SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 8/2013

School number: 0699

School name: Burnside Primary School

School Profile Text: Burnside Primary School’s vision is to create a learning environment which emphasizes best practice teaching and learning for the 21st Century. As such, we strive to engage and develop the potential in every child so that they can achieve at the highest possible level through quality teaching and learning. The community has high expectations in all areas of education and students learn to achieve their personal best. Specialist programs include classroom music, drama and performance, instrumental music programs, school band, junior and senior choir, a PE specialist program with extensive sporting teams that are facilitated collaboratively by staff and parents. Students from R-7 also learn French. Inquiry based learning is the focus for year level team work and this has been supported by Australian Curriculum and Teaching for Effective Learning framework (TFEL) professional learning. A significant school redevelopment has recently been completed with a new two storey building (10 classrooms) and school play spaces upgraded to meet the needs of a large and active student cohort. There is a high level of parent involvement through extensive committees and the Governing Council. The school has focussed on providing increased IT infrastructure to support ‘anytime anywhere learning’.

1. General information

- School Principal: Sharon Broadbent
- Deputy Principal: Dianne Turville
- Senior Leader: Carol Press and Angela Elkin
- Year of opening: 1869
- Postal Address: 11 High Street Burnside 5066
- Location Address: 11 High Street Burnside 5066
- DECS Region: Eastern
- Geographical location: 8kms for Adelaide CBD
- Telephone number: 83317512
- Fax Number: 84315426
- School website address: www.burnsideps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: info@burnsideps.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: No
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: Yes
### Term 3 FTE Enrolment

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<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<th>2013</th>
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<td>Year 7</td>
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Student enrolment trends: There are around 750 students by the end of the school year, with growing Junior Primary enrolments.

- Staffing numbers (as at February census): There is a full time equivalent of 33 teachers of which there are 26 classroom teachers, 10 are Junior Primary (all female) and 16 Primary (12 females and 4 males).
- Specialist and support staff includes 1.2 PE (males), 1.2 Music/Drama (male and female), 1.0 French (2 females), 1.0 Teacher Librarian (female), 1.2 Science (females) and .6 ESL/Special Education (female)
- Ancillary staff comprises 9 part and fulltime staff (7 females, 2 males)
- The school receives approximately 180 hours per week as Ancillary Hours. In addition hours are provided for a number of intervention programs that support students with learning difficulties. An IT Technician is also employed. A Sports Coordinator facilitates school sports.
- The leadership team consists on the Principal (female), Deputy Principal (female), and two Senior Leaders (female), both who have a teaching load of .4.
Public transport access: Bus stops are nearby on Greenhill Road (Route 820 from the city, Route 580 from Milend to the Paradise Interchange and Glyburn Road (Route 142 to and from the city via Kensington Road).

Special site arrangements: Burnside Primary School is currently a member of the Eastern Region. It is a zoned school.

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics
Generally children come from families with professional backgrounds. Parents have high expectations of the school and their children's achievements. The cultural diversity of families has increased in recent years. Approximately 7% of students receive School Card, 26% are from non English speaking backgrounds and 1% are identified as Students with Disabilities.

High school destination of Burnside Year 7 students varies. Marryatville High School, Glenuga International High School and Norwood Morialta Secondary School are the main government feeder schools while a number of families enrol in independent schools.

Student well-being programs
A Safe School Policy which includes Behaviour Management and Harrassment Free Policies support a safe learning environment for all students. The school community is currently undertaking Kids Matter professional learning.

Teachers and the Christian Pastoral Support Worker provide an extensive range of student voice opportunities supported by regular class meetings in all classrooms. In addition a Year 7 leadership program provides opportunities for all students to develop responsible citizenship skills, including service to the community.

The Christian Pastoral Support Worker is funded through a Federal Government grant, the Church Ministry group and some school funds.

Student support offered
A Senior Leader is responsible for the coordination of various support and intervention programs including ESL, Special Education, Fine and Gross coordination, speech programs, early intervention, LAP and learning difficulties. The school has an extensive pre referral policy to ensure all students are prioritised for support.

Student management
Students come to school ready for learning. They are generally cooperative and display positive behaviours. A preventative and developmental approach is in place to support all students to interact in a respectful manner with other students and staff. Student behaviour is managed and monitored largely by leadership. The Senior leaders support student well being programs, student voice and the Child Protection Curriculum.

Student government
All classes have representatives on the Junior Primary or Primary Student Councils. Regular class meetings are held. An SRC Executive meets regularly and takes on many school leadership roles.

R-7 assemblies are conducted fortnightly. Buddy classes organise and prepare agendas for the whole school assemblies. In addition Cool Kids Assembly (for Junior Primary classes) is held three times a term in Term 2 and 3.
Year 7 students are involved in a range of leadership and service programs across the school. This includes assisting in the canteen, front office and Resource Centre at lunch times. There are house captains elected for Swimming and Sports Days. House Captains also support student lunch time programs.

**Special programmes**

The school has a buddy class program to encourage cross age tutoring between all year levels.

The school offers a range of instrumental music lessons for students with visiting DECD instrumental music teachers and private providers (lessons are at a cost to parents). Junior Primary students participate in an End of Year Concert, Year 3-5 students in Burnside’s Got Talent and there is a musical for selected Year 2, 6 and 7 students in Term 4. There is a school band that performs at various whole school events and The Rock Crew performs for different student audiences during Term 2.

### 3. Key School Policies

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

The school Site Improvement Plan 2012-2014 documents strategic initiatives aimed at maximising student learning outcomes. It states school priorities and student targets for improvement. Areas identified are

- Curriculum and Pedagogies for Engagement
- Literacy- current focus on Writing and JP Reading
- Information Communication Learning Technologies

There is a continued emphasis on high quality teaching and learning for the 21st Century. School Values were developed through whole community consultation in 2011 and are Quality Teaching and Learning, Respect and Cooperation. These emphasise the importance of building a learning culture based on interdependence and team work.

Teachers work in year level teams to develop curriculum overviews to ensure learning consistency for all students. These are available on the school website for easy parent access.

### 4. Curriculum

**Subject offerings:** The school provides a balanced and comprehensive curriculum based on the the Australian Curriculum and SACSA framework. Inquiry learning is emphasised as a result of the school’s previous involvement in the IB Primary Years Program.

**Special needs:** Burnside Primary School conducts a range of intervention programs to support students with specific learning needs. This includes students with disabilities, students learning English as a Second Language, Fine and gross coordination programs and learning support in literacy. Pre referral meetings are held each term so that Speech and Language and Guidance Assessments can be prioritised collaboratively with DECS service providers. Burnside Primary school leaders, teachers and specialist staff are committed to meeting the learning needs of all students.

**Teaching methodology:** Teachers use an extensive range of teaching pedagogies with an emphasis on Inquiry based learning, higher order thinking skills, problem solving,
investigations, collaborative and active learning that meets the developmental and specific learning needs of students.

Student assessment procedures and reporting
Acquaintance Nights are held early in Term 1 each year. All students participate in setting learning goals and determining strategies for their achievement. These form a significant focus of the two student reports sent home at the end of Term 2 and 4 and the 3 way interviews in Term 1. Optional interviews are offered at the end of Term 3.

5. Sporting Activities
Sport and physical education has a high profile with many students participating in a variety of sports, both during school and out of school hours. A sports administrator oversees the day to day organisation of out of school sports with high levels of teacher and parent support. Teams are fielded in minkey, hockey, basketball, soccer, football, volleyball, baseball, cricket and netball.
SAPSASA is supported with many students and teams competing in interschool, district and state competitions in a wide range of sports including athletics, volleyball, cricket, football, soccer, swimming and cross country.
House Competitions: Lunch time sporting activities are provided for Year 5-7 students. The school has an annual Sports Day (R-7) and Swimming Carnival for Years 3-7.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities
Burnside Primary has an extensive annual calendar that provides opportunities for many co curricular activities. These include

Performing Arts- Junior Primary and Year 7 Choir, the Burnside Primary Band, Annual School Musical, Burnside’s Got Talent, Junior Primary Concert, the touring Rock Crew and Festival Music. These are all valued school events.

Instrumental Music: Many students participate in music lessons with both DECS and private music teachers. Students can learn brass and string instruments with DECD teachers while private teachers offer guitar, piano/keyboard, flute and recorder. Some students are members of the Primary Schools Orchestra.

Other co curricular activities include Oliphant Science Awards, Primary Maths Challenge, Debating, Chess, Life Education and Art and Italian classes.

Students in Years 2, 4 and 7 are currently offered school camps. Year 2 students are away overnight, Year 4s for two nights and Year 7s attend a 4 day/3 night trip to Canberra.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile: Burnside Primary has a large teaching and non teaching staff with a range of age groups and years of experience. There is limited turn over with most choosing to remain at the school. The majority of teachers are on Step 9.
**Leadership structure:** Currently there is a fulltime Principal, Deputy Principal and two Senior Leaders with some teaching responsibilities. The SSO3, Finance Officer has line management responsibility for all SSOs and is a member of the leadership team. PAC supports whole school decision making which is generally consultative.

**Staff support systems**

All staff are members of a year level or the specialist team. There is a commitment by staff to work and plan cooperatively in these teams. A sub school structure also exists to promote consistency of learning across year levels and for resource management purposes. There is a weekly staff meeting where focus is on professional learning as a whole school, in sub schools and year level teams. A structured agenda enables staff to share information, make decisions and to learn and share in small groups.

**Performance Development**

Staff performance development occurs through meetings and class observations with line managers. Line management is shared by all members of the leadership team. The step 9 process has encouraged staff to manage up and to set goals for professional learning. Written feedback is provided to staff.

**Staff utilisation policies**

There is a part time Special Education and English as a Second Language teacher to support students with identified needs. One Senior Leader facilitates the management of learning support and the intervention team. SSOs provide a range of support focussed on school management and student learning.

**Access to special staff**

There are school agreed processes for referring students for support. This is instigated by teachers meeting for pre referral meetings with the Regional specialist staff. From these meetings students are prioritised for assessments and learning support. Learning plans are developed collaboratively with teachers, parents and specialist support staff.

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

Burnside Primary School is situated in the metropolitan area of Adelaide with no special staff provisions.
9. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds: The school has a variety of buildings spread over the 2.5 hectare site, including the original headmaster’s residence now used as a specialist Science classroom. There are many timber and demac classrooms, the first open space unit in the state, concrete aggregate buildings and an activity room. The BER funding provided the school with updated Year 6 and 7 classrooms and a large gymnasium. Building works recently completed replaced a number of the older classrooms. There is intent to redevelop the small gymnasium into a Performing Arts Centre and some fundraising monies have been tagged for this purpose. The recent redevelopment provided the school with a full size grassed oval and flat play spaces.

The yard area has been imaginatively developed with playground equipment, shady trees, grassed areas and garden beds. A JP play space outside the new building is currently being developed as funds are available.

There is a specialist art room with cooking facilities and a dual purpose activity room for the classroom music program during instruction time and as the Out of School Hours Care program before and after school and during vacations.

The new gymnasium provides storage for sports equipment and drama resources. There is a French room and a Resource Centre, used by all classes. A computer room is in the Resource Centre and utilised extensively. In addition there are computers and tablets in all classrooms and either interactive whiteboards or projectors with internet connectivity in all rooms.

- Heating and cooling: All buildings have heating and cooling
- Student facilities: A modern canteen attached to the small gymnasium is open daily for lunches and snacks. The canteen introduced a healthy food policy in 2004.
- Staff facilities: There are staff meeting areas, office areas for SSOs and a well equipped staffroom.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities: Most areas of the school are wheelchair accessible including some toilet facilities.

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
  Decision making is shared between the Principal, Principal Advisory Committee, Staff, Governing Council, Parents and Friends and the Student Representative Council. Groups are involved in making decisions when it affects them in line with DECD policy. Staff make a range of decisions in staff meetings, year level teams, sub schools and on a range of subcommittees. Both teachers and SSOs have agreements for meeting protocols that are reviewed each school year.

  School Service Officers meet as a team at least once a term.

  The Governing Council is an active decision making team with subcommittees for Finance, Education, Assets, Sports, Canteen, OHSC, Parents and Friends, Burnside Foundation and Community Development. These committees make recommendations for Governing Council approval. Meeting are designed to be issues based with committee reports tabled unless decisions require agreement.
All parents are members of the Parents and Friends with mainly class representatives attending meetings and communicating with parents.

- **Regular publications**
  
  There is a weekly staff bulletin and daily electronic information for staff and students. The school newsletter is posted online fortnightly on Thursdays of odd school weeks. Parents are advised by email. The school’s website also has a year planner with all school and subcommittee events being documented.
  
  All class teachers provide class newsletters at least once a term.

- **School financial position**
  
  The school has a sound financial base and needs to be prudent with its spending. We rely on school fees and fundraising to provide additional school resources. There are no major loans or ongoing repayment responsibilities.

11. **Local Community**

- **Parent and community involvement**
  
  Parental involvement is at a high level as indicated by the number of sub committees and commitment to sporting teams.
  
  An informed and active Governing Council contributes to school management and operates OSHC and the School Canteen.
  
  In 2008, the parent community established the Burnside Primary School Foundation to provide funding for vital projects.
  
  There is a school Uniform Shop supported by parent volunteers.
  
  Parents are actively involved in supporting staff and students with reading, excursions, sports, camps, canteen etc. Each class elects Class Parent Reps whose role is to liaise with parents, teacher and students.
  
  Parents are encouraged to attend whole school and Junior Primary Assemblies and social events organised by class reps and the school.

- **Feeder Pre schools**
  
  Reception students come from a number of different preschools and Early Learning Centres with the closest preschool being Newland Park Preschool.
  
  Students enrolling at Burnside Primary must live within the zone of right or have siblings attending the school.
  
  A transition process is in place for new Reception students. Parents are invited to attend a Starting School information session prior to children’s visits. Reception students are able to start school at the beginning of the term after they turn 5 years. These arrangements will change from 2014 when all Reception students will start at the beginning of the school year.

- **Local Government body**
  
  The school is situated in the Burnside Council area.