



# Renmark North Primary School

## SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 27/2/2018

**School Name:** Renmark North Primary School

**School Number:** 0377

### 1. General Information

School Name : RENMARK NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL  
School No. : 0377 Courier : Renmark  
Principal : Ms Mary Shannon  
Postal Address : PMB 2, Renmark 5341  
Location Address : Warrego Street, Renmark 5341  
Website : <http://www.rennorth.sa.edu.au/>  
Facebook Page : Renmark North Primary School Official  
District : Riverland  
Distance from GPO : 250 kms Phone No. : 08 85953274  
School Based Preschool attached: YES Fax No. : 08 85953003

#### **Enrolment:**

(As at February, 2018)

Reception to Year 2 – 49 students

Year 3 to Year 7 – 85 students

TOTAL = 134 students

Preschool Enrolment = 19



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School Card Approvals (Persons)	40 est.
EALD Total (Persons)	51
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	10.0
Disabilities	3 ('A' level) 7 ('D" level)

## Part B

- Enrolment trends  
Student numbers have been fixed at a maximum of 215 primary aged students as a part of our enrolment zone, instituted in November of 2003. Our School Based Preschool has enrolments ranging from 20 - 22 children.
- Special arrangements  
Cooperation with local schools i.e. Buses, EALD training, Professional Learning
- Year of opening  
The school opened in October 1924 and successfully celebrated 75 years of schooling in November, 1999. We published a comprehensive 145 page history book which details our history from the past students' point of view.
- Public transport access  
There is no public transport to the school, however a taxi service operates from Renmark.  
DECD bus housed at the school (26 seater) – Used for OSHC and local excursions, outside of DECD bus run requirements.

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics  
38% of our school population is from a non-English speaking background and there is a high level of acceptance of other cultures and beliefs.  
30% of our population is on school card.  
Successful, long history of teaching Greek in the school.  
Greek Afternoon School operates two nights per week on school premises.  
21% of students travel by bus and no other local transport network is available.  
School Based Preschool to Year 7, function as a whole unit – on the same site, often with combined activities.
- (Pastoral) Care programs  
We have a strong staff network of support and have appointed a Student Wellbeing Leader from 2004, who assists students with social/emotional



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problems. We have links with the local health services (Chaffey House, CAMHS, Families SA).

- Student management  
School discipline is strongly supported by staff and parents. Class, unit, yard and out of school behaviour management guidelines are all documented and maintained.
- Student government  
Student Representative Council meets each fortnight following class meetings and is supported by staff members. Students raise funds for charities and have a key role in the decision making processes.
- Special programmes  
LAP operates across the school to support students with learning difficulties as well as to extend more able students.  
Special Education/Special Needs/Early Intervention programs operate across the school, and SSO time have been allocated each week.

## 3. Key School Policies

These are developed each year and reviewed as an ongoing process. Key initiatives revolve around Literacy & Numeracy, EALD, Health & Physical Education, Science (Specialist Skills teaching for all students), The Arts and Staff & Student Wellbeing.

## 4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings

English	Mathematics
Health and Physical Education	Technologies
The Arts	Science
Languages – Modern Greek	Health & PE
HASS – Humanities & Social Sciences	

This is supported through:

- Strong emphasis on our agreed Values – through our daily actions and all policies. This is reinforced in the yard, in classes, at assembly & through the newsletter and website.
- Learning Assistance Programme (Learning ‘catch up’ as well as talent/extension)
- Early Years Plan, with SSO / teacher time in support
- Special Education and Special Needs Programmes
- Liaison with local Renmark Schools & Renmark Loxton Partnership



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- School plans and supporting budget allocations
- Student Behaviour Management practices developed as a whole school
- Effective parent involvement
- Cyclical review of policies, practices and programmes
- Students with disabilities supported within and out of classroom settings
- Instrumental music in Renmark
- Choir
- EALD Support – 0.4 teacher time and supporting SSO hours
- Punjabi First Language Programs for students of a Punjabi background
- Strong Links for over 18 years, with our sister school in Thessaloniki (Greece) – with regular exchanges of information (student / staff packages) & staff - as funding allows. New sister school link with Vrahati Primary School (Greece) commenced in 2015.
- Playgroup offered at the School Based Preschool each Friday morning.

## 5. Sporting Activities

Multi-Purpose hall enables classroom, lunchtime and after hours programs to run continuously.

Participation in SAPSASA sports – individually or with local schools.

Strong representation in District Athletics.

Own school Sports Day.

School pool – class lessons and Reception to Year 4 swimming program on site with Years 5 to 7 travelling to Renmark Pool for lessons.

Regular (visiting) sports coaching clinics

## 6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- General
  - School Continental held in November with whole school involvement.
  - SRC fundraising twice per year

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile
  - Fairly stable staff, with 12 teachers (11f and 1 m), 14 SSOs (12f and 2m), one groundsperson (m) (15.0hrs) and 1 CPSW (1f)
- Leadership structure
  - Principal.
  - (0.1) Teacher released to support Principal with admin.



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(0.4) Student Wellbeing Leader

(0.2) Impact Coach (2017-2019) – Visible Learning

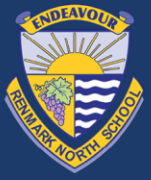
(0.4) Literacy & Numeracy Improvement for development of whole school agreements and data collection.

Committee Structure for school wide responsibilities.

- Staff support systems
  - Performance and Development for all staff based around National Professional Standards for Teachers and DECD Performance Management Policy. Individual Programs depending on need (as defined by the staff member and/or Principal) are negotiated.
  - Strong Networks exist within staff.
- Staff utilisation policies
  - School support staff tasks are planned and documented. Multi-skilling is strongly encouraged and we aim to have at least two people trained for each administration task.
- Teaching staff specialisation: Greek Language, EALD, Science, Health & PE.
- Access to specialist staff
  - Speech, Hearing, Behaviour Coach, Psychologist, and Special Education Staff are available from Berri Education Office.
  - Australian Curriculum specialists are based at the Renmark Loxton & Berri Partnerships. All other services are available from other Partnerships or Adelaide. Courses are often run in the Riverland.
- Other
  - There is some sharing of staff expertise within the Renmark Partnership PLC – Professional Learning Committees held for all Specialist areas. Run by Renmark Loxton & Berri Partnerships.

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

- Complexity placement points
  - 1.0
- Isolation placement points
  - 4.0
- Housing assistance
  - Limited teacher housing is available in the Riverland, subject to availability. Generally in very good condition and flats/share accommodation and houses are available.



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- Cooling for school buildings  
Refer to School Facilities section below.
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance  
Yes
- Additional increment allowance  
Yes
- Medical and dental treatment expenses  
Yes
- Relocation assistance  
Yes
- Principal's telephone costs  
Yes

## 9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  - Unit 1 – Open Space Unit (three classes, computer room, Greek area, main administration offices, Student Wellbeing Leader's office, SSO room, Data room, Staff room and Teachers' meeting area.
  - Unit 2 – Stone Building (four classes).
  - Modern Portable Classroom – Greek Room
  - Art / Science Classroom
  - School Based Preschool
  - Well-resourced library
  - Large Oval and Small Oval
  - 26m X 16m Multi-Purpose Hall completed in 2004
  - Upper Primary and Junior Primary playground equipment
  - Well maintained grounds – trees, garden areas, playground, recycling areas, basketball and netball/tennis courts
- Cooling
  - All buildings are equipped with reverse cycle air conditioners - in addition most areas have ceiling fans.
- Specialist facilities
  - School Pool
  - Computer Network accessible to all classes, students and teachers have access to their own drive space and Curriculum File Server linked to Proxy server.
  - Teaching staff have laptops and i-Pads issued to them and access to flash drives, Video Records, Digital Cameras & SD Cards.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities
  - Ramps to all rooms and facilities. Access to bus / taxi transport



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Two school bus 'runs' are based at this school. One bus is from a private contractor based in Renmark (Bus Bizz).

There is no public transport apart from taxis.

## 10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
  - Active Governing Council
  - Staff meeting each week
  - Student Representative Council
  - Staff responsibilities (budgets) delegated to individuals/committees
  - PAC Committee
- Regular publications
  - Fortnightly school newsletter for parents and community members (Hard copy as well as published on the school's official Facebook page.)
  - Daily notices via electronic Day Book for staff
- Other communication
  - Parent/Staff information folders
  - Policy/Procedures folders
  - Student Led Assembly twice per term
  - Acquaintance night (T1), Interviews (T1 and T3 optional)
  - Mid-Year & End of Year Written Reports to Parents
  - SMS facility to alert / inform parents.
  - Facebook page (Renmark North PS Official)
  - Renmark North Primary School Website
- School financial position
  - Sound.

## 11. Local Community

- General characteristics
  - Fruit growing area
  - 260 km. from Adelaide
  - No actual township surrounding the school – 10 km. to Renmark
- Parent and community involvement
  - Very supportive community from many cultural backgrounds
- Feeder schools
  - Our School Based Preschool is on site.
  - Most children move on to Renmark High School.
- Other local care and educational facilities
  - Local High school and TAFE in Renmark



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Renmark West and Renmark Primary in close proximity

Out of school hours care also operates from Renmark Primary School.

Private School - St Josephs (R-7) in Renmark

Hospital/doctor/dentist/lawyer etc. in Renmark

Local Chaffey Theatre offers a very high standard of the 'Arts'.

Chaffey House as the local health centre

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  - Wide range of facilities available in Renmark and surrounding towns.
- Other local facilities
  - Strong sporting community in Renmark and facilities include grass tennis courts, indoor and outdoor pool, gymnasium, basketball (indoor and outdoor), netball, soccer, football, hockey, squash, volleyball and many river activities.
  - Tourist Information Centre 8586 6704
- Availability of staff housing
  - Good – in Renmark.
- Local Government body
  - Renmark Paringa District Council 8586 6609.

## 12. Further Comments

Mary Shannon

Principal

Renmark North Primary School

27/2/2017