SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT  
Updated: 02/11

School Name:  Allendale East Area School

School Number:  0751

1. General Information

Part A
Schoolname:  ALLENDALE EAST AREA SCHOOL
School No.: 0751  Courier  Limestone Coast
Principal:  Mrs Beth Mahony
Postal Address:  c/- Post Office, Allendale East 5291
Location Address:  Bay Road, Allendale East 5291
District:  Limestone Coast
Distance from GPO:  472 kms  Phone No.: 08 87387218
CPC attached:  NO  Fax No.: 08 87387321

February FTE Enrolment

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<th>Reception</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
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TOTAL: 188.8  205.2  207  204.06

July total FTE Enrolment

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<td>104.2</td>
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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-site.
Part B

- Acting Deputy Principal
  : Mr Chris Peters

- Staffing numbers
  : Teachers:
    Tier 1: 15.81  Tier 2: 2.75

  Ancillary:
  147.5 hours

- Leadership Positions:
  1 Deputy Principal
  2 Coordinator 3
  0.9 School Counsellor/ Senior School Coordinator
  0.8 Teacher/Librarian.

- OSHC
  The service has operated since 2001, afterschool care and vacation care is offered.

- Enrolment trends
  Currently there are 204 students increasing to 221 by Term 4 enrolled at the school. There has been a decline in enrolments due to fewer reception students and smaller cohorts in primary and some secondary students seeking enrolment in larger secondary schools. In the past 3 years enrolments have stabilised with an increase in February 2008 to 2009 of 13 students. Retention of Year 7-8 in 2011 was greater than 70% and predictions for 2012 are similar.

  The school draws its population from Allendale East, Port MacDonnell and surrounding districts in South Australia, as well as from the Nelson community in Victoria.

- Year of opening
  The school was opened in 1953 to serve the needs of students when some local small schools were closed. As such it works in differing clusters. In the primary area it is linked with the small schools (Yahl and Kongorong) in the Southline Cluster. In the secondary area it is usually linked with Mount Gambier High, Grant High (and sometimes Tenison Woods College). There is an annual Area School Athletics Sportsday where the school competes with Kangaroo Inn, Kingston and Lucindale Area Schools.

- Public transport access
  The majority of students travel to the school by bus from the surrounding districts, approximately two thirds of them live on dairy and/or sheep farms and one third live in the fishing township of Port MacDonnell. There is no public transport servicing the school. Some staff, many of whom live in Mount Gambier, drive from Mount Gambier.
• Distance from GPO (kms)

Allendale East Area School is situated 23 kilometres south of Mount Gambier. Mount Gambier has a population of approximately 23,000, is 460 kilometres from Adelaide. By car it is approximately five hours from either Adelaide or Melbourne.

2. Students (and their welfare)

• General characteristics

The school caters for students from Reception to Year 12, with Kirinari Kindergarten also on the campus. The school is continuing to develop close links with the Kindergarten and supporting the Kindergarten with its financial management. Approximately three quarters of the enrolments are in the primary years.

• (Pastoral) care programs

Pastoral care is an ongoing process in all classes with students supported through the Bounce Back Program, Values Education and Anti-bullying strategies. In Primary Classes and secondary classes this occurs through their class time and the Health and Personal Development Programs including Skills for Success and Child Protection curriculum. Emphasis is on building confidence, self esteem and strategies for successful social interaction.

• Support offered

Enterprise Education is taught across the school. Enterprise Education is a major focus of the school and is taught as a dedicated lesson once per week to all students from Reception to Year 10. In Year 11 students have the opportunity to study Enterprise Education through SACE Stage 1 Community Studies. Enterprise Education forms a significant focus in the school, bringing together community interests, mentors and students in many enterprise projects.

Career Counselling begins in Year 10 when all students meet with Principal, Counsellor and their parents in Term 1, to set goals for the year. Course Counselling and career counselling continues throughout the senior school. Year 10 students complete a unit in Work Education in Semester 2, which gives them a chance to complete a resume, investigate possible careers, and take part in a mock interview. Students in Year 8 and 9 also focus on goal setting and vocational learning through Enterprise Education. Students from Years 8-12 complete a Learning Plan which aids with transition and supports their learning in all curriculum areas.

All students have access to the counsellor, who has a 0.5 counsellor role across the school.
• **Student Management**
  
The school has an established behaviour management process, which operates well. A current focus is establishing programs which improve retention and engagement.

• **Student Government**
  
Junior and Senior Student Representative Councils meet regularly. They take an increasingly active role in the school, organise a variety of student events and give advice on a range of student issues. Class meetings provide the input for reports at meetings. Students are also involved in organising activities to support Anti-Bullying and Drug Strategy and promoting the school’s values of Respect, Courage and Excellence.

• **Special Programmes**
  
There are a number of programs to target the specific needs of students, supported by the Student Counsellor, such as a Year 10 Personal Grooming Class, Anti-Bullying Programs, Community Meals on Wheels and Drug Strategy Program. Active 8 Arts is another important program in the school which is funded through the Department of Youth and operates for Secondary students. The program has been highly successful in combating isolation, developing students’ confidence, and caters for those students who have strengths in performing arts. This year students are preparing for the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge and Move It @ The Helpmann. Active 8 aims to develop such things as self confidence, teamwork and persistence.

Netball and Softball Specialist Sports Programs have been operating from 2007 have have been very popular with students from Years 5 to 11.

Special Education operates from Reception to Year 12 with students being monitored through their Negotiated Curriculum plans. A major focus of the school is in developing inclusivity and modifying the curriculum to ensure that all students are successful.

Early Intervention is also offered to primary students who require extra support. This program is managed by the Special Education Coordinator.

### 3. Key School Policies

**Contextual Influences**

Allendale East Area School is situated 24 kms south of Mt Gambier. The communities of Port MacDonnell, Allendale East, Nelson, Kongorong, Eight Mile Creek and Carpenters’ Rocks operate as individual communities with individual needs. A strong community tradition operates in each of the communities with a great sense of pride and ownership. This influences the activities that students are involved in and in order to build a collaborative culture the needs and wishes of the communities needs to be acknowledged.

Parent Participation is an important aspect of the school with parents involved on school council, sub-committees, school sport, canteen, class
parent reference group, classroom support and special programs. The school is committed to increasing parent participation. Allendale East is located in a rural setting and is influenced by its fishing and farming industries. This influence affects the type of employment available to students and their choices of careers. Allendale East has a fine tradition in students gaining employment, traineeships and apprenticeships due to the success of the careers program.

The school caters for students from Reception to year 12, and is co-located with Kirinari Kindergarten. Catering for a relatively small cohort of secondary aged students provides a challenge for curriculum delivery. As there is potential for a loss of enrolments at a senior secondary level the school is committed to providing viable curriculum choices which are attractive to students. The school has instigated a number of measures to improve the senior secondary curriculum including VET programs, School Based Apprenticeships and Rural Operations Certificate 2. A large VET Shed is being built to enable students from year 8 to 12 to work towards completing Metal Fabrication Certificate 2 and possibly 3.

Allendale East Area School was formerly a Learn to Learn project school which resulted in an emphasis on training and development and programming and planning based on the Julia Atkin Integral Learning model.

**Core Business**

The core business of Allendale East Area school is to deliver “Teaching and Learning within a Supportive Environment.” The Teaching and Learning program emphasises the worth of the individual and promotes excellence within a collaborative environment that values the views of students, teachers and parents.

School Values developed in 2005 include: Excellence, Respect and Courage. The development of these values has been a whole school exercise with students examining the ways in which they can promote the values of the school and describe their behaviours in relation to these values.

Teaching programs at all levels provide learnings within the 8 areas of the curriculum.

Italian Language/Cultural Studies is taught LOTE for years 8 & 9 students. Our core business is delivered with these features prominent:

- The core skills of literacy and numeracy are taught explicitly with support to students given to ensure a satisfactory attainment in these areas.
- An emphasis on Information Technology, Enterprise Education and the Key Competencies in all areas of the curriculum.
- A committed and caring staff in a small school environment that respects the issues of the local community.
- A family atmosphere with students from kindergarten to year 12, staff and parents working co-operatively on a shared campus.
- A range of career possibilities incorporating the curriculum development focus of VET (Vocational Education & Training), ASBAs, Enterprise Education, Key Competencies, and Enterprise skills. The career opportunities need to be developed through areas of employment need such as Information Technology, Agriculture (dairying), Hospitality and Fishing.
- Agricultural studies as a key feature of our secondary curriculum.
- Inclusivity and a personalised approach to students’ learning.
- Support for students and their families within a caring and supportive atmosphere which fosters values such as respect, growth, trust and honesty.

School Priorities 2011
Our Site Improvement Plan was reviewed in 2010 and addresses the following priorities: **Quality Learning** incorporating Literacy, Numeracy, Science and Aboriginal Perspectives; **Student Well Being and Engagement; Senior School Development** including the new SACE

Recent Key Outcomes:
Enterprise projects across all year levels incorporating students in the planning and organisation of events:

- School activities such as, Fun Days, Sports Day, Anzac Day Awareness, Interschool Sports Day, School Performances, Senior School Dinner, School Musical and Rock Eisteddfod
- Allendale East Area School students being involved in the, Drug Strategy Fun Run
- Involvement of our students in community activities such as Target Works, Meals on Wheels, School Musical, Tree planting and Water Watch
- Camps and excursions such as Year 6/7 camps, Active8 Arts Camps, Netball Competitions, Softball Tournaments, Year 12 Dinner and Graduation.

Other Recent Outcomes include:

- The ongoing development of the Literacy Block in R-7 classes and a Literacy Scope and Sequence across R-7.
- Early Intervention program developed for R-7 students.
- Maths Mastery approach for teaching of Maths across reception to Year 10.
- A major emphasis on careers for our students through activities such as hosting the Jobs Pathways, involvement of our students in Tertiary Week, Industry Awareness Week, Work Experience and Vocational learning.
• The involvement of staff in the “Learn to Learn” program and training and development school closure days focussing on developing teaching pedagogy, the curriculum and literacy.
• The involvement of staff in the Enterprise Learning for 21st Century Project.
• Parent workshops in Literacy.
• Development of Softball and Netball Specialist Sport Program from Years 7-10.

4. Curriculum

• Subject offerings
  The school operates with three sections of Reception to Year 5 (Primary School), Year 6 to 9 (Middle School) and Year 10 to 12 (Senior School).

• Open Access
  Open Access College courses complement our SACE Stage 1 and 2 programs, and are used as needed by those students who have the necessary skills.

• Special needs
  Early intervention and Special Education programs support students with learning needs.

• Special curriculum features
  The Italian Culture is being taught at the school to Year 8 and 9 students as a modified language program. Availability of a language teacher has been an ongoing difficulty. PE is taught as a specialist subject in R-7 classes and there are plans for greater involvement in promoting Healthy Eating and Physical Fitness.
  Senior students access vocational training such as Information Technology and Agricultural Studies, which are taught and coordinated by the school. Introduction in 2011 - Metal Fabrication. Other VET programs are available to them through a cooperative arrangement in the district, which enables students to enrol for VET courses in any school and at TAFE.
  Development of Softball and Netball Specialist Sport Program from Years 7-10.
  Information and communication technology is an important tool in our curriculum. We are well equipped with both Apple and IBM computers which are used throughout the school. A Multi-media suite has been established with classes involved in I-movie films.
  Environmental studies are part of the curriculum in all year levels, and we take part in coast and landcare projects.
  The focus of the school is building a more enterprising school community which involves parents and community members.
• Teaching methodology

The staff are developing their teaching methodologies to support a range of learning styles of students through the Integral learning model as part of programming in all areas of the curriculum using a constructivist approach and incorporating SACSA outcomes. Teachers have also been involved in developing their assessment approaches to align with SACSA outcomes and reviewing Student reporting in line with new SA Student reporting requirements.

A strong collaborative culture exists at the school which is supported by all staff. Distributed leadership is a key feature of the school with staff accepting responsibilities and working in Collaborative Inquiry Teams to achieve goals.

There is an emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy. This will continue to be focus for all the staff.

The school has a 105 minute timetable for lessons across Reception to Year 12.

There is ongoing development for Enterprise Learning through the development of students’ skills in being persistent, resilient, able to cope with change and having positive attitudes to self and school.

• Assessment procedures and reporting

Reporting occurs each term with written reports provided to parents at the end of each term in the 6-12 component of the school, the R-5 component of the school reports through progress and Summative reports. Parent interviews are conducted once a year.

• Joint programmes

Joint programmes occur between the Kirinari kindergarten and the Junior Primary component of the school. Joint programmes also occur in conjunction with other schools schools in the area of enterprise education. VET course offerings are made in conjunction with the other Secondary schools in the district such as the Trade school.

5. Sporting Activities

The school participates in SAPSASA/SASSA Knock out sports competitions. In the winter months, Saturday morning football and netball are offered to primary students. The school competes with other South East Area Schools in an Interschool Sports Day each year, and also holds its own Reception to Year 12 Sports Day each year.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

• General

The School Performance in Term 3 involves students in performance, set design, stage management and organisation of the evening biannually.
Students organise and manage a “Fun Day” each year, which enables them to raise money for SRC projects.

- **Special**
  Students are involved in “Move It at the Helpmann”, a dance performance which takes place during Come Out, the Rock Eisteddfod, Christmas Parade and a major school musical every second year. Activities are often organised on a 2 year rotation.

### 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile**
  Staff work well together across Reception to Year 12 with a mixture of youth and experience. Staff work together in Collaborative Inquiry Teams planning activities and sharing programs across each sector.

- **Leadership structure**
  The Principal, Deputy Principal, Finance Officer, Counsellor and 2 Coordinators have responsibilities across the school, as well as specific responsibilities in their field.
  Management of school priorities and projects is carried out by a variety of people, as their interests and talents allow.

- **Staff support systems**
  Staff regularly organise social activities as a staff association each term. Collegiality is a strong focus for staff support.

- **Performance Management**
  A Performance management Policy has been developed and Performance Chats occur each term.

  **Staff utilisation policies**
  There are two AST1 teachers on staff.

  Ancillary staff work as a team, and share some roles. They are a supportive and skilled part of staff.

  Teachers with generalist rather than one specific area of expertise are preferred, given the smaller numbers of secondary students. Specific expertise is used across a range of age levels, with a clear perception that middle school teaching involved Year 6, 7, 8 and 9 students.

- **Access to special staff**
  Instrumental music teachers, Guidance Officers, Visiting Support teachers, Speech Pathologists, Behaviour management, CAMHS are all available, and have good links with the school.
8. **Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff**

- Complexity placement points
  :N/A
- Isolation placement points
  Staff receive three points for each year of service.
- Housing assistance
  :Some rental assistance is available through DECS
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance
  After 7 years in a country area staff can elect to take an allowance in lieu of removal costs.
- Medical and dental treatment expenses
  The Non-metropolitan award applies.
- Locality allowances
  :A small locality allowance is paid by DECS to all employees.

9. **School Facilities**

- Buildings and grounds
  There are extensive grounds, including an agricultural area.
  The main building houses the administration and staff room and staff resource area, Reception to Year 5 classes, Year 11/12 area, Home Economics and an Information Technology area. It is linked to the canteen area by an enclosed atrium. An upgrade of the Junior School and the Administration areas has been completed in 2006.

  Upgrade of the Secondary facilities and Resource Centre will occur in 2009

- Cooling
  Most classrooms are air conditioned, all have adequate heating.

- Specialist facilities
  :N/A

- Student facilities
  :The school has a good range of facilities, including a gymnasium, Technology Studies, Art, Science Laboratories, Drama area, Resource Centre, Agricultural Science and some transportable class rooms.

- Staff facilities
  :Computers in the staff resource area are linked to EDSAS.

- Access for students and staff with disabilities
  :N/A
• Access to bus transport
  : School buses can be hired for excursions within school hours.
• Other
  : There is a Kindergarten on site, and transition processes are in place. We have a good working relationship.

10. School Operations
• Decision making structures
  Decision making structures include staff, SRC and Governing Council. Community consultation and collaborative decision-making is highly valued.
• Regular publications
  The school newsletter is published each week. Many community events are also publicised in the newsletter. A parent information manual and a staff information manual is also provided. Each year a school magazine is published.
• Other communication
  Communication occurs through the day book and staff memos where necessary.
• School financial position
  The School is in a sound financial position.
• Special funding
  The school is currently receiving funding from the Student Mentoring project and the Enterprise Learning for 21st Century Projects. The School is funded through the Global Budget which is received on a monthly basis.

11. Local Community
• General characteristics
  : Allendale East Area School is the most southerly located school in South Australia. It is situated in a very rural district 23 kilometres south of Mount Gambier in the South East of the state. Allendale East lies 5.5 kilometres from the coast in a district featuring open grazing land, pine forests and an appealing maritime river environment. Allendale East is approximately 500 kilometres South East of Adelaide.
• Parent and community involvement
  : Parent and community involvement is highly valued by the school with a strong tradition of community ownership and pride.
• Other local care and educational facilities
  : OSHC operates from the school and is very well organised and popular with students.
• Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  Mount Gambier is well served by a large shopping centre and numerous smaller regional shopping centres.

• Other local facilities
  Sporting facilities are highly regarded and outstanding for a town of its size. Cultural activities are catered for by visiting performers, exhibitions and some local groups. Most religious denominations are catered for.

• Availability of staff housing
  There is an office for Government housing based in Mount Gambier providing OGEH housing.

• Accessibility
  N/A

• Local Government body
  The school is in the District Council of Grant and has good links with this body.

12. Further Comments

I certify that this a true and accurate statement:

Endorsed
Beth Mahony, Principal: ________________________________
25th March, 2011