ facilitated by the Early Childhood Organisation (ECHO).

  During 2014 and into the future we will continue to work with a cross section of schools from within our Sea and Vines partnership and other local schools.

5. Sporting Activities

Fitness and Health and PE lessons form a normal part of programs at Clarendon Primary School. Within the local community, children are involved with cricket, football, netball and tennis. At school, students form year 5 onwards have the opportunity to get involved in organised SAPSASA sports carnivals and knockout sport. Clarendon has recently been involved in Athletics, Cross Country, Tag Rugby, Rugby League, Soccer, Netball, Australian Rules, T-20 Blast Cricket and Swimming.
6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

Co-Curricular activities include Young Leaders, Safety Ambassadors, SRC, Lunchtime BUZ, some private music tuition, excursions, festival choir, incursions and cultural performances, NRM youth forum.

Annual events include Grandparents Day, Sports Day and Family Fete, School End of Year Concert, Harmony Day, Book Week and Science Week.

Class camps are a strong part of the Clarendon School Culture. In the past classes have traditionally been on camps to Illawonga, Adelaide Zoo and Narnu Farm (Junior classes), Naracoorte Caves and the South East and Port Vincent Aquatics (Senior classes) and Arbury Park (Whole School).

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile
  The teaching staff at Clarendon is generally very experienced and have been teaching for several decades. The classroom teaching staff has also been teaching for between 10 and 19 years at Clarendon and bring a wealth of professional experience and knowledge to their roles. The Classroom teaching staff have also taken on leadership roles across the school in different areas and have taken on the role of Principal as required when the site leader has been away, on leave etc.

- Leadership structure
  Principal (administration 0.6 / teaching 0.4)

- Staff support systems
  Staff have ‘buddy’ systems and work collaboratively on developing programs and planning for school events. Being a small school, the need for close collaboration is inherent and vital for smooth running of the school. Planning for school improvement is expected to be a shared responsibility.
• **Performance Management**
  Staff has access to performance management meetings and can expect written feedback about their work. National Professional Standards for Teachers and DECD frameworks for performance development are part of the process. Peer observation and feedback is encouraged.

• **Staff utilisation policies**
  Ancillary staff are used in a range of ways across the school – including finance, administration, WHS compliance, coordination programs, young leaders, Garden and Grounds, Kitchen Garden program, Learner intervention, special education support and resource centre management and operation.

• **Access to special staff**
  Pastoral Care Worker – through federally funded program.
  Speech Pathology, Social Work, Behaviour Support, Psychology, Disability support, Guidance, Hearing and Aboriginal Community Workers – if required – through Noarlunga Education office.
  Our access to DECD instrumental music teachers was discontinued in 2011.

### 8. School Facilities

• **Buildings and grounds**
  Our school is situated in picturesque grounds on the side of the valley that characterises the Clarendon Township, above the weir and Onkaparinga River. The double classroom is solid stone, was built in 1885 and is heritage listed. The original Headmaster’s residence (1901) has been converted to an administration building. We have an older style double transportable building (wooden) which houses our upper primary classes. An older transportable classroom has been refurbished and now serves as a kitchen classroom. We have a new resource centre completed in 2012 and transportable toilet buildings on site. We have extensive grounds and play areas, featuring hard play spaces, lawns, a small soccer field, tennis court, orchard, fruit and vegetable garden and areas for cubby building, free play and construction. We have a dated sand pit and several pieces of older and newer play equipment.

• **Heating and cooling**
  All classrooms and buildings have effective heating and cooling. Clarendon experiences temperatures slightly milder in summer and slightly cooler in winter than metropolitan Adelaide. Mid winters tend to be cold and wet.

• **Specialist facilities and equipment**
  Laptop and PC computers are based in classrooms and the Resource centre for student use, with network and Wi-Fi internet access. Kitchen Garden infrastructure provides specialist garden and cooking learning experiences.
• Student facilities
Students have access to resource centre, diverse outdoor play environments, sports equipment, internet and email access. Students can access the resource centre at various times. Filtered drinking water is provided in the yard and there are several covered veranda areas for eating, playing etc.

• Staff facilities
Staff have a small kitchen/lounge area in the administration building. The kitchen is a fully equipped facility with fridge, kettle, stove, oven, microwave, sink, coffee machine etc. Teaching Staff have laptops and iPads provided by the school. All staff have internet access and Wi-Fi access. Phones are connected to each building in the school. Car parking for staff is provided on site.

• Access for students and staff with disabilities
Due to the steep nature of the terrain around the school, access for students and staff with physical disabilities is difficult. There is ramp access to the school from the top car park, however the car park is unsealed. There is limited access to some parts of the school for people with limited mobility.

• Access to bus transport
The Goolwa-Adelaide bus service passes through Clarendon twice daily. We are on the route of the Aberfoyle High School bus to Kangarilla. There is very limited access locally to public transport services.

9. School Operations

• Decision making structures
The Principals’ Advisory Committee is comprised of members of the teaching and ancillary staff. All staff are consulted on matters of day to day operations, policy development and so on. Staff meet together for Administration Staff Meetings each Thursday morning before school. Teaching staff meet weekly for professional development and management of pedagogical issues. The school governing council meets twice per term. Governing Council sub committees – including curriculum, grounds, fund raising and finance meet as and when required outside of set GC meeting times. Student Representative Council meet three times per term.

• Regular Publications and Other communication
The newsletter / bulletin are published weekly in hard copy and electronically. There is a parent handbook available for all new parents. School parent directory is updated and issued annually. School Web Site – to be upgraded 2014. Parent / Community Notice Board Middle/Junior Primary Notice Boards Classroom newsletters and updates.
• School financial position
  The School is in a sound financial position. Please see annual report for profit
  and loss statement.
• Special funding
  Limited funding is made available through state and federal governments to
  support children with disabilities. Federal Better schools funding was minimal.

10. Local Community

• General characteristics
  Clarendon is a small township on the edge of metropolitan Adelaide,
  characterised by its picturesque location and many historic buildings. Most
  working parents in the area commute to Adelaide for work.
• Parent and community involvement
  Parent and community involvement is strong on lots of levels across the
  school, including informing decision making, providing feedback to the
  school, supporting education programs, special events and functions. The
  kitchen garden program is reliant on volunteers to maintain the adult to
  student supervision ratios required. Parents are also involved in supporting
  sports teams and often participate during excursions.
• Feeder or destination schools
  Most children transitioning from prior to school settings do some from
  Clarendon Kindergarten. The local secondary school is Aberfoyle Park High
  School, while some children choose to attend Brighton, Urbrae, Blackwood
  and other secondary schools.
• Other local care and educational facilities
  OSHC and VAC CARE accessed via Kangarilla PS.
• Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  The township of Clarendon has a general store, bakery and hairdresser.
  The Royal Oak Hotel and Old Clarendon Inn, along with Silvestri’s
  Reception centre are local hospitality options. There is also an antique
  shop. Nearest service station is at Kangarilla.
• Other local facilities
  Over 50’s Club, Uniting and Anglican Churches, Riverbend Park and Oval,
  Bowling Club, Netball and Tennis Courts and Historic Hall Museum.
• Availability of staff housing
  Nil.
• Local Government body