



## SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated:

**School number:** 1903

**School name:** Blair Athol North Birth – Year 7

### School Profile Text:

- Blair Athol North Birth – Year 7 School is a child centred, technology rich, 21<sup>st</sup> Century school which caters for 450 children and 45 childcare places which opened in 2011
- We are a growing school community which is rich in many different cultures – there are 42 different languages spoken amongst our children.
- The school is one of the new PPP (Public Private Partnerships) Schools and the amalgamation of Gepps Cross Primary, Kilburn Primary & Blair Athol Kindy
- The new design has enabled us to challenge traditional thinking about school and the learning environment. Collaborative planning & teaching is at the heart of everything we do. Our teachers are called 'Learning Advisors', our buildings are known as 'Neighbourhoods' and our classrooms are 'Studios'. The learning spaces, which are technology rich, have been developed to provide learning experiences for the differing needs of children based on the concept 'Environment as the Third Teacher'. We are wanting to deinstitutionalise school.
- Our vision and philosophy has been influenced by Reggio Emilia from Birth – Year 7. We believe all children are competent and having potential and re-present their learning in many ways – otherwise known as the '100 languages of childhood'
- We have specialist programs -Dance/Drama, Visual Arts and Physical Education. With such cultural diversity at BANB7 these programs enable all children to express themselves in a range of ways..... the '100 languages'
- We believe in 21<sup>st</sup> century learning that connects children with real world experiences to improve their literacy and numeracy. Examples of this is establishing a TV Studio, Radio Station, forest area and the Kitchen/Garden.
- Our Children's Centre is a place of engagement, learning and care for children and families from Birth -8 years, which offers a range of services and programs including Occasional care & Learning Together Program. We have a Community Development Coordinator & Family Services Coordinator that will work with our Childrens Centre Team to develop programs & services in response to community needs and aspirations
- In 2017 we began with 6 Intensive English Language Classes (IELC)
- AEDI (Australian Early Development Index) 5 domains are: 1) Physical health and well-being 2) Social competence 3) Language and cognitive skills (school-based) 4) Communication skills and general knowledge 5) Emotional maturity. *Over the Kilburn, Gepps & Blair Athol areas our children are vulnerable in 2 or more domains in the AEDI. Kilburn is high in all 5 domains. Blair Athol is high in 3 domains. Enfield & Gepps are high in 5 domains but to a lesser degree than Kilburn*

## 1. General information

- School Principal name: Lee Sansom
- Deputy Principal Birth – Year 7 –: Theo Schlooz
- Director of the Childrens Centre Birth – 5 years of age -: Kim Gray
- Year of opening: January 31<sup>st</sup> 2011
- Postal Address: Marmion Avenue, Blair Athol, South Australia, 5084
- Location Address: Marmion Avenue, Blair Athol, South Australia, 5084
- DECS Region: Northern Adelaide
- Geographical location – 9 Km to GPO
- Telephone number: 81680700
- Fax Number: 81680777
- School website address:www.banb7.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address:info@banb7.sa.edu.au
- February FTE student enrolment:

Year Level	Feb 2014	Feb 2015	Feb 2016
Preschool	70 enrolled	70 enrolled	70 enrolled
Reception	33	49	42
Yr 1	39	31	39
Yr 2	56	44	38
Yr 3	46	55	40
Yr 4	33	40	55
Yr 5	36	38	40
Yr 6	41	45	46
Yr 7	30	45	45
IELC	115	95	75
Total R-7	429	442	420
School Card %	66%	65%	68%
NESB	67%	70%	70%
ATSI	50	64	59

- Student enrolment trends: Enrolments are increasing across all year levels but we are an extremely transient community

### Staffing Numbers:

Principal	1.00
Deputy Principal	1.00
Senior Leaders	4.00
Teachers	42.0 FTE
Primary Counsellor	1.00
ACEO	35 hrs
SSO	85.5
BSSO's	76 hrs
On Site Supervisor	37.5 hrs
SSO ICT technician	28.00 hrs
Preschool Teachers	2.0
Preschool SSO	2.0
Family Services Coordinator	1.0
Community Development Coord	1.0
Learning Together teacher	0.5
Occasional Care ECW	2 ( 14 hrs each )

- Public transport access: Yes- Bus
- Special site arrangements:

As we are a Public, Private Partnership School – DECD leases the site for 30 years. We have a full time OSS ( On Site Supervisor ) who is an employee of Spotless. He manages the facilities and works closely with our Business Manager

### **BANB7's Children's Centre for families with children from birth- 5 years**

BANB7 Children's Centre offers a range of facilities, programs and resources. It caters for children in their eligible year of preschool from Monday to Thursday. Occasional care sessions are on Monday morning, Monday afternoon, Tuesday morning and Thursday morning. Learning Together – children and families learning together – has playgroups on Wednesday and Friday mornings as well as specialised programs around cooking and gardening on alternate Tuesdays.

BANB7 Children's Centre has a Community Development Coordinator and a Family Services Coordinator who support families to link into existing community resources while building new initiatives in response to community interests and aspirations.

There is access to occupational therapy, psychology, general practice and paediatric services for children and families.

A termly overview of activities and contact details are available on the website.

## **Intensive English Language Program ( IELC )**

The Intensive English Language Program provides intensive English language support for students who are newly arrived in Australia, with a language and cultural background other than English. This program gives the students the opportunity to learn English intensively across areas of the curriculum in relatively small classes with specialist teachers and the support of bilingual workers.

At Blair Athol North Birth – 7 School the Intensive English Language Program is an integral part of the school with all students engaged in a variety of whole-school programs. A wide variety of activities are also provided within the school and the community, including excursions and social events.

We are committed to continuous improvement to ensure students have optimal learning opportunities and are prepared for success in their mainstream schooling. Students' English Language development and achievement is monitored and reported upon using the Literacy Levels.

### **Students (and their welfare)**

- **General characteristics**
  - :Blair Athol North Birth – Year School is a culturally rich school with 42 different languages spoken amongst our children. It is a Category 1 Disadvantaged School.
  - :Currently 10% of students have been identified as requiring N.E.P.'s and entitled to Special Education support
- **Student well-being programs**
  - : Our 1.0 School Counsellor works with students, staff, and parents and is committed to involvement in proactive programs with a focus on achievement and celebration of success.
- **Behaviour Education**
  - : There is a consistent whole School Behaviour Education approach acknowledging the rights and responsibilities of students, staff and parents. We talk about doing the right thing or the wrong thing. Consequences respond to the level of behaviour (low, moderate or severe). It is a reflective approach and focuses on re-building relationships (3Rs – reflect, repair, repay). We have a re-connect room and all children have a MATE to support children to self-regulate
  - :Our yard policy places emphasis on assisting students to Sort Out issues. Pro - Active lunchtime programs are provided.
  - : Acknowledgement of responsible behaviour is a school priority.
  - :A whole school focus on positive wellbeing and our school values of Honesty, Responsibility, Respect, Confidence underpins our practices.
  - :Belonging, Being and Becoming Program – an integrated whole school program that focuses on positive, supportive & engaging culture of learning
- **“Young Leaders”**
  - : Student voice is a whole school focus and all studios run group GPS (growing personally & socially) sessions. We have e.g SAKG catering group, Young Leaders. These groups meet regular times.

- Special programmes
  - : Specialist Physical Education, , Dance/Drama & Visual Arts Learning Advisors provide programs across the school
  - : Rock Band for Year 5-7's
  - : Guitar & Drum Lessons
  - : School Choir
  - : Hip Hop
  - : Radio Station
  - : TV Studio

### Key School Policies

- Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:
    - : Our values underpin our Vision and Core Business.
      - Respect
      - Responsibility
      - Honesty
      - Confidence
- All contribute to positive wellbeing.

Belonging, Being & Becoming are central themes to everything we do.

We have three pillars that will drive all of the work we do. The Pillars are:

1. Capabilities and Dispositions we want for our children
2. Principles & Elements for Powerful Learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
3. Pedagogies and Practices

We want our children to have the following capabilities and dispositions:

- Critical thinking & Problem Solving
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Creativity & Innovation
- Care for our self, others & planet
- Cultural Understanding
- Curiosity & Inquiry
- Risk Taking
- Resilience
- Reflectiveness

We call these the 7 C's & the 3 R's, which equals 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning

To achieve the Capabilities and Dispositions we will base our teaching practices on the following six Principles & Elements for Powerful Learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:

1. Intellectual Quality & Stretch
2. Personalise & Connect
3. Assessment & Feedback
4. Environment & Spaces

5. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Multimodal Digital Tools
6. Well Being & Relationships

**Our Key Priorities are:**

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Relationships and Well Being- a specific focus on Play is the Way(PITW) for behaviour education & Child Protection Curriculum
- Pedagogy

**4. Curriculum**

Subject offerings:

:The core business of Blair Athol North B-7 School is learning and teaching in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment. We aim to provide quality education for all students to empower them to be successful learners and active participants in the wider community. Our challenge is to be able to provide a rigorous, relevant and inclusive curriculum, which meets the learning needs of all students.

:We provide a balanced, relevant curriculum based on the Australian Curriculum & Early Years Learning Framework

**Special needs:**

- All children have rights and are full of potential. All children are competent, powerful learners. Using the term "rights" over "needs" emphasizes the special qualities each child brings. We use the term "special rights" to describe children with 'special needs' or 'children with disabilities', as it captures our beliefs about children with learning differences.
- We take a holistic approach to learning and strive to ensure all children have access to to curriculum. We believe that equity is not necessarily all children having the same but all children having access to what they need to be successful. Children with special rights are supported through Special Education, Speech Pathology, English as a Second Language and Bilingual support programs.
- Our Aboriginal students work individually and in small groups on programs that value their culture and enhance their learning.

**School Counselling :**

- BANB7 has a behaviour education approach and we use PITW as the program for explicitly teaching social and emotional skills. We focus on Self-regulation and self-management.
- Programs are provided for students in behaviour education, problem solving, conflict resolution, anger management, meeting procedures, decision-making, countering harassment and in developing leadership skills.
- These programs are supported by the school showing respect for family and cultural values and by utilising the skills of teachers, school service officers, bilingual workers, parent and community workers to support student learning.

- We work closely with children and their families as a team of professional, referred to as 'Team Around the Child'. Having a Team around the child allows professionals to come together with combined and varied knowledge bases to share information and develop a strategy and coordinated plan for support and moving forward. It allows the child and family to have a team of trusted adults and professionals at the school who are available for support and coordinated intervention.
- The site has a number of private practitioners such as an Occupational Therapist, Psychologist, Paediatrician, Nurse, General Practitioner (Doctor), who provide their services to children and families on site, working collaboratively with the school, families and the child to deliver the best possible outcomes.
- To the greatest extent possible we attempt to integrate therapies and strategies from all professionals, into the studio, so that the skills acquired are functional, instead of isolated.

### **Teaching methodology:**

: In line with requirements of Australian, our Principles & Elements for Powerful Learning & Capabilities & Dispositions. The school caters for a range of learning needs and styles, e.g. group work, collaborative work, single gender, explicit teaching, independent learning etc. There is a focus on personalised learning, inquiry based learning, design thinking, learning spaces & the use of digital technologies. Collaborative planning is fostered and quality learning and teaching is valued. Staff are regularly released to inquire into their practice based around a key question and facilitated by leaders.

### **Student assessment procedures and reporting**

: Term 1: Family Connections Day

Term 2: Written Report & Family Connections Day

Term 4: Written Report

CPC: Student Learning Folders and learning stories.

### **Sporting Activities**

- : A commitment to promoting a healthy lifestyle. Specialist Physical Education forms part of our NIT organisation.  
:All students in years 5-7 participate in Friday afternoon SAPSASA or sporting activities.  
:A variety of sporting clinics are held regularly through the year.  
:All students participate in the swimming or aquatics program.  
:We have an Active After School Sports Program twice a week.

### **Other Co-Curricular Activities**

: Dance Drama is provided for Yr 3-7 students as part of our NIT program.

:Year 5, 6 and 7 students have the opportunity to be part of the Festival of Music choir & School Rock Band

: Guitar & Drum lessons

:The school participates in cultural festivals/ events such as NAIDOC Week, Reconciliation, Culture Week.

## School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds  
:Blair Athol North is a brand new building that opened in January 31<sup>st</sup> 2011
- Heating and cooling  
:all airconditioned
- Specialist facilities and equipment  
:Kitchen, Vegetable Garden, Dance/Drama, TV Studio & Radio Station
- Student facilities  
:We have a Canteen that is operated by Spotless.
- We have state of the art ICT facilities - The learning community at BANB7 has ubiquitous access to learning technologies. This includes a range of digital devices (portable and fixed), applications and online tools. Access includes 1: 1 for 6/7. 1:2 for 3,4,5 1:3 for R – 2 and a few devices available in the Children’s Centre.We have TV studio and BANB FM radio station that connects children to real world learning opportunities. Staff and children use these technologies in ethical, productive and innovative ways to improve and enhance learning and teaching experiences. Children use the internet to conduct research and create content, often using social media to exhibit their learning. Children therefore learn about internet safety and how to become responsible digital citizens.
- Staff facilities  
All staff have a prep area plus a Mac laptop
- Access for students and staff with disabilities  
:Access toilets in the Administration area and each Neighbourhood.
- Access to bus transport  
Students in the Intensive English Language Program have access to buses
- Other  
:

## School Operations

- **Decision making structures**  
: Decision- making is undertaken on a consultative and collaborative basis. Key decision making structures are the Governing Council, PAC, Staff committees/ meetings, OHSW Committee, Studio meetings and Young Leaders.

## Regular publications

- : Communication is via Newsletter twice a term, Staff Handbook, Electronic Day book, School Facebook, school brochures and email communications.

## School financial position

: A very good financial position with a commitment to continuous improvement of assets, ICT and curriculum resources.



### **Special funding**

: Early Years Literacy & Numeracy funding. Category 1 Disadvantaged schools funding & Mentoring.

: Better Schools Funding 2017 - \$173,000

### **Local Community**

- *General characteristics*

: Considered an area of high disadvantaged. An area for many new arrivals.

- *Feeder or destination schools*

: The feeder high school is the Roma Mitchell Secondary College.

### **Local Government body**

:Port Adelaide/ Enfield Council

### **Further Comments**