



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 10/19

School number: 0142

School name: EVANSTON GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Evanston Gardens Primary School Vision:

“We are working in partnership towards an education that is excellent, relevant and inclusive of all students in a safe, caring, success oriented environment”.

Evanston Gardens Primary School Values:

- Respect
- Perseverance
- Problem solving

1. General information

- School Principal: Mrs Libby Clift
- Acting Principal: Ms Nikki Priestman
- Student Wellbeing Coordinator: Mrs Pauline Knight
- Year Opening: 1908
- Postal Address: 71 Angle Vale Road, Evanston Gardens SA 5116
- Location Address: As above
- Partnership: Greater Gawler
- Telephone number: (08) 85 222 082
- Fax number: (08) 85 23 0495
- School website address: www.evangdns.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: dl.0142_info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Road distance from GPO: 40km
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: No
- Out of School Hours Care (OHSC): Yes
- Playcentre: No, however Play Group is run in the community hall adjacent to the school.

Full Time Equivalent Student Enrolment (February)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Reception	17	21	29	26	35
1	14	23	16	32	30
2	20	19	21	19	28
3	23	20	14	16	18
4	22	18	19	17	19
5	14	21	15	21	15
6	8	14	21	16	22
7	9	8	10	23	18
TOTAL	137	144	145	170	185
ATSI	9	11	11	8	7
EALD	2	4	5	5	12
SCHOOL CARD	54%	54%	50%	55%	55%
DISABILITIES		11%	11%	8%	10%

Student enrolment trends:

Student enrolments are steadily increasing. New housing in the area and redevelopment are likely to lead to further increases.

Staffing Numbers:

- Principal
- Student Wellbeing Coordinator (1.0)
- Eight Classroom Teachers (one 0.9)
- 0.4 Performing Arts/Choir
- 0.6 Japanese
- 0.2 Resource Based Learning
- 0.5 P.E and Health

SSO Hours:

- Administration officer (
- Finance/admin officer (37.5 hours per week)

The school employs 8 other SSOs (School Services Officers) with varying hours for classroom, early years support, intervention, behaviour support (RAAP)

- Groundsperson 21 hours week
- Pastoral Care Worker (employed through School's Ministry Group)
- Playgroup attached to the school 3 hours week (SSO2)

Public transport access:

This is limited. The Gawler to Adelaide train stops at Tambelin station which is approximately 1km from the school. Most students walk, cycle or come by car.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General characteristics**

Most students come from the Evanston Gardens housing area, however students also travel from nearby suburbs (e.g. Angle Vale, Lewiston, Munno Para, Gawler suburbs, Munno Para) also attend. We are receiving increasing enquires from the Munno Para area and surrounds.

- **Student well-being and support**

Positive Education is a strong focus and framework across the school and most teachers have been trained as well as some SSOs. Gratitude, growth mindsets for learning 'bucket filling' (positive acts) and mindfulness are some of the focii. The school has a Wellbeing team led by the Student Wellbeing Coordinator to look at the school needs and initiatives in light of data. We also utilise the Kimochis program for Social Emotional learning in junior and middle primary years. In 2020 the school has committed to roll out the Friendly Schools wellbeing and bullying education program.

A Pastoral Care Worker (PCW) works with staff, students and the school community to meet a variety of needs. The school has a breakfast program run by parent volunteers and aided by student leaders and the PCW. The PCW takes several groups of students for 'Peaceful Kids' wellbeing group across the year.

We utilise a social worker through the Grow Wellbeing Service to work with students with identified mental health needs. There are approximately 15 students using this service via a mental health care plan.

- **Student support**

Students are supported by their teachers in their learning (Wave One teaching)

Student Intervention Programs include:

- A Co-ordination Program for Junior Primary (Early Birds). All receptions are screened.
- MiniLit (Minimising Literacy Intervention) small group and MacqLit. These are very structured, research based programmes, to improve decoding/fluency and basic reading skills. Students work with SSOs in small groups and they are selected on the basis of learning data. Progress is reviewed regularly.
- Student supported to 'Trust the Count' with SSO and teacher support.
- Quicksmart – A research based programme that builds fluency and automaticity in numeracy in Yr. 4-7. Students are selected on the basis of learning data (eg. Naplan, PatM) and being able to 'Trust the Count'.

- SSOs also work in classrooms in the Early Years to provide extra support
- Students with Negotiated Education Plans are supported according to their documented plan (Wave 3).
- Speech programs run by an SSO as identified by the Speech Pathologist allocated to our site via support services.

Some students have Negotiated, Individual or personal learning plans (NEP, IEP, PLP) or Individual Education Plans (IEP) according to individual need. The school is working towards transitioning to One Plan.

Student Management

The School Behaviour Code is regularly reviewed in conjunction with the school community and the partnership Behaviour Coach. Positive behaviour is encouraged through class awards at Assembly, individual class practices promoting positive behaviour and 'bucket filling' awards for positive yard behaviour given out at Assembly and published in the newsletter. We use the proactive restorative process to help to support students with conflict, bullying and to see another's perspectives thereby reducing the risk of re-occurrence. Our school uses the partnership Behaviour Coach to support students, staff, families and staff as needed. Parents are informed of positive behaviour or buddy class or leadership support via a note reporting system.

Student Government

The Student Wellbeing Coordinator with other teachers are further developing student Leadership to promote student voice in the development of our schools community. We currently utilise a student representative council model which meets fortnightly with the Wellbeing Coordinator and PCW. Students are very enthusiastic.

3. Key School Policies

The following information is available on the schools website (www.evangdns.sa.edu.au).

- The current school Improvement Plan (Literacy, Numeracy, Wellbeing) aligned with Partnership Plan.
- The most recent Annual Report
- Key School Policies

Curriculum

The school continues to implement the Australian Curriculum as a whole school. Specialist subjects are Performing Arts, Japanese, Resourced Based Learning and Health and P.E.

Staff engage regularly in PLCs and Moderation both locally and across sites to continue to develop pedagogies. We work to provide consistent, evidence based

explicit instruction to students that is differentiated and engaging.

The Student Wellbeing Coordinator (SWC) works with families, class teachers and SSOs to develop and implement learning plans and involve key stakeholders. The Principal currently manages the special education programs including funding applications and referrals.

Teaching Methodology

In 2020 staff will continue to work in Professional Learning Communities (Junior Primary, Primary, Non Instructional Teachers) looking at areas such as assessing and planning collaboratively and sharing practice, especially in the areas of the Big 6, reading comprehension and numeracy.

Teachers will be training in the following areas in 2020

- Friendly Schools
- Big 6
- Reading Comprehension

The Numeracy expectation agreement was updated in 2019. The school will review Literacy expectation agreements in 2020.

Assessment procedures and reporting

A parent information night is held in Term One and parent interviews at the end of Term One. Parent teacher interviews are available on request throughout the year. A formal report is made available in Term 2 and 4.

5. Sporting Activities

The school has an annual Sports Day consisting of tabloid and team events. Students are allocated to house teams.

Year 6/7 students access SAPSASA. Swimming in term one is for Receptions to Year 5 whilst the Year 6/7's undertake Aquatics at West Lakes. Our hall is used at various times for Physical Education or lunch time activities.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- Annual Special Visitors Day
- Breakfast Club on 3 Days Per Week
- Annual recognition of Harmony and Anti Bullying Days
- Festival of Music (choir)
- Snake Education

7. Staff and their welfare

Staff Profile (Please see section 2)

Staff members bring to EGPS a range of expertise and experience from a diversity of teaching experiences. There are a mix of contract and permanent staff. IESP funding and grants are used to employ ancillary staff. Staff are mutually supportive of each other. Specialist support services can be accessed through the Gawler Office.

Leadership Structure

There is a full time Principal and a Student Wellbeing Coordinator, 1.0 in 2019.

Performance Development

Staff are encouraged to further increase their skills and capacity through development and discussion and monitoring of their own performance plans and goals using Department policy and procedure as a basis. This considers their strengths, achievements, learning and training needs and goals especially in relation to improvement of student learning. The Principal is line manager for the classroom teaching staff and a majority of ancillary staff. The Wellbeing Coordinator is line manager for the specialist teachers and a small number of ancillary staff.

Staff are also encouraged to share practice formally and informally to collaboratively increase their development.

8. School Facilities**Building and Grounds**

Considerable work goes into the upkeep of our very large grounds. The current administration and library buildings were built in 1908 with temporary buildings added. All buildings are air conditioned (heating/cooling).

The school has completed a major capital works upgrade in 2016-2018, consisting of 4 new classrooms, studio, a new administration building, a new basketball court, landscaping and a resource centre. These were officially opened in 2019.

Specialist Facilities

- The school has a small multipurpose hall (gymnasium)
- Each teaching area has an interactive whiteboard. The school is working towards further developing ICT.
- There is a computer room with 30 work stations.
- The school has a 'studio' which is well suited to art, science and cooking classes. Our OSHC service provided by Happy Haven also uses this space.

Access

Most of the school has ramps to allow for disabled wheelchair access. The nearest dental clinic is at Evanston.

9. School Operations

Decision making structures

- Staff meetings are generally held on a Wednesday with a consensus approach. Staff have various areas of responsibility
- Leadership and administration staff met weekly in 2019.
- Staff committees include: Personnel Advisory Committee, Work Health & Safety, Wellbeing, IT and Social Club,
- SSOs also meet regularly as a group twice per term with leadership attendance.
- Governing Council meets twice a term. It has a very active fundraising group.

Regular Publications

Newsletters are sent home fortnightly and individual teachers also produce their own newsletters to inform parents about their activities and learning. The school has an enrolment pack for prospective parents. We also have an SMS system and use the skoolbag app.

School Financial Position

The school is in a sound financial position.

11. Local Community

General Characteristics

The school community comprises of a cross section of socio-economic backgrounds with over 55% of families being on school card. In the vicinity of Evanston Gardens is a Community Centre adjacent to the school, run by the Progress Association which houses various activities such as a free Playgroup on Friday. Karbeethan Sports field is close by on Angle Vale Road (this hosts a number of sports such as soccer hockey & softball soccer). Our families access both of these facilities. The nearest commercial centres are several kilometres from the school at Evanston with extensive commercial, sporting, medical and other facilities available in Gawler.

Parent and Community Involvement

Parents and extended family involvement in Sports Day, the End of Year Concert and Special Visitor (Grandparents) Day is high. We have a number of volunteers who work in classrooms, the Resource Centre and help on excursions. Governing Council meets twice a term with a very active Fundraising Committee.

Feeder and destination schools

The student population is transient with many students moving in and out of the local area. Students beginning school came mainly from Gawler Birth to Twelve Pre School and a variety of other Pre Schools and day care centres. Some students have not attended Pre School.

Students completing Year Seven progress to a range of DECD, Catholic and Independent Secondary Schools, Gawler District B-12 College being the most common destination.

Local Government

Evanston Gardens Primary is within the boundaries of the Corporation of the Town of Gawler. They provide an excellent range of local services including the library next door to the school in the Evanston Gardens Community Centre.