

# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

**School Site Number:** 0971 & 1896

**School Name:** East Torrens Primary School & Intensive English Language Centre

## School Profile:

East Torrens Primary School (ETPS) is located in the North Eastern suburbs of Adelaide. The school was established on the former Newton Primary School site in 2001 following the amalgamation of Hectorville and Newton Primary Schools. The school comprises of 12 mainstream classes, 7 Intensive English Language classes and an OSHC Centre. The school also hosts 2 Special Education classes that provide specialised teaching and learning for 20 students. There are approximately 380 students currently enrolled across the 21 classes. Our core values are Respect, Empathy, Excellence and Empathy,

Our school facilities and extensive grounds offer plenty of spaces for students to enjoy; including a STEM room (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), large gymnasium, oval, tennis courts, updated kitchen facilities, 'Nature Play' area; featuring an established natural environment, incorporating a sand-pit, grassed area, water play, chicken house, vegetable garden and bike track.

Digital technology is an integral part of our curriculum program. Each classroom and learning space has been fitted with an Interactive Whiteboards or Smart TV and all students are allocated with a chrome book upon enrolment which enables them to access online resources and further develop their ICT skills. Professional Development for staff is regularly provided to ensure our staff are continually developing and honing their ICT skills.

The 'Intensive English Language Program' (IELP) was established on site in 2006 to support the growing number of children arriving from overseas with minimal English. East Torrens Primary School celebrates the cultural and linguistic diversity within the school community with students represented from over 47 different cultural backgrounds. The school continues to develop its global connections through enriched experiences and understanding amongst IELP and mainstream students across all curriculum areas. Bilingual School Services Officers (BSSOs) support this program, offering interpreting and translation skills covering the most predominant languages.

Our Specialist Programs in mainstream classes include Italian and (First Language Maintenance - Hindi/Punjabi, Chinese and Arabic), Health & Physical Education and Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM).

The Site Improvement Plan continues to place a strong focus on high achievement in English and Mathematics, ensuring whole school pedagogy, powerful teaching and learning and a thorough understanding of 21<sup>st</sup> Century. All staff work in Professional Learning Teams to support continuous improvement and consistency in practice across the site.

Students with complex social/emotional needs, learning disabilities, English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) and 'Children in Care' are supported in a number of ways. The school provides EALD focus teacher funding, School Services Officer (SSO) support with a focus on the

student's individual learning needs. Additional programs that have been implemented include a 'Tumbling Teddies' (coordination program) and early intervention with targeted support in Literacy and Numeracy.

East Torrens Primary School staff is committed to providing a high quality education for all students. Stronger partnerships with the local pre-schools, schools and high schools have been developed to support a seamless and successful transition between educational settings.

# 1. General information

- **School Principal name:** Gael Little
- **Senior Leader:** Assunta Alfano
- **Year of opening:** 2001
- **Postal Address:** 12 Robson Road, HECTORVILLE S.A. 5073
- **Location Address:** 12 Robson Road, HECTORVILLE S.A. 5073
- **DECD Region:** Campbell Partnership
- **Geographical location – i.e. road distance from GPO (km):** 8km from CBD
- **Telephone number:** (08) 8337 1411
- **Fax Number:** (08) 8337 7243
- **School website address:** <https://www.ettorrensps.sa.edu.au/>
- **School e-mail address:** [dl.0971.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0971.info@schools.sa.edu.au)
- **Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached:** No
- **Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service:** Yes
- **February FTE student enrolment:**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>Mainstream</b>	<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Term 1</b>
Reception	22	25	18	25	34
Year 1	18	25	32	23	29
Year 2	24	22	25	38	28
Year 3	26	24	26	28	40
Year 4	24	28	16	28	35
Year 5	27	23	27	22	29
Year 6	17	24	26	28	25
Year 7	26	21	22	29	41
<b>JP Special Class</b>	8	8	8	8	8
<b>Primary Special Class</b>	11	12	12	11	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	203	212	212	240	261
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>

IELC	Term 1	Term 1	Term 1	Term 1	Term 1
Reception	19	20	17	13	21
Year 1	12	10	26	22	17
Year 2	11	9	15	13	22
Year 3	10	9	5	14	18
Year 4	8	7	11	13	10
Year 5	7	7	8	9	10
Year 6	3	4	8	8	7
Year 7	5	6	2	6	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	75	72	92	98	111

**School Card Approvals** 45%

**NESB Total** 73%

**ATSI FTE Enrolment** 5.8%

**Children in Care** 2.2%

- **Student Enrolment Trends:**

Enrolment numbers are steadily growing with current numbers at 380

- **Staffing Numbers (as at February census):**

- Tier 1 – Basic teacher allocation: 12 FTE mainstream, 7 IELC FTE, 2 special class teachers, 5 specialist teachers
- Tier 2 – Mother Tongue Maintenance 0.2 Punjabi and Hindi, 0.1 Chinese and 0.1 Arabic
- Aboriginal Community Education Officer (1.5 days per week) & Aboriginal Education Teacher (1 day per week)
- Full time EALD teacher.
- Principal, 3 Senior Leaders (IELC Senior Leader and Student Wellbeing & Teaching and Learning in the 21st Century Learning Pedagogy)
- 25-part time and full time School Service Officers
- A groundsman from 'Programmed Maintenance' two days per week.
- IT technician from IPAU two days per week.

- **Public Transport Access:**

Access to the city via Bus stop 20 using buses 179, 171 and 172.

- **Special Site Arrangements:**

Eastern Zone Primary Soccer Association is based on school grounds and weekly matches are generally held during Terms 2 & 3. National Karate and SA Church Basketball also use the school gymnasium during the week.

The school integrates two district Special Education classes from Reception to Year 2 and Years 3 to Year 7. Special Education has a major role within the school.

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

### General Characteristics

The school is culturally diverse with students from over 47 different countries with a large percentage of students coming from non-English speaking backgrounds.

73% of students at the school identify with a language other than English and 5.8% students identify with the Aboriginal / Torres Strait Islander cultures.

The school population is comprised of students from a range of family groupings including single parent, extended and nuclear. The student population is characterised by an increasing level of student transience.

Our main transition high schools for this zone include Charles Campbell College and Norwood Morialta High School. Some families choose to enrol in Independent Schools.

- **Student Well-being Programs**

Child Protection Program, 'Kimochis', Lunch time play activities including Lego Club, Aboriginal Student Club, Chess Club, Wheels Wednesday and Sporting competitions and clinics.

- **Student Support Offered**

The school employs a full time Student Wellbeing Coordinator to support and monitor the wellbeing and attendance of all students. Federal funding provides a part-time Pastoral Care Support worker who is regularly involved in lunch-time activities, additional classroom/literacy support and assisting parents to connect with outside agencies to further support their child's needs. The school has a strong Student Representative Council (SRC) which provides a vital forum for student voice and decision making about their school.

- **Student Management**

- **Student Government**

All students in Reception to Year 7 participate in weekly class SRC class meetings. A democratically elected Student Council meets to discuss issues raised by the students. The executive council meet regularly with the Student Wellbeing Coordinator as a 'student voice representative' passing on recommendations to staff and action new student initiatives.

- **Special Programmes**

'Kimochis' (emotional well-being), Tumbling Teddies coordination program, Quick Smart Maths, EALD support, First Language classes for Chinese, Arabic, Hindi and Punjabi. Literacy and Numeracy are our main priorities. To support these two goals, the school employs an additional teacher three days a week in Early Intervention (Years R – 3) across the year and a Numeracy teacher 2 days a week to facilitate teacher knowledge and professional practice in Mathematics.

### 3. Key School Policies

- **Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:**

The school Site Improvement Plan 2019 – 2021 documents strategic goals in Literacy and Numeracy aimed at maximising student learning outcomes and student targets for improvement.

- **Recent Key Outcomes:**

The school underwent an External Review in March 2016 which highlighted key directions that are being implemented across the school to support improvement in Literacy and Numeracy student outcomes. These outcomes will be reviewed again later this year.

Please see the 2019 Annual Report for recent achievements. Our updated Annual report is listed on our school website.

### 4. Curriculum

Subject offerings: Subjects are in-line with the Australian Curriculum for English, Mathematics, Humanities and Social Sciences, Italian, The Arts, Digital and Design Technologies, Science and Health and Physical Education.

Teachers are developing their understanding of the General Capabilities and the use of Digital Technologies.

The development of Literacy and Numeracy skills, together with skills for living and working in a global society, are seen as a high priority to maximise long term opportunities for students.

- **Open Access/Distance Education provision: N/A**

- **Special needs:**

- 2 Area Special classes
- English as an Additional Language and/or Dialect (EALD)
- Students with Disability funding (SWD) Inclusion
- Reception to Year 3 Literacy Intervention
- Quick smart Maths

- **Special Curriculum Features:**

- R-7 First Language Maintenance Programme (Hind/Punjabi, Chinese and Arabic)
- Premier's Reading Challenge
- Languages (Italian) Mainstream and Special classes
- STEM (R-7)
- SAPSASA sporting events
- ICAS Testing

Each year students are able to enter the International Competition and Assessment for Schools (ICAS) in English, Writing, Science, Mathematics, Digital Technologies and Spelling.

We place a strong emphasis on the successful development of Literacy and Numeracy skills with two additional teachers provided from the school budget to work alongside staff to enable higher achievement in Literacy and Numeracy.

Classroom teachers integrate the use of technology into all areas of the curriculum. Each classroom has an Interactive Whiteboard and/or large screen television to use as a tool to assist student learning.

Students from Reception to Year 7 have access to their own chrome book. These laptops are provided by the school with no cost to parents.

A wide variety of current pedagogies are used according to student needs and curriculum emphasis.

Social skill development is encouraged through all curriculum areas and students take responsibility for their learning and the choices they make.

- **Teaching methodology:**

Professional Learning Teams (PLTs) for staff who are teaching similar year levels are released three times each term to work together to examine student achievement data in Literacy and Numeracy. Teachers work collaboratively to plan and assess student learning exploring how they can improve their teaching practice and raise student achievement standards in these critical areas.

ICT is a key part of the schools teaching methodology.

- **Student Assessment Procedures and Reporting**

Student assessment data is submitted in line with current DECD Reporting and Assessment Guidelines. All data is collected through observation, anecdotal records, checklists, work samples, assignments and formal and informal testing.

- NAPLAN for Years 3, 5, & 7 students.
- Parent/Teacher Interviews are held during Term 1.
- PAT R and Pat M Testing for Years 1 – 7 are held during Term 3.
- Running Records ongoing throughout the year
- Student reports are provided at the end of Term 2 and Term 4.
- LLL Levels reported
- Analysis at the Early Years PAT data.

Testing by Department for Education psychologist

- **Joint programmes:**

East Torrens is collaborating with the Adelaide University on an 'in-depth' Environmental Science Project with Dr Judith Giraldo. Dr Giraldo has been working with several classes modelling the work of a real scientist.

## 5. Sporting Activities

All students from Reception to Year 7 have regular fitness and skills lessons as part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum with a specialist PE teacher. The school

accesses various outside agencies and Sporting Associations for specialist instruction clinics and after school sports throughout the year.

Additional lunch time sporting activities are organised and run by our Physical Education staff. Our annual Sports Day is held in Term 1 and focuses on skills acquisition and participation.

The school also has teams competing in the local basketball league and in various Torrens River SAPSASA competitions including rugby, soccer, football, basketball, netball and cricket.

## 6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- Lunch time student clubs are highly valued at East Torrens Primary School and we have various clubs available every week for students to access.

These include: Lego club, computer club, Aboriginal Nunga Club, Sporting activities, bike riding, chess, reading, all of which are supervised by teachers.

Book week celebrations, Harmony Day/Anti-bullying assemblies, the Oz Asia Festival and Reconciliation & NAIDOC week are all annual events the school regularly participates in.

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff Profile**

East Torrens Primary School has approximately 75 staff comprising of school leaders, teachers, School Support Officers (SSOs) and bilingual support staff (BSSOs). There is limited turn over in staffing and good mix of younger and more experienced staff.

- **Leadership Structure**

Principal, Senior Leader 1; Teaching and Learning for 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Senior Leader 1; Intensive English Language Student Wellbeing Coordinator, Finance Manager.

- **Staff Support Systems**

ETPS has a weekly staff meeting with a strong focus on professional development in common year level groupings. Staff are rostered to chair meetings, time keep and take minutes. Our staff are encouraged to discuss, share and enable each other to make decisions around minor and major areas of concern. Year level teams meet three times per term to collaboratively plan and program. These Professional Learning Teams are funded from our school budget and each teacher is a member of a year level team. Staff also run their own professional development sessions on Wednesdays and Thursdays, voluntarily taking turns to lead, plan and attend after school training sessions throughout the year.

- **Performance Management**

All staff members meet twice a year with a member of the Leadership Team. Line management is shared by members of the leadership team. Professional Development meetings are arranged twice a year using the DfE Performance Development Structure.



- **Staff Utilisation Policies**

School support staff are involved in supporting students with special needs, classroom support, Resource Centre facilitation, Information Technology, receptionist duties and clerical and finance administration.

Tier 2 salaries are used to provide individual or small group support to students. Ancillary staff provide clerical to the school as well as additional curriculum support for individual students on a Negotiated Education Plan.

All staff are encouraged to share their knowledge and expertise and to develop new skills through undertaking different roles and responsibilities where possible.

- **Access to Specialised Staff**

East Torrens Primary School follows the agreed Department processes for referring students for additional support. This is managed by the Deputy Leader. Department for Education provide support services including: Speech Pathology, Educational Psychologist, Attendance Counsellor, Behaviour Coach and Special Educator. Students who have been assessed and approved for additional support receive a Negotiated Education Plan developed collaboratively with the class teacher, parents/caregivers and specialist support staff.

The school works with a range of other interagency supports including Autism SA, Novita and Disabilities SA.

Many students access NDIS funding and receive ongoing specialist support from Occupational and Speech Therapy, Behaviour Coaches, Physiotherapy and Psychology.

## **8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff**

Staff access Department for Education policies in regards to working conditions and awards.

## **9. School Facilities**

- **Buildings and Grounds / Specialist and Student Facilities**

East Torrens Primary has large attractive grounds that are well maintained. School facilities include tennis/basketball courts, upgraded garden areas, two large sandpits and extensive playground areas.

The school has also undergone extensive refurbishment programs in recent years including a large STEM Room, modern gymnasium, Food Education Centre and Resource Centre. A Nature Play Area was established, giving students another area to play during recess and lunch. The Nature Play area also features a herb and vegetable garden which is utilised seasonally.

- **Heating and Cooling**

All buildings and service areas have heating and cooling facilities.

- **Staff Facilities**

The school has a well-appointed staff room and excellent facilities for staff.

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

There is disabled access via ramps to all building for student and/or staff use including wheelchair accessible toilet facilities.

- **Access to bus transport**

East Torrens is situated on Montacute Road where there is easy access to the Trans Adelaide Bus Network. Bus stop 20 has a bus route from there to the city centre using bus 179, 171 & 172.

## 10. School Operations

- **Decision Making Structures:**

Decision making is shared between the Principal, Principal Advisory Committee, Staff and Governing Council. Groups are involved in relevant decision making in line with Department for Education policies. School leaders meet weekly and staff meetings are also held weekly giving staff the opportunity to make a range of decisions in year level teams and sub committees. School support officers meet three times per term to discuss relevant important staffing and school information.

The Governing Council meets twice a term and the OSHC Team also meet regularly. Staff committees such as SIP committees, PAC, WHS Other groups meet on a needs basis.

- **Regular publications:**

The school newsletter is emailed to families every three weeks, and is up-loaded onto the website and Skoolbag app. Teachers electronically communicate with families through SeeSaw, Dojo and Google Classroom. All class teachers provide class newsletters/term overviews once a term for families - these are available on the school website. The school has made a substantial commitment to providing chromebooks for every student (R – 7) as well as other site resources.

- **Other Communication:**

Staff and Parent Handbooks are revised and produced annually and a digital copy is available on the school website. Email access is available for all staff and the upper primary students.

- **School Financial Position:**

The majority of our funds are expended on supporting curriculum and maintaining and upgrading facilities. The school is in a good financial position.

# 11. Local Community

- **General Characteristics**

East Torrens Primary School is situated in Hectorville amongst a diverse and dynamic community with many new homes and ongoing urban development.

- **Parent and Community Involvement**

Parents are actively involved in various aspects of our school including Governing Council sub committees, volunteer work (school banking, canteen), nature play, excursions and school sports activities. Parents are encouraged to attend assemblies and other school events.

- **Feeder or Destination Schools**

Our main feeder preschool is Campbelltown Preschool.

Transition programs are offered for enrolling Reception students, Special Class students and Year 7 students transitioning into High School. Our zoned high schools are Charles Campbell College and Norwood Morialta.

- **Commercial/Industrial and Shopping Facilities**

- Newton Central Shopping Centre
- Centro Newton
- Firle Plaza
- Glynburn Plaza

- **Other Local Facilities**

- The ARC Recreation Centre
- Red Mill Café
- Campbelltown Library
- City of Campbelltown Council

- **Local Government Body**

The school's local government body is the City of Campbelltown Council (08) 8366 9222. East Torrens Primary School has a good working relationship with the local council and we are always striving to enhance this relationship.