

# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 03/2024

**School number: 1051**

**School name: Ridgehaven Primary School**

## 1. General Information

### Part A

School Name: : **Ridgehaven Primary School**  
 School Number: : 1051  
 Principal: : Mrs Laura Tambe  
 Postal Address: : 479 Milne Road, Ridgehaven 5097  
 Location Address: : 479 Milne Road, Ridgehaven 5097  
 Courier: :  
 District: : Northern Metro  
 Distance from GPO: : 17 kms  
 CPC attached: : YES Preschool number 1617  
 Phone Number: : 08 8264 5277  
 Fax Number: : 08 8396 1715

February FTE Enrolment						
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Special Class R-2						3
Special Class 3-6			6	8	6	8
Reception	20	27	32	24	25	26
Year 1	30	23	28	33	21	27
Year 2	37	29	27	29	27	26
Year 3	28	38	33	27	29	29
Year 4	32	27	40	32	25	30
Year 5	34	34	30	45	32	30
Year 6	43	33	38	28	42	34
Year 7	35	47	31			
TOTAL	257	258	279	213	207	213
MALE FTE	130		143	111		109
FEMALE FTE	127		136	102		104
School card approvals	71	64	57	44	36	TBC
NESB Total	23	17	20	4	3	13
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	13	9	11	10	11	17
CPC Enrolments	32	33	20	31	51	31

Note: Placement points for Complexity and (Base plus Isolation) can be obtained from the document 'Placement Points History' in the 'schools/placement' section of the 'Legal and Policy Framework Library' available on the departmental CD-ROM or web-site.

## Part B

- Senior Leader
  - : Martin Woodcock, Leading Pedagogical Change
  - : Nathan Anderson, Wellbeing and Inclusivity
- School's email address
  - : dl.1051\_info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Staffing numbers
  - 16 FTE
  - 0.4 Japanese
  - 0.8 Science
  - 0.8 Drama/Music/PE
  - 0.5 Wellbeing Leader
  - 0.2 Autism Inclusion Teacher
  - 0.2 Aboriginal Education Teacher
  - ACEO – 8.5 hours per week
  - 162 Hrs per week permanent SSO time
  - 1.0 Preschool teacher plus 22 hrs non-permanent SSO time per week
- OSHC
  - : Yes
- Enrolment trends
  - : Enrolment numbers are steady
- Year of opening
  - : 1970
- Public transport access
  - : Via O'Bahn Bus Numbers 543 to Tea Tree Plaza and Milne Road or Bus Number 541 to Tea Tree Plaza and Hancock Road

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics
  - : Most students enrolled at Ridgehaven are from English speaking backgrounds. Numbers of students from other cultural and linguistic backgrounds are increasing but still remain a small cohort.
- Student management
  - : An effective Student Behaviour Education program operates in both classrooms and yard/playground. There is a strong whole school focus around school values, team culture, growth mindset, trauma-informed pedagogy, and restorative practice. Student school uniform, dress code and team culture creates a sense of belonging.
- Student government
  - : Student Voice takes many forms at Ridgehaven. Students may recognise a need or a cause and plan an event to support this cause. Students are consulted on many issues to form policy and procedure such as homework, sports day, school mascot etc. school captains, leadership groups and SRC.
- Special programmes

: Student learning is supported by a number of intervention and support programs including: Phonological Awareness (reception students), Initial-Lit (JP students) speech intervention programme, targeted literacy and numeracy support, motor skills program and targeted skilling programs as required.

### 3. Key School Policies

- School Vision

: School motto is *'A Community Working Together'*

The responsibility for learning is shared within our community to build powerful lifelong learners who are empowered to be successful.

Our Purpose

: To build on our culture of success through continuous improvement and accountability with an emphasis on building powerful learners and promoting quality pedagogy to assist all students to reach their potential.

Site Learning Plan

: A 3 year School Improvement Plan 2022-2024. This is being reviewed in 2024 to align with the Department for Education's areas of impact within the 'Strategy for Public Education'

- Goals

: Improve student achievement in Numeracy

: Improve student achievement in Reading

- School Values

: Respect, Persistence, Success (Linking with the school name acronym RPS)

- Team Culture, Totems (flora and fauna) and Key Concepts

: Larry the Lorikeet (School Mascot) – Banksia - Golden Rule

: Rosellas (Red Team) – Bottle Brush - Personal Best

: Kookaburras (Blue Team) – Blue Wildflowers - Have Reasons

: Parrots (Green Team) – Eucalyptus Tree - Be Brave

: Cockatoos (Yellow Team) – Golden Wattle – Strong Decisions

### 4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings

: Staff currently use the Australian Curriculum to plan, program and report. Music/Drama, Science, Japanese and PE are specialist areas providing NIT for teachers.

- Open Access

: N/A

- Inclusive education

: Resources are allocated to children identified as requiring special assistance including early intervention. Resources include teacher time, SSO time and volunteer assistance. Individual learning plans are documented and reviewed for all students receiving extra support and adjustments. There are 11% of students with a disability.

Support for preschool children is negotiated with the Special Educator each term.

- **Special Options**  
: The school has two special options classes for both year R-2 and year 3-6 students. Allocation of students to the special options program is via external process managed by the Department for Education Student Support Services. Students in special options access purpose built facilities including open space classrooms, a sensory room, wet areas, modified play areas, access bathroom/toilet and secure fob access to external doors. Students in special options follow the ABELS and Australian Curriculum and access weekly Students with a Disability water safety program at Stateswim. Students in special options may be eligible for DfE transport services.
- **Special curriculum features**  
: Learning at Ridgehaven is supported through the use of student leadership and participatory decision making structures. The school values highly collaborative decision making processes.
- **Teaching pedagogy**  
: There is a whole school focus on quality pedagogy with teachers sharing learning intentions and success criteria with all students with a focus on high impact teaching strategies. Most classes are composite (2 year levels). There are currently two straight reception classes. Interactive Smart Screens have been installed in all classrooms, the Resource Centre, Drama room and the Japanese room. All students in years 4-6 access individual laptops. Students in R-3 access iPads and a computer suite.
- **Assessment procedures and reporting**  
: An annual timeline is established for data collection early each year.  
Acquaintance Night – Term 1, Week 3/4.  
Formal 3-way conferences between students, parent/s and teacher/s – Term 1, Week 9.  
Two Written Student Reports present a picture of academic achievement and comments about learning and social skills – Term 2, Week 10 & Term 4 Week 9.
- **Joint programmes**  
: N/A

## **5. Sporting Activities**

: The school may participate in a variety of SAPSASA sports events across the year. These include, swimming, athletics, soccer, football, netball, tennis, softball and a multi-sports come and try day. There is an annual school sports day (usually held in term 1) with a focus on team culture, participation and physical activity.

## **6. Other Co-Curricular Activities**

- **General**  
: Annual Sports Day, Swimming Rec-yr 5, Aquatics for Year 6 students, School Camp, Special days (such as Rainbow Day), Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week.
- **Special**  
Private instrumental music tutors also offer a range of instruments including keyboard, piano, drum, violin, guitar, recorder or singing lessons for students.

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile
  - : A new Principal was appointed for a 6 month acting position at the beginning of 2024. Most of the staff are experienced and reside within a 15-30 minute drive. A small number of teaching appointments are part time.
- Leadership structure
  - : Currently the structure includes the Principal and 2 Senior Leaders. Elected PAC members discuss relevant matters and make recommendations. Participative decision-making structures are in place.
- Staff support systems
  - : The school is set up in Professional Learning Communities according to stages of schooling. All teaching and classroom support staff are part of PLCs with a member of the leadership team responsible for each PLC which includes line management responsibilities. Extensive collaborative planning, reviewing and programming takes place within PLCs.
- Staff utilisation policies
  - : Specialisation in PE, Japanese, Science and Music/Drama provides NIT for all teachers. IESP funding enables the school to manage a comprehensive Inclusive Education programme. SSOs provide specialised services in Administration, Finance, Classroom Support and Inclusive Education.
- Access to special staff
  - : Pastoral care Worker for 9 hours per week.
  - : Access to Student Wellbeing Leader.
  - : The school employs an IT technician for 7 hours per week as well as access to remote support at other times.
  - : The school employs a Groundsperson for 19 hpw.
  - : The school is entitled to employ an ACEO for approximately 7.5 hpw.
  - : Positive relationship with Student Support Service providers in Speech Therapy, Psychology, Special Education, and Behaviour Management.

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

: N/A

## 9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  - : Main buildings:-
    - Preschool with own kitchen, toilets, office and fenced outside play area with extensive nature play facilities.
    - Single Storey building for the early years classes in an open space environment, reception, admin offices, staff toilets, staffroom and teacher preparation area.
    - Refurbished double storey building hosting the primary and middle years classes, Japanese room, Resource Centre, Jubilee room (Drama/Music/Dance), art room, computer suite, OSHC and kitchen area (formerly a canteen).
    - Separate full size gymnasium with 3 storage areas, kitchen, toilets, change rooms, air conditioning and full AV and screen projector.

Large oval, cricket nets, dual netball/basketball courts. Extensive hard play areas, nature play and playgrounds for various age groups.

- Heating and Cooling
  - : Individual split air-conditioning and heating systems installed in all classrooms and offices and most teaching areas.
- Specialist facilities
  - : Automated Circulation system in Resource Centre, Computer network access for students (extensive IT upgrade planned for 2024), separate Japanese Room, Drama/Music room, basic Art Room for primary classes established from a converted storage area in main double storey building. Two wet areas within open space junior primary unit.
- Student facilities
  - : Canteen – outsourced to Subway (orders via QKR app). Early Years playground, Primary Years playground
- Staff facilities
  - : Spacious staff room refurbished in 2014, admin area, conference room, teacher preparation are. Staff access school provided laptops for personal use.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities
  - : Ready access, single story building, with appropriate entry points. Lift access in double storey building. Special Options program.
- Access to bus transport
  - : Public transport route within 500 metres.
- Other
  - :Preschool located on site adjacent to and integrated with the Junior Primary section of the school. Preschool staff are part of the Early Years Team. Playgroup uses preschool facility on Friday mornings. The Preschool was rated in 2015 as Exceeding National Quality Standards in the NQS rating and assessment cycle.
  - :Special Options Class first opened for junior primary students with an intellectual disability from 2021. In 2024 a second class was open to accommodate both junior primary and primary aged students.
  - :The school offers a highly rated through accreditation, Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) program offering sessions before and after school as well as vacation care during school holidays. The OSHC is well established and managed by the Governing Council. The service covers costs and is serving increasing numbers. The OSHC has an appointed Director and Assistant Director.
  - :School participated in External Review Process in 2020. Report published on school website.

## 10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
  - : Clear policy statement formulated, focus on consultation and consensus.
- Regular publications
  - : Daybook, weekly staff bulletin, newsletter, Seesaw App, Instagram and Facebook pages.

- Other communication
  - : Staff handbooks, display areas, notice boards, regular meetings, One Plan reviews, Seesaw App
- School financial position
  - : Sound, with reserves to fund replacement of major equipment.

## 11. Local Community

- General characteristics
  - : Approx. 6.1% of families are of NESB and 12.5% Aboriginal background. A significant number of parents attended the school as students. About 15% of enrolments come from outside the area. The housing in the area is a mixture of rental and owner occupied with pockets of new housing development. There are diverse values and attitudes towards education.
- Parent and community involvement
  - : An active Governing Council with associated subcommittees: Finance, Grounds and OSHC. There is an active Parent Fundraising Committee always open to new volunteers to assist with fundraising events. There is widespread support for celebrations and school events such as Sports Day. School has an active Wellbeing Committee and Reconciliation Action Plan Committee that encourages community participation.
- Feeder schools
  - : Preschool on site. Private Child Care facility approx. 500 metres from school.
- Other local care and educational facilities
  - : Most Year 6 students at Ridgehaven move to Year 7 at Banksia Park International High School, which is our main local secondary school. There are 6 other government primary schools and one Catholic primary school within a 3 km radius of Ridgehaven.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  - : Major local shopping facilities are available at Tea Tree Plaza approx 3 km away and a smaller range of facilities are available at St Agnes approx 1km from the school and at Redwood Park approx 500 metres from school.
- Other local facilities
  - : Sporting facilities are available approx 1km away including Waterworld Aquatics Centre (used for annual school swimming program).
- Availability of staff housing
  - : Nil.
- Local Government body
  - : Tea Tree Gully City Council. School has strong ties to local council projects including environmental sustainability, the Arts and Aboriginal Cultural perspectives.