## School Context Statement

**School Name:** Balaklava Primary School

**School Number:** 0477

### 1. General Information

#### Part A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School name</th>
<th>BALAKLAVA PRIMARY SCHOOL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School No.</td>
<td>0477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Tricia Joseph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postal Address</td>
<td>PO Box 108, Balaklava 5461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location Address</td>
<td>29 Wallace Street, Balaklava 5461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Wakefield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distance from GPO</td>
<td>92 kms</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPC attached</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone No.</td>
<td>08 88621660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax No.</td>
<td>08 88621009</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Primary, Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.</th>
<th>July total FTE Enrolment</th>
<th>Male FTE</th>
<th>Female FTE</th>
<th>School Card Approvals (Persons)</th>
<th>NESB Total (Persons)</th>
<th>Aboriginal FTE Enrolment</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reception</td>
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<td></td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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**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 web-site.
Part B

- Deputy Principal
  : Kay Forder. Appointed until January 2015

- Staff numbers
  : Teachers
  12.8 FTE
  Males: 1 full time.
  females: 9 full time, 4 part time.

SSO and GSE
Female – 1 Full time 37.5 hrs/wk
  – 2 Part time 50 hrs/wk
Male – 1 Part (ICT) 6 hrs/week
Male – 1 Part time (Grounds) 12 hrs/wk
Total = 105.5 hrs/wk

Additional SSO - Special Education, Behaviour Management, ESL & Literacy
Male 1
Female 6 Total = 80.0 hrs/wk

- Balaklava Primary is a locally managed school. We have 10 classes operating.

- Enrolment trends
  : Numbers fluctuate slightly year to year. In 2012 predictions are that enrolments at
  the end of the year will be 250.
  Some years there is 20% transience although in 2011 this reduced.

- Special arrangements
  : Current initiatives with Balaklava High School include a shared canteen, buses and
  use of bore water. Curriculum continuity discussions with the Balaklava High School
  and the Community Children’s Centre are on-going.
  The Reading Recovery programme has been operating since 2002 and in 2012 the
  school has appointed an Early Years Reading Teacher

- Public transport access
  : The principal of the primary school manages 10 DECS buses. The buses provide
  transport for over 600 students to the pre-school, primary, non-government and high
  school sites daily.
  DECD bus routes and travel arrangements are reviewed bi annually. The routes
  were reviewed in 2011.

- Year of Opening
  : 1877- In 2012 Balaklava Primary celebrates its 135th year of delivering education.
2. **Students (and their welfare)**

   - **General characteristics**
     
     Students are from a mixed farm, coastal and town background. A number of families have moved from northern metropolitan areas.
     
     Currently 27% of the school population qualifies for School Card.

   - **Support offered**
     
     - School Counsellor, Narelle Christiansen, 0.6 position (3 days per week)
     - Christian Pastoral Support Worker, Kathy Ottens has been appointed for 3 years.
       
     Kathy works 3 days per week.

   - **Student management**
     
     - Student Behaviour Management Policy is under constant review, and includes use of the Positive Behaviour for Learning framework which has a strong emphasis on responsive, pro-active strategies which involve partnerships with families. As a staff we are investigating Restorative Practices to support student behaviour.

   - **Student Voice**
     
     - Student Committees are established Yr 5-7 with the younger students involved in JAG: Junior Advisory Group.

   - **Special programmes**
     
     - Additional special needs programmes include Reading Recovery, ELF, Speech, Multi Lit, Behaviour and Co-ordination programmes.

3. **Key School Policies**

BPS aims to provide quality-teaching programmes for all students to maximise learning outcomes.

   - Our school motto was adopted late in 2006 and incorporated in a banner:

   ![Banner Image]

   **2008 saw the Values embedded into the school: Fair Treatment; Cooperation; Success; Mutual Respect; Tolerance; Responsibility & Honesty.**

At the beginning of 2012 the values of Respect, Responsibility and Safety form the basis of our Behaviour Code.
4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings
  - The eight learning areas are provided with the additional provision of a specialist music curriculum R-7.
  
  Special curriculum features include:
  - Indonesian LOTE provided R-7; with some classes accessing Visual Arts specialist teaching throughout the year.
  - Class based music provided R-7 – one lesson per week.
  - There is significant student involvement in Instrumental Music
  - School choir performs annually at the Primary Schools Music Festival and at local events eg Balaklava Eisteddfod. We also have a School Band, Instrumental and Vocal Ensemble.

- Teaching methodology
  - We are undertaking work in preparation for the implementation of the Australian Curriculum with a focus this year on English, Mathematics and Science. Teaching for Effective Learning (TfEL) is incorporated into our teaching methodology.

- Assessment procedures and reporting
  - Interviews Term 1 and optional Term 3; written reports Terms 2 & 4.

- Joint programmes
  - Ongoing Transition programmes with Balaklava Community Children’s Centre & Balaklava High School.

5. Sporting Activities

- The school is active in SAPSASA & local competitions covering netball, football, softball, cricket, golf, soccer, tennis, swimming (close proximity to community pool) athletics, lawn bowls and basketball.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- General
  - Religious Education Seminars held each term.
  - Year 7 Graduation and whole school End of Year Concert or Carols by Candlelight
  - Swimming Carnival & Sports day held annually.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile
  - Stable for the foreseeable future.

- Leadership structure
  - Principal, Deputy and School Counsellor form the collaborative Leadership Team.
• Staff support systems
  : Staff Performance Development reviews are conducted with the Principal or Deputy Principal. SSO reviews with the Principal and Administrator.

• Access to specialised staff through the Yorke and Mid North Regional Office offers support in the following areas
  : Student Behaviour Management, Speech, Hearing, Guidance, Special Education, Curriculum, Early Years, School Improvement, Attendance, Finance, Transition and Aboriginal Education.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

• Complexity placement points
  : N/A

• Isolation placement points
  : Nil

• Travelling time
  : From Gawler – 40 mins; from Adelaide – an hour from the northern suburbs.

• Housing assistance
  : Some government housing – managed by local real estate agent.

• Cooling for school buildings
  : Refer to School Facilities section below.

• Cash in lieu of removal allowance
  : N/A

• Additional increment allowance
  : Nil

• Designated schools benefits
  : Nil

• Aboriginal/Anangu schools
  : Nil

• Medical and dental treatment expenses
  : Available if claimed.

• Locality allowances
  : Nil

• Relocation assistance
  : Standard Department Removal Allowance.
9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  - Brick Open Space Unit for four classes, stone JP building for two classes, stone Admin building, BER quad classroom block opened in 2011 as part of the BER programme, hardboard double and single classrooms, two doubles for the Library and Music Rooms, and Atco building for Pre-loved Uniforms and Instrumental Instruction.

- Cooling
  - Split Level Air-conditioning to all learning spaces.

- Specialist facilities
  - Resource Centre, Music suite and Indonesian room.

- Student facilities
  - Daily access to joint canteen on the high school site.
  - JP Playground & UP Playground
  - New asphalt & paving laid in 2007-08 and new courts marked
  - Large covered outdoor learning area – BER funded
  - Extensive oval

- Staff facilities
  - Large Meeting room for staff and parents
  - Staff preparation area
  - Teacher work station in Open Space Unit

- Access for students and staff with disabilities
  - All main buildings have ramps
  - Open Space Unit Well is currently inaccessible
  - Toilets with facilities

- Access to bus transport
  - School buses use a road within school grounds for drop off and collection of students each morning and afternoon

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
  - Leadership, PAC, Administration, Staff meetings, Student Committees and Governing Council, including Parent Coordinating Committee

- Regular publications
  - Newsletter fortnightly
• Other communication
  : Daybook
  : Weekly staff notes
  : Website: www.balakr7.sa.edu.au

• School financial position
  : Resource Entitlement of around $2,000,000 per year
  : Staff managed classroom and curriculum budgets
  : Reserves to fund on-going curriculum initiatives such as Reading Recovery and ICT

11. Local Community

• General characteristics
  : Local shops service town, local and farm community of approximately 3000 people. Primary production area with supporting businesses. Wide range of active volunteer organisations and Christian churches.

• Parent and community involvement
  : Governing Council, Parent Coordinating Committee, LAP, and each class has 2 parent representatives to support class/school activities.

• Feeder schools
  : Balaklava Community Children’s Centre (BCCC)

• Other local care and educational facilities- After School Hours and Child Care based at BCCC with a local pick up on our site

• Balaklava High School (approximate enrolment 402), Horizon Christian School (296). Also primary schools are located at Owen and Pt Wakefield, with a preschool also at Pt Wakefield.

• Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  : A supermarket, banks, post office, chemist, newsagent, two hotels, and a variety of shops including electrical, hardware, hairdressing and fruit & veg.
  : Two hay processing plants, abattoirs, numerous pig & poultry farms, Viterra grain handling

• Other local facilities
  : Hospital, helipad, medical centre, four doctors, visiting specialist services, St John/SAAS Ambulance station, dentist, aged care facilities. Local newspaper, town oval and Sports Club, Lions Club, CFS, Red Cross, art gallery, Community Arts Organisation, Economic Development Board, Racing Club and Swimming pool and RSL. Sports Clubs including golf, gliding, football, netball, basketball, tennis, hockey, table tennis, bowls, croquet, rifle and pistol clubs. Leisure clubs including gardening and photography. Caravan park and cabins plus others.

• Availability of staff housing
  : Limited to a few houses. Private rental accommodation is generally available. Currently 2 new housing developments have opened

• Local Government body
  : Wakefield Regional Council has its Head Office at Balaklava.
12. Further Comments

- Balaklava is close enough to Adelaide for commuters, being an hour from Gepps Cross. It is also 50 minutes from the Clare Valley, Barossa Valley & the Yorke Peninsula.
- A bus service to Adelaide operates daily.
- Wakefield Regional Council has an active Economic Development Board encouraging development in the area.
- We have approximately 3.34 hectares with the Balaklava High School sharing one boundary fence, the Balaklava Community Children’s Centre several blocks away and the Horizon Christian School across the road.
- We welcome parent and community involvement and actively support local initiatives such as tree planting, Adelaide Plains Cup Festival, Balaklava Agricultural Show, Balaklava Eisteddfod and other opportunities as they arise.
- Staff form a collaborative, cohesive group who work well with an interested Governing Council and Parent Coordinating Committee.