

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT Updated: 05/08

School Name: Jamestown Community School

School Number: 0777

1. General Information

Part A

School Name: JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOL
School No: 0777 Courier ;Jamestown
Principal: Mr Kevin Mooney
Postal Address: Humphris Terrace, Jamestown 5491
Location Address: Humphris Terrace, Jamestown 5491
District: Flinders
Distance from GPO: 203 kms
Phone No: 08 86642700
Fax No: 08 86642707
CPC attached : NO
February FTE Enrolment
Primary Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.

	2005	2006	2007	2008
Reception	10.0	22.0	11.0	16
Year 1	16.0	11.0	16.0	14
Year 2	11.0	19.0	12.0	19
Year 3	17.0	15.0	18.0	12
Year 4	27.0	18.0	14.0	18
Year 5	17.0	26.0	15.0	15
Year 6	16.0	25.0	25.0	16
Year 7	28.0	20.0	25.0	24
Secondary Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.				
Year 8	37.0	42.0	32.0	37
Year 9	20.0	40.0	43.22	30
Year 10	35.0	21.0	32.4	36
Year 11	34.34	33.0	18.15	22
Year 12	34.0	20.0	29.0	12.2
TOTAL	302.40	313.0	290.77	271.2
July total FTE Enrolment				
	310.6	298.72	296.77	
Male FTE	148	150	147	144
Female FTE	152	151	129	125
School Card Approvals (Persons)				
	79	66	59	40
NESB Total (Persons)				
	5	5	5	2
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment				
	5.0	5	10	7

Part B

Assistant Principals: Prue Hunter – Curriculum Leadership R-12

Tyler Hogan - Daily Routines, Learning Pathway

Staffing numbers

Tier 1: 23.0 across R-12

Tier 2: Special Education 0.61

FIR: 0.69

Leadership: Principal; Assistant Principals (2); Coordinators: Junior School focus (female); Middle School focus (female); Senior School focus (female);

Library: 1.0 Librarian [female]/ Community Library Aide: 29 hours/week.

Student Counselor time: 0.5

SSO Time: 159 hrs/per week /GSE Time (including agriculture): 34 hours/week.

Enrolment trends

It is expected that enrolments will remain relatively stable over the next few years at a total of approximately 275 students.

Jamestown Community School is an R-12 school providing educational opportunity to the students of our community. The school is also a member of the Mid North Secondary Education Cluster [MNSEC] of schools (Gladstone High School, Peterborough High School, Booleroo Centre District School, Orroroo Area School and Quorn Area School). These schools share a comprehensive distance education and sporting and social programme and cooperatively promote a cluster based training and development programme for staff.

A branch of Spencer Institute of TAFE is located on the site and a local Kindergym group uses the Community Stadium on a weekly basis.

Year of opening: 2000 as an R-12 Community School

Public transport access

A bus service exists between Jamestown and Adelaide but not on a daily basis.

Buses can also be caught at Crystal Brook in the afternoon to travel to Adelaide.

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics

Approximately 20% of students are school card. The majority of families are involved in agriculture or an agriculture support business.

Pastoral Care programs: Pastoral Care is developed throughout the curriculum and with a specific time allocation twice a week.

The Junior sub-school is implementing Program Achieve strategies and the Middle School and Senior School utilizes the Mind Matters programme.

An R-12 Pastoral care program over three days is used as an orientation to the new year with normal curriculum not introduced until the Thursday of week one.

Course counseling is provided to parents/students throughout the year but more specifically for year 9-12 students during terms 3 and 4. Sub-school coordinators, assistant principals and home group teachers undertake course counseling.

An allocation of 0.5 counseling time provides for the general counseling of all students. The school also has 2 chaplains who provide a comprehensive counseling support service for students, families and staff, and a counseling position exists in the Junior School.

Student management

The students are managed in three sub-schools; R-5, Years 6-9 & Years 10-12. There is a whole of school Student Behaviour Management policy based on encouraging students to be responsible for their own behaviour. The strategies for implementation are developed through whole school and sub-school meetings. Behavior strategies/consequences are developed in consultation with students, Sub-School Coordinators, Assistant Principals and other support teachers in their implementation.

A review of the school values in 2005 has resulted in the values of Honesty, Integrity, Respect, Excellence and Loyalty adopted. All expectations within our school are developed around these values.

Student government

The school has an R-12 Student Representative Council with elected members from each of the sub-school. The members are elected for a one-year term and are provided with an induction program in term 1 of each year. The SRC meet on a regular basis during the year and are actively involved in organising and promoting student activities and fundraising.

3. Key School Policies

Site Learning Plan developed for the three year period 2007-2009

Recent key outcomes

Jamestown Community School is a Learning 2 Learn school with an R-12 focus on remodeling the teaching and learning to be student centered.

In 2007 The MNSEC Cluster was recognized as one of the State Government *Trade Schools for the Future*. Also in 2007 the school established a sports institute profile providing the Nationally Accredited Sport & Recreation certificate course to Certificate 2.

The staff have a commitment to raising the profile of Literacy and Numeracy. As a result all staff will be trained in the implementation of the 'Stepping Out' writing programme. All R-5 teaching and support staff will be trained in the Writing Approach To Reading [WRAP] Program, which incorporates handwriting, spelling, writing and reading. All staff considering an appointment at Jamestown Community School will be expected to undertake the relevant training.

The school has a thriving Australian Native Bush Food garden, the students have produced a native foods recipe book and the overall project is firmly embedded in the schools curriculum.

The Site Learning Plan has four key priorities:

Teaching and Learning

1. Develop, implement, record and analyse effective learning of curriculum delivery R-12.

Organisational Structures

1. Improve systems, structures and processes to better support the teaching and learning programs.
2. Design an ICT infrastructure based on meeting future needs.

Facilities

1. Develop ecologically sustainable practices in the learning and working environment.

Relationships

1. Improve the skills of staff, students and school community to enhance effective working relationships, resolve conflict and develop a collaborative, cooperative and safe learning environment.

4. Curriculum

Subject offerings

The school provides students with access to all 8 areas of the curriculum. There is a fixed curriculum for all students until the end of year 9. Students access LOTE through Open Access or Local Distance Delivery; the provision of LOTE is negotiable dependent on availability. As a result of our involvement in the DECS *Learning 2 Learn* Program we have a defined scope and sequence for learning methodology across all the year levels. Our aim is, through the explicit teaching of thinking strategies, to provide the learning environment where students individually choose the best strategy for the learning task.

Senior school students (year 10-12) have subject choices more aligned to the SACE pattern of subjects. The school is highly regarded for its academic achievements within the senior school and many exiting students move on to an academic learning pathway. VET and other learning pathway alternatives remain a focus for the school over the next 12 months. The MNSEC Cluster

has been recognized as one of the State Government 'Trade Schools for the Future' and we are now in our second year of working with Industry to develop learning opportunities. We currently have a two-year contract with the Construction Industry Training Board to provide learning and work placement for students undertaking this course.

At Jamestown Community School we have established a Sports Institute Program in conjunction with Sport SA. The course, aimed at students achieving Certificate 2 in Sport & Recreation, provides an ideal platform for students wishing to move into this field as a career. It also aims to provide our community with qualified coaches, umpires and administrators in the area of sport & recreation.

Distance Delivery

Through the MNSEC cluster of schools students are provided with increased subject choice in years 11 and 12. With improvements in technology, wider use will be made of this medium, not only for students, but also for staff training and wider community access. Our teachers utilize the technology to teach simultaneously face-to-face classes and distance delivery students. Our anecdotal evidence so far indicates an increased level of learning outcomes is being achieved, as the students are required by the technology to be constantly interacting in the learning process.

Middle School students underline their learning within the SACSA Framework by ensuring they remain an active partner in the teaching/learning process. Our involvement in the *Learning 2 Learn* Program has supported our staff in an understanding of 'the central thesis of constructivism'. After a variety of trials we now have timetabled into our curriculum a semester of Integrated Studies that concentrates on the understanding of learning methodologies.

Junior School students are provided with a wide range of learning opportunities across the 8 areas of learning. As much as possible junior students are able to appreciate the opportunities of an R-12 school in accessing specialist teachers and specialist teaching areas. Junior school staff actively promote learning in the 8 areas constantly source learning opportunities through extra-curricula activities. Parents are strongly encouraged to be part of the learning environment that fosters play and resource based learning, student initiated learning and cross age peer work.

Special curriculum features

Current NEP's provide support and advice to staff, curriculum is negotiated and the school provides a program of alternative learning activities [JETS] to promote active learning opportunities for its students. The school has an active Intervention Team.

This team assists in the development and monitoring of students with special learning needs. This includes students with disabilities, students with learning difficulties, gifted students, and education of boys.

The Student Wellbeing & Chaplaincy Committee provides advice and support for the wellbeing of our school community.

A significant number of SSO hours are used to assist in support within the classrooms especially in Junior School and Middle School.

Assessment and reporting

Assessment is aligned with the SACSA Framework, and the requirements of SACE in the senior school. All year levels report to parents using the SPR module. Samples of work and reports from designated curriculum areas may be provided to keep parents informed, parent interviews are conducted in terms 1 & 3 and written assessments are provided in terms 2 & 4.

5. Sporting Activities

The year 6 and 7 students actively participate in a variety of SAPSASA activities. Year 8-12 students are provided with a large choice of SASSSA Knock-Out sport activities both within the school and within MNSEC cluster.

Year 6 and 7 students, as part of the Middle school of an R-12 campus, are included in MNSEC sporting activities.

The school has its own 6-12 swimming carnival and R-12 Sports/Athletics Carnival. All MNSEC Schools participate in a swimming and athletics carnival and then a combined MNSEC team is sent to Adelaide to compete on a statewide basis.

Through the curriculum all students (R-12) are provided with the opportunity to participate in physical education. The school has a stadium, athletics field/oval and tennis/basketball courts. These facilities ensure the instruction in a wide variety of activities.

The town of Jamestown provides students with an opportunity to participate in a wide variety of weekend sports clubs including, table tennis, bowls, football, basketball, netball, badminton, volleyball, golf etc. These clubs actively support participation by young people.

The Jamestown Community has an admirable history of success in the sporting field and an enviable sporting program of youth development. The recent addition to the towns sporting facilities is a stadium containing two international standard basketball courts and six indoor cricket nets. Our Netball, Basketball and Futsal competitions are all played indoors.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

General

The school has a choir for R-8 students. The choir participates in a regional choir activity during Term 3. Students also participate in the MNSEC Showcase, a performing arts evening sponsored by the MNSEC group.

An Arts performance evening occurs bi-annually to profile the learning opportunities and skills of the students.

The school has a developing music programme with a number of students being involved in the instrumental music programme. The school provides access to a variety of music teachers depending on demand.

The school provides an extensive camps and excursion programme in support of our teaching and learning. Overnight camps begin in the Junior School and include such venues as Adelaide, Yorke Peninsula and Falls Creek.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile

The staff comprises a close cohesive group of professionals committed to learning across an R-12 campus. Over the past few years the R-12 staff have worked together on a number of professional development and extra curricula activities that have supported our delivery of a seamless learning process.

Staff support systems

Sub-school groups – All teaching staff are affiliated with one of the sub-school teams and they meet as a team on a regular basis.

Curriculum groups – Curriculum is developed through the sub-school groups with specific time provided for the implementation of integrated curriculum.

All staff are expected to belong to at least one of the key committees at the school eg, finance, curriculum, site & asset management etc.

Performance Development

The school maintains a comprehensive Performance Development commitment. All staff are supported by a line manager, and with whom they meet on a regular basis. There is a set expectation for performance development meetings with emphasis on personal development, goal setting and meeting the needs of the school's Site Development Plan.

The PAC in consultation with the Principal defines deployment of staff and staff use in specialist areas. All staff deployment is based on a philosophy of equity in the delivery of curriculum R-12. Approximately 3 full time ancillary staff provides direct administration support. The remainder assists in curriculum delivery either in the classroom or assisting in preparation of material.

Ancillary staff are encouraged to multi-skill themselves so that they have the capacity to take on a number of roles as the need arises.

Access to special staff

An instrumental music teacher is present in the school one day per week. Other music instruction is resourced when available; currently many students access piano and guitar lessons.

The school has access to Special Education Support teachers from Port Pirie District Office as required in terms of providing training and development for staff, assessing students and providing help in material production.

Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

Complexity placement points	0.0.
Isolation placement points	3.0.
Cash in lieu of removal allowance	Yes.

8. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds

Jamestown Community School is an R-12 school sited on a large block with extensive oval, play and agricultural facilities. The buildings have been set up to provide distinct precincts for the Junior School, Middle School and Senior School with all students sharing specialist facilities to varying degrees. The school has a very large oval, which has permanent athletics track and field activities. Approximately 8 hectares are available for Agricultural Studies purposes.

All classrooms have recently undergone renovations to provide a learning environment that reflects and supports our *Learning 2 Learn* journey over the past four years.

Specialist facilities

The school has a community library, two laboratories, two performing arts areas, an art centre, a home economics centre, stadium and technical studies area. Virtually all specialist areas are of solid construction. The school is totally cabled for IT, with all classrooms having access to the curriculum network. There are three designated computer rooms, one of which is shared with Jamestown Campus of TAFE.

Student facilities

Students have access to a canteen, which provides lunches for all students. Year's 6-12 students can access the canteen at lunchtime and recess time.

Senior students have a kitchen/lounge area within the senior school buildings.

Staff facilities

All staff are provided with work areas outside their classrooms. The computer network provides access to e-mail facilities. Within the staff room a special IT area has been established. All teacher preparation areas have IT network access.

Most areas of the school now have disabled access. Two disabled toilets are provided across the site.

9. School Operations

Decision making structures

The school has a number of key decision-making groups including School Leadership, Staff meetings, Governing Council, Parents & Friends, Student Representative Council & PAC, Finance, Strategic Planning, Site & Asset Management. Governing Council has a number of sub-committees each with a designated role and an organisational action plan to monitor their operations. These groups are responsible for the leadership and operation of such management practices as Finance, Strategic Planning, Site & Asset Management and Canteen. Each of these committees has a designated membership comprising parents, students and staff.

Regular publications

Each fortnight a newsletter is published providing a comprehensive run down of school activities and student achievement.

The school each year publishes a current information booklet for parents and staff, and an induction booklet for new staff.

Staff attend a daily morning meeting for the sharing of information.

Each week an electronic bulletin is published where staff place notices of relevance to all staff. This delivery of current information removes the need for 'general' information sharing at staff meetings. Staff meetings are reserved for professional learning conducted under a program of 'Learning Circles'.

Copies of newsletters are sent home to all families of current students, to new enrolling reception students and to interested members of the community.

For all bus students a communication tree operates in case of emergency.

The school has a comprehensive phone system, which enables direct contact with front office across the whole campus.

10. Local Community

General characteristics

The Jamestown community is very family orientated. The level of unemployment in the community is quite low. The majority of work is found in the rural, farming industry and in support industries such as retail, government agencies or light industry.

The parents/community are very supportive of their school and see it as a community education facility. Strong support is received for sporting carnivals and other sporting activities. Parents are very active in site development and in their membership of key decision-making committees.

Parents provide good support for individual teachers when the need arises.

Feeder schools

The major feeder school is St James Catholic School located in Jamestown. Students from St. James move across to the Community School at year 8. Some students do come from Spalding and Terowie.

Other local care and educational facilities

Jamestown Children's Services Centre is located near to the Community School and has recently been renovated by the students.

Child Care is also provided through local registered providers.

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

The commercial/industrial industry is mainly in support of agriculture. There are 3 light steel fabrication industries, a number of agricultural support firms eg, Elders, Landmark, a newly established saw mill and a number of government agencies. The shopping facility is quite extensive with 2 supermarkets and many well-established specialty shops. The town has a number of mechanical repair industries.

Other local facilities

Jamestown has a medical centre offering four GPs and a number of visiting specialists. It has a well-equipped hospital, extensive aged care facilities, a gymnasium and hydrotherapy pool.

There are numerous sporting clubs and service clubs including APEX, Lions, and Soroptimists.

Jamestown has a very active Community Arts group who bi-annually host an internationally recognized *Weekend of the Arts* in the nearby Bundaleer Forest. Bundaleer Forest is a major tourist destination in the district. The Victoria Park sport and recreation facility contains ovals, lawn tennis courts, a large table tennis complex, 2 international standard basketball courts and 6 indoor cricket-training nets.

Availability of staff housing: Limited housing is available through OGEH.

A number of privately owned houses and flats are available for rental.

Local Government body

The local District Council (Northern Areas Council) is a very pro-active council in promoting its local area. It is very supportive of local projects and initiatives. It actively promotes and encourages businesses in the area. It does have a number of local productions promoting its council area.

CEO – Keith Hope (Telephone: 86641139).