



# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 19/06/18

**School number:** 0789

**School name:** Peterborough High School

## **Contextual Statement:**

Peterborough High School is 245 kms from Adelaide business centre and has 83 year 8 to 12 students.

Quality learning programs are reflected throughout the curriculum, with students engaging in a wide range of core subjects and vocational courses as well as a variety of extra-curricula activities including sports and music.

The school provides a range of subjects including English, Mathematics, Science, Geography, History, Music, Art, Media Studies, Health and Physical Education, Home Economics as well as Vocational Education options funded through the SACE Work Ready (TGSS) and Small Regional Grants funding through a variety of delivery modes including face to face delivery on campus.

Peterborough High School is a Trade Schools for the Future School, specialising in supporting students in vocational pathways. Peterborough High School is also a participating consortium member in the Flinders Trade Training Centre in partnership with Jamestown Community School, Gladstone High School, John Pirie Secondary and TAFESA Regional.

Peterborough has a regional special class and Learning Centre to support improved learning in Literacy, Numeracy and Social Skills.

Students enjoy a range of computer suites, study areas and recreational spaces, a community library, visual arts area, and a learning centre with support staff to provide for the many needs of young people.

The Governing Council ensures wider community participation in the school's day to day operations and futures planning.

# 1. General information

- School Principal: Liz Pannell
- Year of opening: August 1927
- Postal Address: Queen Street Peterborough SA 5422
- Location Address: Queen Street Peterborough SA 5422
- DECD Region: Yorke and Mid North
- Geographical location – 245 kms north of Adelaide
- Telephone number: 8651 2306
- Fax Number: 8651 2835
- School website address: <http://www.phs.sa.edu.au>
- School e-mail address: dl.0789.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- February FTE student enrolment: Number of Students 83
- Staffing numbers (as at February census):
  - Leadership Team:
    - Principal
    - Deputy Principal including daily operations and VET management
    - 3 Coordinator level 3's:
      - Senior Years Coordinator: Years 10/11/12
      - Junior Years Coordinator: Years 8/9
      - Improvement Coordinator including SACE Improvement and Impact Coaching for Visible learning

Teachers: 12 FTE

Aboriginal Education Teacher: 0.2

SSO's: 196.5 hours

GSE: 25 hours

AECO: 8 hours

- Public transport access: NIL
- Special site arrangements:
  - Member of Flinders Partnership
  - Member of MNSEC (Mid North Schools Education Cooperative) which includes Booleroo Centre District School, Gladstone High School, Jamestown Community School, Orroroo Area School and Quorn Area School. Distance delivery is offered via video conferencing, DUCT, and regular visits. There are joint activities including the MNSEC Showcase, MNSEC Athletics, Formal, Hub group meetings and sporting events.
  - Multi-lit program
  - Premier's Reading Challenge
  - Community Library
  - TAFESA Regional Learning Centre co-located in the Community Library
  - Trade Schools for the Future and Trade Training Centre Cert 2 in production manufacturing and Cert 2 in Auto

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics
 

There are a diverse range of students attending the school including students whose families are employed in the local meatworks, hospital, education and local business.

There are students whose families have relocated to Peterborough because of the affordability of housing. There continues to be high levels of unemployment, with low employment opportunities. Peterborough continues to be recognised in the top 10 poorest towns in Australia. (DOTE Report 2015)

We have 12 Aboriginal students enrolled.
- Student well-being programs include:
  - : Shine Sexual Health Training
  - : Child Protection Curriculum delivered through Well Being lessons
- Student support offered
  - : Counselling, Student mentoring, Learning Centre and class support, Multi-Lit, Aboriginal Education Community Officer (AECO), Aboriginal Education Teacher, Youth Worker, Mental Health Worker (health), CAHMS
- Student management
  - : Year level coordination and home group pastoral care
  - : Code of Conduct
- Student government
  - : SRC

### 3. Key School Policies

- Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:

Learning growth for every student achieved by:

- Improving attendance
- Embedding skills and capabilities development in literacy and numeracy in every learning area
- Building resilience and graduate qualities through implementing growth mindset strategies

### 4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings:

This school offers a comprehensive 8 – 12 curriculum. The senior secondary is as broad as possible and is supplemented using Open Access, and MNSEC delivery.

Trade School School for the Future and Trade Training Centre offers the opportunity for students to engage in the trade training of their choice as well as traineeships and School Based Apprenticeships.

- Open Access/Distance Education provision:

Students can enrol in Open Access in subjects we are not able to offer face to face or access through MNSEC delivery.

- Special needs:

Regional Special Class

Multi-lit Intervention Reading program

- Teaching methodology:

The school is well resourced with eLearning suites including Video Conferencing, and DUCT facilities.

- Student assessment procedures and reporting

Descriptive Semester 1 and Semester 2 reports issued in April and September.

Interim reports are issued in June and December.

### 5. Sporting Activities

The school offers a varied sporting program including school, Adelaide and MNSEC Swimming Carnival, Sports Day and MNSEC Sports Day, Athletics, Aquatics, numerous SASSSA Knock-out Sporting Competitions, and the comprehensive PE program years 8 – 12

## 6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

The school opts into various events on a regular basis such as the MNSEC Showcase, Formal, sporting events, and Peterborough Art and Cultural Festival, Christmas Pageant, Year 12 Dinner and other opportunities that arise within the community throughout the year.

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile

We have a range of teaching staff experience.

- Leadership structure

The Leadership Team consists of Principal, Deputy Principal and three Level three Coordinators. The team has clearly defined roles to support staff and students throughout the school.

- Staff support systems

The Coordinators have assigned curriculum and year level responsibilities covering Literacy & Numeracy improvement, SACE and Vocational Education.

The school has entered a 3 year contract (2017 – 2019) with the Flinders Partnership to undertake professional development through the Collective Impact Program: Visible Learning provided by Corwin.

- Performance Management

The focus of performance support is linked to the Site Learning Plan priorities, Professional Learning requirements, participation in Curriculum projects, Leadership Aspirations and Career Pathways planning, feedback and review processes.

- Staff utilisation policies

The school has specialist teachers enabling the broad range of offerings face to face. Our teachers also deliver via distance to MNSEC schools. Within our capacity we are implementing the opportunities for staff to team teach and up-skill in other subject areas. We are also multi-skilling in terms of teaching and SSO roles within the school. Through performance management we have identified teachers who are aspiring to leadership positions and supporting them in a variety of ways to develop their leadership skills, through training and practical activities at the school.

- Access to special staff

The school can access a broad range of services available through the single referral process.

- Other

The Navigating Future Pathways: Career Pathways Manager is hosted in our school in the Trade School for the Future. He works across eight sites promoting opportunities for students to access VET training (Cert II and III)

including through traineeships and school based apprenticeships as well as other initiatives including STEM.

We also host an Instrumental Music (IMS) teacher on site who also works across sites in music delivery.

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

- Complexity placement points  
0.0
- Isolation placement points  
4.0
- Housing assistance  
Available
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance  
Available
- Medical and dental treatment expenses  
Available for the first seven years in this locality
- Principal's telephone costs  
Available

## **9. School Facilities**

- Buildings and grounds  
The school has joint use agreements with the Corporation of Peterborough for the Community Library located centrally on the site and for the TAFESA Regional Learning Centre also co-located in the Community Library.  
The school has extensive specialist areas including:
  - Small gymnasium
  - Home Economics Centre
  - Design and Technology Centre
  - Trade School for the Future and Trade Training Centre
  - Science Centre
  - Art Centre
  - Music Centre
  - eLearning suites
  - Hard courts for basketball, netball and tennis
  - Agriculture plots
- Heating and cooling  
The school has extensive heating and cooling with several upgrades and new installations.
- Student facilities

The town swimming pool is within walking distance to the school.

- Staff facilities

The school has a new administration building completed in April 2016.

- Access for students and staff with disabilities

There is adequate disability access throughout the whole school.

There is toilet and shower facility in the cream, brick toilet block, and toilet access in the library and administration building.



Access to bus transport

There is a DE bus servicing the school which includes Yongala and Terowie, a CAP bus and a Variety bus managed by the school.

## 10. School Operations

- Decision making structures

Consultative structures operating include the Leadership Team, PAC, the staff group, WHS Committee and SRC. The Governing Council includes the Finance Committee.

- Regular publications

- Sentral: daily notices
- Newsletter every Friday fortnight odd weeks – also available via the school's web page
- SMS messaging and facebook
- Transition/Induction Student Pack
- School Year Book

- Other communication

- Web page: [www.phs.sa.edu.au](http://www.phs.sa.edu.au)

- School financial position

The school is financially stable

- Special funding

- Trade Schools for the Future
- Regional Special Class

## 11. Local Community

- General characteristics

The town previously thrived as a railways town and since the closure of the railways facilities and loss of employment the town has declined significantly in population from over 6,000 to around 1,700 and still declining. Significant employment has been lost which has had a major impact on local businesses over time.

PHS is disadvantage category 2, identified in ABS data as one of the most socio-economically disadvantaged towns in South Australia with high unemployment rates and low employment prospects. Around 40% of students at Peterborough High School live below the poverty line.

There is an extensive partnership with outside government and non-government agencies to support the high levels of disadvantage of students and families.

Peterborough is part of the Thriving Communities initiative.

- Feeder schools are:

Peterborough Primary School and Yunta Campus

St Joseph's School

- Other local care and educational facilities  
Peterborough Preschool incorporating Rural Care Program
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities  
A good range of retail businesses including a large supermarket, ATM and bank facilities, newsagency, butchers, Furniture store, and Australia Post. Pt Pirie and Pt Augusta town centres are within an hour and a half driving distance from Peterborough,
- Other local facilities include:  
Hospital, Medical Centre, and dentist.  
Peterborough Community Library  
Local Rural Transaction Centre  
Three hotels, two Motor Inns and Caravan Park.  
Steam Town and Motor Cycle Museum.  
Local taxi service
- Availability of staff housing  
Government housing available, affordable housing for purchase and rental.
- Accessibility  
Bus service to Adelaide, and Pt Pirie
- Local Government body  
The District Council of Peterborough located in Peterborough Town Hall, Main Street, Peterborough.

## 12. Further Comments

Peterborough is a welcoming community with several service clubs, sporting clubs and volunteer organisations such as CFS and SA Ambulance. The Youth Centre has re-opened and is thriving once again with regular activities for young people in the town with the support of the Community Development Officer and Volunteer Coordinator.