



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: March 2015

School number: 0124

School name: Eden Hills Primary School

School Profile:

We recognise that the school is a setting which significantly influences the social, cultural and cognitive development of students and work hard to ensure authenticity and trust in our relationships. Therefore we aim to develop a community of learners who feel, value and demonstrate the following attitudes that contribute to their own wellbeing and development and to their participation as active and responsible global citizens.

Eden Hills Primary School opened in 1916 and is located in the Mtcham Hills. It is described as a city school in a rural setting, with the beautiful physical environment and small size encouraging creative outdoor play.

The school is characterised by a strong sense of positive relationships, community pride and heritage. Strong links between staff and parents translate into good communication. Parents have a high level of expectation in their child/ren's educational development and achievement. There is a high level of parent participation in school related activities, including classrooms, excursions, committees, governance, learning support and after hour's sports programs.

The student population over recent years has grown steadily with a current enrolment of 270 students. There are a relatively low number of students from a non English speaking background, although this profile is slowly increasing.

There are many opportunities for students to have a voice in their learning. Beyond the usual Student Representative Council structures, senior students have the opportunity to participate in a range of projects including student-run assemblies, World Vision and Environmental forums. Important learning opportunities are also available for our senior students through links with Blackwood High School.

Students are encouraged to have a voice in shaping approaches to learning, on a daily basis. The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program is an integral part of EHPS and provides a strong inquiry framework for learning.

1. General information

- School Principal : Jason Munro
- Deputy Principal: Andrew Dowling
- Year of opening: 1916
- Postal Address: 78 Wilpena Street, Eden Hills 5050
- Location Address: 78 Wilpena Street, Eden Hills 5050
- DECD Region: Southern – Mitcham Hills Partnership
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 14kms
- Telephone number: (08) 8278 2243
- Fax Number: (08) 8278 2236
- School website address: www.edenhillps.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: dl.0124.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: Before School Care 7:30-8:30
After School Care 3:15-6:15, Vacation Care and Student Free Days 7:30-6:15
- February FTE student enrolment:

	Rec	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Yr4	Yr5	Yr6	Yr7	TOTAL
2011	33.0	29.4	27.0	28.0	27.0	29.0	32.0	30.0	235.4
2012	59.6	27.0	30.4	25.0	28.0	25.0	30.0	33.0	258.0
2013	52.0	46.6	26.0	31.4	22.0	28.0	25.0	30.0	261.0
2014	35.0	44.0	45.6	28.0	30.0	24.0	28.0	22.0	256.6
2015	34.0	37.0	47.0	48.6	27.0	27.0	22.0	25.0	268.6
2016	34.0	31.0	37.0	47.0	46.0	28.0	26.0	21.0	270.0

- Student enrolment trends: Increasing
- Staffing numbers (as at February census):

14.4 F.T.E. Teachers

9 SSOs

- Public transport access: Belair Train stops outside the school
- Special site arrangements:
Mitcham Hills Partnership

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics
 - : There are currently 270 students enrolled at Eden Hills. Approximately 15% access School Card. There are a relatively small but increasing proportion of students from a non-English speaking background and one ATSI student.
- Student well-being programs
 - : There is a sense of cohesion amongst the students. Positive interaction and support between older and younger students and the size of the school contributes to strong caring relationships. Buddy class program is run on a fortnightly basis, with classes attending events together throughout the year.
- Student support offered
 - : A Student Support Worker is employed 1 day per week
 - : Year 6/7 students run a peer support 'Helping Hands' program. They are available in the yard during every recess and lunch break to support all students in a range of ways e.g. social, physical
- Student management
 - : A School Code of Behaviour exists, which details behavioural expectations and logical consequences for students. An Essential Agreement is collaboratively developed by students and staff at the beginning of each year to ensure common understandings and agreements. A Restorative Practice approach is used to resolve issues. All staff have participated in Play is the Way training and use that language to reinforce behaviour.
- Student government
 - : : The Student Representative Council is comprised of 4 Executive members from the Year 7 cohort – 2 Chairpersons and Two Vice-chairpersons and two peer elected members from each class R-7
 - Students are positive, confident and keen to express their opinions by contributing to class meeting and Student Representative Council structures which operate effectively throughout the school. Leadership opportunities exist for senior students through a variety of roles. Senior

Student Council representatives meet regularly with students from other schools in our partnership to share programs and organise cross partnership activities.

- Special programmes
 - : Play is the Way – an ongoing programme for Reception to Year 7
 - : Intervention programmes including Multilit, Gillon Phonological Awareness, ALERT, What's the Buzz, Go Reading

3. Key School Policies

- Site Improvement Plan and other key policies:
 - : See website – www.edenhillps.sa.edu.au
- Recent key outcomes:
 - : See website – www.edenhillps.sa.edu.au

4. Curriculum

Subject offerings: All Learning Areas as outlined in the Australian Curriculum, within the framework of the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program are offered. Non-face-to-face teaching time (non instructional time) subjects, taken by specialist teachers, are Visual Arts/Drama, LOTE – Japanese and PE

Special needs:

- 15 students have a Negotiated Education Plan and are supported by SSOs, teachers and staff allocated by Disabilities Services, along with outside agencies such as Autism SA. Novita and Cora Barclay.
- Many other students have Individual Education Plans negotiated between staff and parents to support specific learning needs
- Specific intervention programs target the curriculum needs and social/emotional wellbeing of students
- EALD students are supported twice per week by a teacher, in small groups.

Special curriculum features:

- Reading Support Teacher supports Reception to Year 3 teachers in developing their knowledge and classroom practice about comprehension and vocabulary.
- Whole school focus with our Eco Sustainable Management Plan

Teaching methodology:

- Inquiry focus through units of inquiry developed collaboratively as part of the IB Primary Years Program
- Significant work/PD undertaken by teachers and SSOs to develop their knowledge of students with Dyslexia and Autism Spectrum Disorder and being inclusive in the mainstream setting.
- Embedding ICTs into classroom practice is a significant focus with the ICT/Digital Technologies coordinator working with all staff and students from R-7. ICT is an integral part of the learning program and is used as a tool to share, communicate, give peer feedback and assess learning through class blogs, Eden Share and Eden View.

Student assessment procedures and reporting

Term 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquaintance Night • Back to Front Interviews • 3-Way Learning Discussions – student/parent/teacher • Student Learning Plans 	Ongoing ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Performances/ displays - Open mornings - Work samples/ students' books - Student Portfolios – formative and summative assessment tasks from units of inquiry included - Assemblies – weeks 3, 6 and 9 - Informal discussion - Class blogs - Eden Share - Eden View - School newsletters
Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written reports 	
Term 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-Way Learning Discussions • Student Learning Plans 	
Term 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written reports • Year 7 Exhibition 	

Joint programmes:

Year6/7 Students are selected to participate in extension programs at Blackwood High School in the areas of Science, Technology and Maths (STEM), Humanities and English and the Arts.

A strong relationship exists with Eden Hills Kindergarten. In 2016 we will work together to develop an understanding of Executive Function and how to develop it in our children.

5. Sporting Activities

: Our students enjoy playing sport and are active participants in school fitness and skills programs. A high percentage of students play in organised sports teams.

Our entire school population take the train to Gums Oval at Belair national Park to participate in Sports Day.

A range of out of school hours sports are offered through the school, co-ordinated by the school's sports committee and coached by parent volunteers. These include teams in soccer, basketball, netball, volleyball, T-Ball, cricket, Kanga cricket and Pedal Prix.

Students have opportunities for involvement in SAPSASA competitions including athletics, cross-country, volleyball, basketball and netball.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

General

Students have opportunities to participate in a range of community service programs. Music students have opportunities to participate in the Festival of Music, Strings Orchestra, etc.

Chess Club and Science Club are offered.

In 2016 the Student History Committee will work with the Parent and Staff Committee to research information and organise events for the Centenary celebration in 2016.

A Student Inclusion Committee is working towards raising awareness that inclusion is everyone's responsibility.

• Special

- ✓ Acquaintance Night in Term 1.
- ✓ Parents and Friends meetings fortnightly.
- ✓ Year 7 Graduation.
- ✓ Sports Day in Belair National Park each year.
- ✓ Book Week.
- ✓ Wheels Days and other fundraising 'special days' initiatives by the SRC.
- ✓ Whole school assemblies – held fortnightly.
- ✓ Aquatics for Years 5-7 and Swimming at SA Aquatic Centre, Marion for R-4 students.
- ✓ Liaison with Blackwood High School, cluster primary schools and Eden Hills and other local Kindergartens.
- ✓ Pedal Prix
- ✓ Junior, Middle and Senior Choir
- ✓ Upper Primary discos held in partnership with neighbouring schools.
- ✓ "Strawberry Fair" – a biennial community event

7. Staff (and their welfare)

• Staff profile

: Relatively stable, with minor fluctuations. Range of ages and levels of experience.

- Leadership structure
 - : One Principal, one Deputy Principal, and one Business Manager (SSO 3) with line management responsibility
- Staff support systems
 - : Staff plan collaboratively, in teams (minimum of 2 teachers), as part of the IBPYP program and requirements.
 - : PLCs were introduced in 2014 and support reflective and innovative practice
 - : All staff has access to regular PD run by the International Baccalaureate. Other PD is sourced depending on school focus, individual need, team needs etc.
 - : Staff Professional Development is valued highly with a significant financial input. Staff travel interstate every second year to support their professional learning and broaden their experience
- Performance Management

Performance development is an ongoing process with staff sharing responsibility for setting the agenda. Staff members meet once per term with their line manager. Professional discussions can be initiated at the request of the principal or staff member. At these meetings staff members discuss their own goals, their classroom program, students' progress, school priorities and verification of skills and knowledge. Performance Development practices in place are designed to maximise support for staff learning, critical reflection on pedagogy, change and the needs of each student in the class. Walk-throughs and observations with feedback will be an integral part of performance development in 2016.
- Staff utilisation policies:

This is determined by the Principal in consultation with the Personnel Advisory Committee and Staff. Currently we have eleven classroom teachers, three NIT teachers providing Visual Arts/Drama, PE and Japanese.
- Access to special staff

Instrumental Music Services (DECD) provides Strings lessons for students from Year 3. Students are also able to access keyboard and guitar lessons from Private Providers working within the school.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Principal's telephone costs

9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
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The school is situated in very pleasant grounds, which provide a variety and balance of playing spaces for students.

The school's buildings currently consist of 11 classrooms, a Resource Centre, Sport Arts Centre (hall) and Art/Multi-Purpose room.

The "Old House", one of the school's original brick buildings, is used for OSHC, LAP, Special Education, Music and parent meetings.

Many of the classroom buildings at Eden Hills are transportable, but they have all (except 1) been replaced, or were new (additional to accommodate growing numbers), in the past 7 years.

Combination Capital works/loan was used to build a Hall, completed in 2005. BER funding provided a four classroom Early Years Unit which was completed in 2011.

A significant Capital Works Grant in 2011/12 was to replace the Administration building and the Resource Centre (2 separate buildings). These buildings were completed in September 2013.

The grounds had significant upgrading when the Admin and Resource Centre were built.

- Heating and cooling
 - : All work spaces are heated and cooled using reverse cycle units.
- Specialist facilities and equipment
 - : As above
- Student facilities
 - : Large staff room with two work stations with internet access available to teachers. Four work stations for Support Staff in the main administration area.
 - The school is networked with ample internet/wifi access through the curriculum network.
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- Access for students and staff with disabilities
 - : All buildings are wheelchair accessible via ramps and one simple lift. There are two disabled toilets and one ambulant toilet.
- Access to bus transport
 - : The school's location is close to the Eden Hills Train Station enabling classes to travel conveniently into the city.

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures

Procedures are well established to support decision making and school operations. These are supported by committees including:

Students:

- Class Meetings
- SRC meetings fortnightly

Staff:

- School Planning Group.
- PAC
- Curriculum committees
- Learning Teams
- Year Level Teams
- PLCs
- Student Review Team

Parent:

- Governing Council
- Sub committees: (Finance, Building & Grounds, Social and Fundraising, Strawberry Fair (even years), Sport, OSHC, Centenary)
- Parents and Friends

- Regular publications

- : Regular communication with the school community is maintained through:
 - fortnightly school newsletter, uploaded on to the school website for easy access
 - class blogs, generally updated on a weekly basis by staff and students
 - notice board for daily communication in front of admin building
 - Orientation information is available in a handbook for new families

Staff Communication through:

- Induction Handbook
- email
- electronic day book

- Other communication

- : School web site
- : Acquaintance evenings and other reporting structures
- : Term overviews

- School financial position

- : School is in strong financial position with a commitment to repayment of Capital Works Assistance Scheme loan (approximately \$20,000 annual repayments over 15 years).

- : A tax deductible Building Fund exists

- Special funding
 - : Eden Hills PS has been funded for a Student Support Worker one day a week.

11. Local Community

: A highly treasured, unique sense of community exists at Eden Hills PS. A deep understanding of community and relationships and a commitment to maintaining this strong school/ community partnership is seen to be essential.

Parents and other family members are involved in many ways in daily life at Eden Hills through things such as classroom support, 'tutoring' as part of the Learning Assistance Program, gardening, sports coaching, Governing Council and associated committees.

- Feeder or destination schools
 - : Eden Hills Kindergarten (located approximately 15 minutes walk from the school) is the main feeder kindergarten for the school.
 - : Blackwood High School is approximately 15 minutes walk from Eden Hills PS and a growing number of students from the school go there for their secondary education. Students also choose to attend a range of other Government Secondary School with specialist programs such as Urrbrae Agricultural School.
- Other local care and educational facilities
 - : There are a large number of kindergartens and child-care centres in the immediate Blackwood community.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
 - : Blackwood is a very busy and well serviced local shopping area, with a significant number of banks and supermarkets, as well as a very wide range of speciality shops available.
- Other local facilities
 - : Blackwood has a range of sporting clubs, grounds and parks in the local area, along with a Recreation Centre. Belair National Park is close by and is well utilised by the school and local community. Wittunga Botanic Gardens, a 20 minute walk from Eden Hills PS is also open to the public and utilised by the school community.
- Availability of staff housing : N/A
- Accessibility
 - : Public transport access: Train - on the Belair line, approx. 30 minutes to the city
- Local Government body
 - : Davenport

12. Further Comments

- Eden Hills Primary School will be celebrating its 100th birthday in July, 2016. A group of parents and a local historian are beginning to collect information and have won a community grant to publish a short history of the school.