SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

School number: 1099

School name: PARALOWIE R-12 SCHOOL

1. General information

Part A

School name: PARALOWIE R-12 SCHOOL
School Number: 1099
Principal: Peter McKay
Postal Address: PO Box 83, Whites Rd, Salisbury North, 5108.
Location Address: Whites Rd, Paralowie, 5108
District: Salisbury Plains
Road distance from GPO: 24 kms.
CPC attached: No
Phone No.: 08 8182 7222
Fax No.: 08 8281 5859

February FTE Enrolment

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School Card percentage: 37% 35% 30% 48.5% 41%
NESB Total (Persons): 263 279.0 314 303 367
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment: 68.0 70.0 90.0 106 110
Part B

Deputy Principal, R-12(PC05) : Mr Peter Groves
Head of Junior School R-6 (PC04) : Ms Michelle Lennox
Senior Leader, Middle School : Ms Sandrine Poissonnier
Senior Leader, Senior School : Ms Sandy Stuart
Senior Leader, Teaching & Learning : Mr David Kinna
Senior, Leader, R/C, Yr 10 : Ms Desi Philippou
Senior Leader, Junior School
Wellbeing/School Counsellor : Ms Natalie Carling

- Staffing numbers:
  80.0 FTE including 8.0 Tier 2 positions
  1 Primary Coordinators, 13 Secondary Coordinators, 2 Secondary Student Counsellors and
  3 Teacher Librarians. The Leadership Team has a balance of female and male members.
  Adult Community Education and liaison is based in the Paralowie Community Centre. An
  Aboriginal Education Teacher (0.8), an Aboriginal Education Worker (2) and a Pastoral Care
  Worker R-6 are an integral part of the Student Services Team along with R-12 Special
  Education, R-12 ESL and other support staff.

- OHSC: No

- Enrolment trends:
Primary numbers have increased and secondary enrolments are expected to be maintained.

- Year of opening: 1995 as Paralowie R-12 but previously 1969 Salisbury North Technical
  High School

- Public transport access:
  It is readily accessible by train and bus centred at the Salisbury Interchange.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics
Students come to the school from a wide geographic area. The high proportion of School
Card holders across the school (approx 41%) indicates the socio-economic complexities of
our school community. There is an increasing enrolment of students from a background
other than English as well as a significant number of Aboriginal students (110).

- Support offered:
  Two Student Counsellors 7-12 and one R-6 SL2. with a School Counsellor brief. Career
  Pathways program 7-12.
  Wellbeing Hub for students Yr 6 - 12
A wide range of intervention programs are conducted at the school to support better learning
outcomes for our students.

- Student management:
Student Behaviour Management – we have clearly defined student behaviour management
procedures where support for teachers and students is provided.

- Student government:
Student Participation/Student Voice is a major focus R-12. It takes different forms at different
levels of schooling.
Student Participation has been recognised by the school community as a focus in promoting
and developing in our students a wide range of skills which will enable them to become
active participants in their school and in the wider community, when seeking employment or
in continued study.
At Paralowie we have a highly effective R-6 student voice and Middle School and Senior
School Student Forums. These incorporate regular class meetings, student participation in a
range of school committees, Open Night and Transition programs, as well as student run
assemblies.
We believe that the contribution of students concerning social and learning issues which are important to them provides us with a valuable opportunity to shape a curriculum that will better suit the needs of our students.

3. **Key School Policies**

**ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL**

**Context**
Paralowie School is a large Reception to Year 12 school of 1387 students, in the northern suburbs of Adelaide. Our School is particularly diverse and complex with a large percentage of our community experiencing economic hardship. The high proportion of School Card holders (approximately 41%) indicates the socio-economic complexities of our school. This is compounded by high rates of unemployment and transience. The students at Paralowie are representative of the wide range of cultures that make up our community. The school moved from a category 3 Index of Education Disadvantage.

**Our Purpose**
At Paralowie student learning is at the heart of everything we do. Our core purpose is quality learning and teaching R-12, in a supportive harassment free environment where success and achievement for all is our focus.

Our quality learning and teaching programs are underpinned by collaborative work that:
- values and builds on the **student teacher relationship**
- ensures **equity and social justice** in all our actions
- has **high expectations** for student achievement and participation.
- values and is **inclusive** of the range and diversity of groups and individuals
- maintains a strong commitment to **accountability, innovation and improvement**

**Our Core Values**
- **Respect** - we recognise the value of all people and treat everyone fairly and with equity.
- **Honesty** - honesty and openness in all our interactions.
- **Safety** - we believe in a safe, clean, healthy environment for all.
- **Integrity** - we believe strongly in the need to be accountable to each other, our school and our community.

**Vision**
At Paralowie we work with our community to provide an education which aims to ensure that students have the skills, knowledge and values to actively participate in, and contribute to, a productive and rewarding life in society.

**Paralowie R-12 School** is an innovative and highly regarded R-12 school, acknowledged by its community for the range of diverse learning pathways and successful programs it provides to ensure students are successful in learning, life and citizenship.

This means for:
- **R-6 School** our main focus will be on student engagement, social development and achievement in literacy and numeracy.

We will achieve this through:
- **Implementing the Australian curriculum framework and monitoring the achievement of all students**
- **Improving outcomes in Literacy, Numeracy and Early Intervention programs**
- **Developing resiliency and healthy lifestyle programs.**

**Middle School** (Yrs 7-9) will focus on engagement, attendance and achievement. (year 7 students are in the Secondary School).

We will achieve this through
Building curriculum partnerships and successful transition programs with our primary schools
Implementing a 7-9 curriculum underpinned by an explicit Middle School teaching and learning methodologies. Focus on literacy and numeracy.
Further developing our student resiliency and anti-bullying programs
Developing a middle school culture and ethos underpinned by student participation.
Australian Curriculum (ACARA)
SACE

Senior School (Yrs 10-12) will focus on achievement and successful transition from school to further education, work or training. We will achieve this through
Developing and maintaining successful Vocational, Community Based Learning and Academic student pathways
Implementing student mentoring advocacy and case management processes
Building an explicit Senior School culture based on acknowledgment and achievement of success
SACE that meets the needs of all students
2 x I.P.P.: Plumbing and Health Assistance Certificate 3.
FLO Program: 2015: 142 students either off campus or with some subjects on site. Managed by SL2.

These priorities along with a whole school focus on
Professional Learning in classroom pedagogy to bring alignment with 21st Century skills
Building commitment, expectations and standards with students and staff
Setting clear goals and targets in priority areas.

Strategic Directions 2015
- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Positive Education
- Performance Development

4. Curriculum
Paralowie has a reputation for innovative curriculum responses to the learning needs of our students. The 7-12 school is a member of NASSSA (Northern Adelaide State Secondary School Alliance). The school is a member of the Orion Partnership.

All staff have laptops. All students Years 8-12 have laptops. All Primary classrooms have Interactive White Boards. Students in R-6 and Year 7 access laptops on trolleys and also computers in the Resource Centre.
The Middle School is committed to developing teaching and learning across the curriculum with a focus on the core curriculum and enrichment activities. As well, we are committed to supporting an anti bullying program and providing strong pastoral care programs for students throughout the year.

Curriculum development:
Our focus has been in programming teaching and assessing against Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards. Our main T & D focus will highlight literacy and numeracy across the curriculum, also boys in education and staff/student wellbeing.

Special needs:
We have a Special Education intervention program across the school R-12 which offers support to students in and out of class. We do not have a District Special Class. Negotiation of the curriculum is offered where appropriate. Acceleration of students occurs where applicable. The school also offers T & D for staff and regularly communicates with parents.
Special curriculum features:
There is a broad curriculum offering to cater for all students. There are strong links with local industry and extensive offering of VET programs, as well as Debating, specialist sport classes and programs aimed at extending more capable students.

Teaching methodology:
A range of teaching methodologies are used to suit student, staff and course needs. These methodologies are aimed at engaging students in the curriculum to produce the best outcomes.

Assessment procedures and reporting:
Written reports are given to parents four times each year and parent/teacher interview sessions are arranged in Terms 1 and 3 to coincide with the issue of these reports. In addition to continuous assessment and reporting there are also mid-year and end-of-year examinations for year 11 & 12 students. Interim reports can be requested any parents at any time. Informal contacts concerning the progress of students are welcome at any time throughout the year.

5. Sporting Activities
Paralowie students have a high record of sporting success. The School participates in a wide range of local, zone and state competitions. Students with athletic potential have the opportunity to select specialist sports classes in years 8, 9 and 10 which are in addition to a standard physical education program.
Our Specialist Volleyball team/s participate in the national championships in Melbourne every December. During the tournament in 2014 we achieved a gold medal.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities
- Structured Work Placements.
- Students at Risk Programs.
- Mentoring – primary & secondary.
- Salisbury Youth Advisory Council.
- Youth Leadership Seminars.
- Peer Tutoring Program.
- Youth Opportunities
- Smith Family programs
- Tailored Aboriginal education support strategies
- Extensive Athletics Program, Specialist Volleyball
- Success Trip (Years 7-9).
- Year 5-6 camp, Year 7 camps, J.P. camps, 7-12 Sports Day & Splash Carnival, R-6 Sports Day

7. Staff (and their welfare)
- Staff profile
Paralowie has a large R-12 staff and many opportunities to develop professional, personal and collegial relationships. The staff is extremely supportive of each other.

- Leadership structure:
An extensive and collaborative leadership structure exists R-12. Opportunities for leadership development exist for all staff.

- Staff support systems:
Paralowie is both a challenging and rewarding appointment. The school has a high reputation for the quality of its curriculum development, its support structures and the opportunities made available for staff training and development. Our staff have a clear
commitment to social justice and its implementation in our school. There is a well documented and ongoing induction process. Learning teams support teachers new to the school and share and develop practice. Counsellors and support staff work with teachers and students. One central staff room provides opportunities for daily networking with a range of colleagues.

- **Staff utilisation policies:**
  A number of part-time staff teach in the school. The primary school has a Literacy/Numeracy support hour supported by ancillary staff and leadership staff. Specialist learning needs teachers support students with high needs. Access to special staff:
  The school liaises extensively with outside agencies in both the short and long term. These include Intervention support staff and instrumental teachers.

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

- Complexity placement points: 2.0
- Travelling time: Approximately 35 minutes from the city centre.
- Cooling for school buildings: refer to School Facilities section below.

### 9. School Facilities

**Buildings and grounds:**
A new administration building, staffroom, R-12 Resource Centre and Junior School classrooms were opened in late 1995. Middle School renovations have provided much improved facilities for students in Years 7-9. Data cabling the whole school is complete and provides ready access to the administrative and curriculum networks in all teaching areas as well as workrooms and offices. There is a spacious Senior School Centre with access to computing facilities. The R-12 staff room is part of a new Administration building.

- BER: Primary Gym/Activities Hall, 2009-2010
- Cooling: All of the school is air conditioned.

- Specialist facilities:
  Comprehensive renovation of Science Laboratories was completed in 2000.
  New multipurpose basketball/netball/tennis courts were completed in 2000.
  Excellent Tech Studies, Home Economics and Art facilities, plus a large Drama space.

- Student facilities:
  Canteen; Senior School Centre

- Staff facilities
  Staff Room and Conference Rooms. Staff offices; staff email addresses.

- Access for students and staff with disabilities
  Up to standard – elevator installed 2000.

- Access to bus transport
  Close at hand

- Community Centre

### 10. School Operations

- Decision making structures:
  Major school policy decisions are made by the School’s Governing Council and the R-12 Staff Meeting. These are supported by the R-12 Curriculum Leadership Meeting and other short or long term working parties. Finance, Facilities and Curriculum Standing Committees report to Council. A Newsletter is published every 3 weeks. There are senior curriculum handbooks and guides to the sub schools. A parent Community Centre is a critical component of parent participation and is staffed by a Community Development Officer.
• Effective Parents and Friends Group
• Regular on-line:
  Parent newsletter. Daily bulletin for staff and students (DAYMAP). Published policies on
  Bullying, Uniform etc.
• School financial position:
  The school operates successfully within its Global Budget
• Special funding
  None, apart from special submissions.

11. Local Community

• General characteristics
  Paralowie School is a large Reception to Year 12 school of 1387 students, in the northern
  suburbs of Adelaide. Our School is particularly diverse and complex with a large percentage
  of our community experiencing economic hardship. The high proportion of School Card
  holders (approximately 41%) indicates the socio-economic complexities our school. This is
  compounded by high rates of unemployment and transience. The students at Paralowie are
  representative of the wide range of cultures that make up our community. There is a
  significant enrolment of students from backgrounds other than English and we have one of
  the largest enrolments of Aboriginal students in the metropolitan area. (110 R-12)
• Parent and community involvement: (Paralowie Community Centre)
  A Community Development Officer focuses on Parent Participation and Adult Learning.
  There are many opportunities for parents to be involved in the school:
  • Volunteering in classrooms
  • working individually with children with particular needs,
  • Adult Learning Programme
  • planning activities run in the Community Centre
  • all school committees
  • coaching sports teams
  • participating in working bees
  • Parents & Friends group
  • Fundraising activities
  • participating in playgroup for pre-school children
  • diversity groups supporting families from NESB
  • Support group for families with children with Special Needs.
• Feeder schools:
  Main feeder schools are Burton, Lake Windemere, Settlers Farm and Salisbury North
  Primary Schools.
• Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities:
  Main local shopping centres are Whites Road, Hollywood Plaza and Parabanks
• Local Government body:
  Salisbury Council is represented on Governing Council.

12. Further Comments

Paralowie R-12 School offers a challenging and rewarding work environment with opportunities
for staff development and leadership through a wide range of curricula and co curricula activities

Staff are committed to their students. The majority of staff WANT to be at Paralowie – they
openly say they do not want to work anywhere else.