SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: September 2009

School Name: LINCOLN GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Number: 1158

1. General Information

Part A

School Name: LINCOLN GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL
School No: 1158
Principal: Mr. Stephen Errock
Postal Address: PO Box 1786, Port Lincoln 5606
Location Address: Barley Road, Port Lincoln 5606
Region: Eyre and Western
Distance from GPO: 660 kms
CPC attached: NO

Lincoln Gardens PS is an Index of Educational Disadvantage Category 1 School

February FTE Enrolment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Primary</th>
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TOTAL 100 96 98 88

Part B

- There is no Deputy Principal position
- Teaching staff numbers 7.2
- Counsellor 1.0
- AET/Mother Tongue 0.6
- SSO 160 hours per week
ACEO 35 hours per week

- Enrolment trends
  - Enrolments are uncertain. Numbers have slowly decreased, but have increased slightly during 2009
- Special arrangements
  - Lincoln Gardens Primary School shares the site with Port Lincoln Special School, Learning Together at Home and a Community Dental Clinic.
    - Year of opening
      - 1970
    - Public transport access
      - Students can access the town bus service to come to Lincoln Gardens Primary School
      - The school provides a bus service each morning to bring students to school

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics
  - Student enrolment as at September 2009 is 94
  - 90% of our students are School Cardholders
  - 65% are Aboriginal
  - We currently have 4 mainstream classes. All classes have 2 year level groupings.
  - A high number of our students are transient and mobile and are experiencing real poverty and trauma in their lives
  - Pastoral Care programs
    - We prioritise the curriculum to value the social emotional and behavioural well being of our students through specific care programmes and social skilling.
      - Support offered
        - The Counsellor’s role has a significant emphasis in the welfare of our students
          - Student management
            - The Counsellor’s position has a focus around supporting students with their behaviour development.
            - Behaviour Development and Life Skills Development are significant factors in school policies.
              - Student government
                - An SRC currently operates with representatives from each class
                - Students are developing processes to increase student voice and establish annual elections for School Captains and Deputy School Captains
                  - Special programmes
                    - Breakfast Programme
                    - Home to School Transition Program
3. **Key School Policies**

**Partnerships Plan**

- **Contextual Influences**
  - Lincoln Gardens Primary School is located in an area characterised by a significant Aboriginal population, 90% Housing Trust accommodation and high rates to both adult and youth unemployment (over 90% of students attending are eligible for School Card and more 65% are Aboriginal). This state of unemployment is often accompanied by real poverty. Many of our students have limited socialisation towards literacy in their home environment due to cultural, socio-economic or health reasons. This profile raises a considerable number of challenges:
    - attendance and transience rates
    - access of all students to the curriculum
    - support structures for individual students
    - Social skills development.
  - Staff turnover makes additional demands on human resources. High levels of support are required to ensure that new staff members are adequately inducted into the culture of the school and the school’s approaches to teaching and student behaviour development. This challenges the school’s capacity to resource improvement activity and to sustain improvement.

- **Core Business**
  - The core business of Lincoln Gardens Primary School is to improve the learning outcomes for every student, through prioritising the curriculum to value their social and emotional well being.
  - It is a major focus of the school to make the curriculum accessible to all students.
  - At Lincoln Gardens Primary School, we provide significant extra support to students who have difficulty with their learning. There is a significant emphasis on Literacy, teaching Aboriginal students and social skilling.
  - A positive, safe learning environment for students, staff and parents is maintained through diligent monitoring and review of our behaviour management practices across the school.
  - The development of a positive sense of self worth, caring and responsibility towards others the environment and ourselves is a principle underlying all the school’s practices.
  - Lincoln Gardens Primary School promotes participation and attendance through a diverse and interesting curriculum for both students and parents.
Students are strongly encouraged to represent their school and district in sporting teams and to participate in wider experiences in The Arts. Lincoln Gardens Primary School has strong links with the wider community.

A language programme is provided for all students using Pitjantjatjara.

**Lincoln Gardens Primary School Mission Statement**

_We are a culturally diverse school community who value, respect and nurture each individual, focussing on literacy, life skills and cultural awareness enabling students to strive for life long learning and success._

**Current Priorities**

- Improve student learning outcomes in the areas of Literacy
- Develop programs that enhance student wellbeing and behaviour development
- Increase student voice in our school
- Build community connections and family involvement

**Monitoring strategies for core business and current priorities**

- All students are tested on Literacy and Numeracy skills at the beginning of the year and again at the end of Term 3. Baseline data already gathered will identify students for intervention and tutoring and determine other classroom methodologies around literacy/Numeracy support roles.
- Teaching and learning programmes are monitored through performance management process to ensure they are inclusive of our stated goals.

**Long-term objectives**

- The core business of Lincoln Gardens Primary School is to provide an accessible quality education base for all students while addressing their emotional and social needs to enable them to be productive and successful learners.

**Recent key outcomes**

- All classes use Accelerated Literacy to aid Literacy learning
- Aspects of the Programme Achieve initiative is being used across the school as an integral part of our goal to address our students rate of achievement and success
- Attendance issues are being addressed through a review of teacher’s classroom management practices and through education programmes for students and parents. (Garden Project, Boys Club, Single Sex lessons, Breakfast / Fruit Programme, Inclusive Curriculum and Social Skills programmes)
4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings
  - The school offers a general curriculum within the framework of Education Department guidelines. There is an emphasis on Literacy, Numeracy, Aboriginal Education and Social Skills.
  - Social Justice Programmes operate across the school and are partly supported through the Disadvantaged Index in the Global Budget.
  - A comprehensive Behaviour Management Policy exists and is constantly reviewed and changed to suit current needs.
  - Pitjantjatjara is offered as a LOTE to all students

- Special needs
  - Visiting inter-agency support is provided for students with learning, speech, hearing and behavioural difficulties. These people help school staff to plan individual programmes for students and training and development for specific individual staff.

- Teaching methodology

- Assessment procedures and reporting
  - Assessment and reporting processes are based on sound principles of teaching and learning and effective classroom and whole-of-school practices. The purpose is to enhance student achievement and to improve learning outcomes of all students.
  - Reporting is an integral feature of the teaching and learning cycle. It is a means by which we communicate to students, parents and caregivers, the distance that a student has travelled in their learning.
  - Reporting is both written and verbal. Reporting and assessment is consistent with the assessment methods. It must be meaningful to students, parents and teachers. Teachers gather and record information about students which relates to:
    - what students know and can do
    - their learning progress and achievements
    - what the student is being taught
    - what that learning will lead to next
    - how the student is managing in the context of what is being taught
    - how the child perceives their work and abilities
    - their attitudes and relationships with others
    - their attendance and participation
  
  Teachers select from the pool of information to prepare reports for various purposes.

The following structures and strategies may be used when reporting to parents:

- communication books – Home Books
- term overviews
- formal interviews
- informal discussions
• acquaintance nights
• class/school newsletters
• diaries
• open days
• twice yearly written reports
• home visits

5. Sporting Activities

- Students have access to SAPSASA team sports and also other sports through local sporting competitions and inter-district sports days.
- The school has an annual Sports Day.
- The school is developing an intensive sports education programme for implementation in 2010

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- **General**
  - School camps are encouraged across the year levels, incorporating Aquatics and swimming camps, as well as vocational education visits to Adelaide.

- **Special**
  - Reconciliation Week, NAIDOC Week and Culture Week are major events celebrating Aboriginal culture

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile**
  - For the first time in many years the staff are almost entirely permanent employees and should remain quite stable over the next few years.
  - There are currently 4 mainstream classroom teachers.

- **Leadership structure**
  - The leadership team currently consists of Principal and Counsellor.

- **Staff support systems**
  - Classroom teachers and students are currently supported by SSO’s, who work mainly in classrooms, assisting with the learning programmes with individuals or small groups.
  - The Aboriginal Education Team consists of AEW (0.6), AECO (1.0)
Other
- Performance Management is valued across the whole school.
- All staff members have a formal meeting each term with their line manager to discuss issues around teaching and learning and to receive feedback.
- There is an extra meeting each term to meet with the Counsellor to talk about Behaviour Development and Classroom organisation and routines.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff
- Complexity placement points
  - The school attracts 1.0 complexity points
- Isolation placement points
  - The school attracts 2.0 isolation points
- Housing assistance
  - Teachers are eligible for Government housing.
  - Teaching staff members are eligible for country incentives including shifting allowance.
- Incentives
  - Teachers are paid a country incentives allowance for the first five years of tenure in the school, increasing with each year
  - Teachers in their first seven years of appointment are eligible for the teachers (Non-Metropolitan) Award benefits
- Locality allowances
  - A locality allowance is paid.

9. School Facilities
- Buildings and grounds
  - All classrooms use interactive whiteboards and a Laptop for teacher use
  - All classrooms have a Soundfield system that enables children with poor hearing to hear the teacher.
  - 3.9 hectares of spacious and pleasant grounds are shared by Port Lincoln Special School, Early Learning Centre and the Dental Clinic. Students from both schools use these facilities simultaneously.
  - The classrooms are located in blocks of four, with the administration offices, the resource centre, staff room and activity room housed in a separate block.
  - School Counsellor, Principal and SSO’s all have offices.
  - A meeting room in the administration building is used as a base for Aboriginal education.
• **Cooling**
  o The school is fully air-conditioned.

• **Student facilities**
  o There is at least 2 computer in each classroom and IT is supported across the school through a bank of computers in the Computer Room
  o The school has a functioning vegetable garden.

• **Staff facilities**
  o Modern Staff Room

• **Access for students and staff with disabilities**
  o All building entrances are accessible by ramps.

• **Access to bus transport**
  o Students can access the local bus service to attend LGPS
  o The school provides a morning bus run to collect students and bring them to school

## 10. School Operations

• **Decision making structures**
  o The school decision making structure involves SRC, Staff and Governing Council.

• **Regular publications**
  o Information is communicated to parents via newsletters every second Tuesday.
  o New parents to the school are given access to information about the school via a Parent Information Folder and Parent Introduction meetings.

• **Other communication**
  o Staff accesses information about School Administration, Roles and Responsibilities from the Routine and Management Policy and induction meetings
  o An electronic weekly Bulletin and the Daybook communicate events and information to staff on a weekly and daily basis respectively.
11. Local Community

• **General characteristics**
  o Port Lincoln is a city of approximately 14,500 people.
  o Its central industries are fishing, fish farming, grain handling, tourism and farming.

• **Parent and community involvement**
  o Numerous parents and community members are employed at various times within the school through government initiated training programmes to work with children.

• **Feeder schools**
  o We have no local Kindergarten

• **Other local care and educational facilities**
  o Our students attend secondary school at either the local state high school, the Catholic school or the Lutheran school
  o Families have access to childcare and kindergarten services through the Port Lincoln Children’s Centre and Kirton Point Kindergarten
  o There are a number of private child care facilities in Port Lincoln

• **Other local facilities**
  o Port Lincoln has a well-equipped local hospital and numerous doctors working from at least 3 clinics.
  o There are various clubs in a variety of sports and a community library is housed at TAFE
  o Port Lincoln is the major shopping and entertainment centre for the Lower Eyre Peninsula

• **Availability of staff housing**
  o Staff can access housing privately and through Government Employee Housing.
  o More information about the town and local area can be accessed through the City Council, phone 8682 3033

12. Further Comments

• Lincoln Gardens Primary School was formally known as Lincoln South Primary School.
• It has had a name change to go with the area housing redevelopment.