

# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated March 2021

**School number:** 0209

**School name:** Kingston-on-Murray Primary School

Kingston-on-Murray Primary School is a small rural school situated in the Riverland, in very close proximity to the River Murray. It is a school with a strong sense of community that was established in 1894 and caters for students in Reception to Year 7. In 2021 the school had an enrolment of 20 students, including 5 Junior Primary students - Reception to Year 3 and 15 Upper Primary students - Year 4 to Year 7. Kingston-on-Murray Primary School had a total of 8 staff including a full time Principal with a teaching component, one full time teacher, two part time teachers, an Administration/finance SSO2, a curriculum support SSO2, two curriculum support SSO1s, a Christian Pastoral Support Worker and a Grounds person. Kingston-on-Murray is a school that continually develops and maintains a sense of belonging and inclusion within the community and upholds its four values of Respect, Responsibility, Teamwork and Honesty. Kingston-on-Murray Primary School's point of difference is hosting Riverlinx Camps for other schools across the state where our students teach their students about our unique River Murray Environment. We combine with Banrock Station, Loch Luna Cruises, Riverland Canoe Hire and adult experts to assist us in our educational program.

## 1. General information

### Part A

School Name		: KINGSTON- ON-MURRAY PRIMARY SCHOOL				
School No.		: 0209		Courier :		
Principal		: Mrs Kara Voigt				
Postal Address		:C/- Post Office, Kingston-on-Murray 5331				
Location Address		:East Terrace, Kingston on Murray 5331				
District		: Riverland				
Distance from GPO		: 203 kms		Phone No. 08 8583 0239		
CPC attached		: No		Fax No. 08 8583 0341		
February FTE Enrolment		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Primary	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.					
	Reception	2	-	3	2	-
	Year 1	2	3	-	4	2
	Year 2	1	2	3	-	3
	Year 3	5	2	2	4	-
	Year 4	1	5	3	2	4
	Year 5	4	2	5	2	2
	Year 6	5	5	1	4	2
	Year 7	2	6	6	2	7
TOTAL		22	25	23	20	20
School Card Approvals (Persons)						
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment		1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0
NESB Total (Persons)						

## Part B

- Deputy Principal's name, if applicable  
N/A
- School e-mail address  
[dl.0209.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0209.info@schools.sa.edu.au)
- Staffing numbers  
8  
Playgroup – A playgroup operates each Tuesday morning
- Enrolment trends  
As a rural, community school, enrolments fluctuate but are generally around 20 students.
- Special arrangements  
We have shared opportunities with our small school cluster for sports, interaction days, swimming lessons at our pool and performances.
- Year of opening  
The original site was opened in 1894. The current site has been in operation since 1935. Major redevelopment and upgrading occurred in 1981 and in 2009/10. Further building was undertaken for upgrading and accommodating Environmental camps.
- Public transport access  
Public transport to and from Adelaide (once per day) with Premier Bus Company stopping at Kingston-on-Murray Store. There is also a Community bus travelling on a shuttle run each Thursday to each Riverland major town. Students catch a bus from the Primary School to Loxton High School for their Secondary Education.

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics  
The school promotes a family, caring atmosphere for children to develop academically, socially, safely and confidently. Students, parents/carers and teachers collaborate in the creation and revision of Individual Learning Plans to ensure students reach their potential. Small class sizes contribute to the success and well-being of students. We ensure that the special needs of students are resourced well through structured learning intervention programs.
- (Pastoral) care programs  
We have a Pastoral Support Worker to support the school community each Wednesday.

- Support offered  
Our School Services Officers support students through Early Literacy and Numeracy Intervention, and one on one support for students with Individual Education Plan and students requiring extra support. We use interagency support for other needs of the school community.
- Student management  
An effective Behaviour Education Policy, for all students, is in place, created with staff, student and Governing Council input. Child Protection Curriculum is taught at weekly lessons.
- Student governance  
An active and effective Student Representative Council (SRC) promotes student decision making and leadership within the school. SRC class meetings occur on a weekly basis. Year 6 and 7 students participate in a Leadership Camp. Older students can become student guides for the environmental camps that our school offers. Students have an opportunity to be involved in the Young Environmental Leaders Workshops throughout the year.
- Special programmes  
The whole school participates in the Premier's Reading Challenge and Be Active Challenge.  
We are a sustainable school with a strong environmental education focus. We have strong networks which enable us to run environmental education camps for other schools, which we call Riverlinx.

### **3. Key School Policies**

- Partnerships Plan or Statement of Purpose  
Kingston-on-Murray Primary School is a welcoming and supportive school for all members of the school community. We ensure that our students see relevance in what they are learning and become responsible for their own learning. We have a curriculum that is stimulating, exciting, challenging and meets the needs of individual students. We encourage co-operation with each other – student – staff – parents/carers – community members. We encourage each individual's values and ideas to be respected so that all are able to develop confidence and self esteem. Our school encourages and acknowledges meaningful community involvement. Our school community believes it is important that:
  - the school embeds our common values of teamwork, honesty, respect and responsibility
  - a safe and caring environment exists for all students
  - literacy and numeracy are priority areas across all subject areas

- building teacher capacity is important
- the learning needs for each child are catered for
- students have an understanding of their world in which they live – local – state - nation –world
- there is open and honest communication
- each student is developed to their full potential
- parent/carer participation occurs and involves active decision making

#### **Site Improvement Plan Priorities**

- **Retain current students in the higher bands, and increase the number of students achieving in the higher bands in Reading between years 3-7**
- **Increase the number of students who achieve in the higher bands in Numeracy in Year 3**
- **Retain current students in the higher bands, and increase the number of students achieving in the higher bands in Numeracy between years 3-7**
- The targets for these are described on our Site Improvement Plan and are reviewed regularly.

## **4. Curriculum**

- Subject offerings  
All required areas of study within the Australian Curriculum are offered.
- Open Access
  - Is not required as we have a Spanish Teacher onsite on Fridays
- Special needs  
All students with special needs have access to the Australian Curriculum study areas and tasks are differentiated as required
- Special curriculum features  
Environmental Education is a strong focus at this school with environmental teams and camps operating from the site.  
Our students participate in the Riverland Choir Festival, SA Sport, Music Alive Piano Lessons and the Instrumental Music Program.  
Our student test the River Murray water salinity and turbidity levels weekly on our WaterWatch Walk
- Teaching methodology  
We have a strong focus on goal setting within Individual Learning Plans that are created and continually updated between teachers, students

and parents/carers. - We strategically manage two classes with focused, small student numbers that enable teachers to provide high quality learning programs for all individual learners

- We pride ourselves on collaborative group work, leaning through exploration, cross age and peer teaching and learning and contextual learning. We have a focus on literacy and numeracy across all subject areas including Environmental Education

- Assessment procedures and reporting

Interviews occur in Term 1 and then as requested. Summative reports are sent home at the end of Terms 2 and 4. Kingston-on-Murray Primary School has a school wide Data Collection Policy which support our targeted teaching/ learning approach.

## **5. Sporting Activities**

- The school has a swimming pool on site that is used frequently in Terms 1 and 4. It is an integral part of our Health and Physical Education programme
- Annual Small Schools Sports Day with regional small schools
- Many SA Sport opportunities for students
- Students take part in aquatics activities as part of our camps
- We engage in visiting specialist coaching weekly in Term 1
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## **6. Other Co-Curricular Activities**

- We have annual school camps to different environments e.g beach, river, city, regional towns and we intentionally seek activities that require the students to step outside of their comfort zones
- We engage in The Arts with Patch Theatre and JAM Band excursions
- We host Kingston Cup Day, Grandparents Day,
- Environmental Education forms an important part of our curriculum
- We have created a large mosaic mural on site reflecting our environmental features
- Our Riverlinx camps are popular for other schools to visit

## **7. Staff (and their welfare)**

- Staff profile
  - 1 Principal/teacher 1.0 FTE; 1 teacher 1.0 FTE; 1 teacher .6 FTE, 1 Admin SSO, 3 classroom SSO; 1 PCW; 1 Groundsperson
- Leadership structure
  - Principal provides line management for all staff
- Staff support systems
  - Staff share the roles and duties
  - Quality training and development is sought and encouraged as well as opportunities for observation
  - Teaching is well resourced with materials
  - Staff meetings enhance good communication
  - Teacher curriculum planning days each term provide support and consistency for students and teachers
- Performance Development
  - Performance Development is a collaborative process of goal setting for improvement and capacity building to support the outcomes of the Site Improvement Plan and Teachers/School Services Officers interests for development.
  - We utilise the National Professional Standards for Teachers within our Performance and Development meetings.
  - Performance and Development meetings are held at least once a term
- Staff utilisation policies
  - Staff members are placed in relation to skills and interests
- Access to special staff
  - Our Riverland District Education Office, situated in Berri, refer support personnel
  - We have a strong network of environmental education workers
- Other
  - A collaboratively developed Psychological Health Plan is in place
  - WHS

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

- Housing assistance
  - Available in neighbouring towns
- Cooling for school buildings
  - All air conditioned
- Principal's telephone costs
  - Available to Principal for reimbursement of rental cost and cost of official calls.

## 9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds  
Attractive rural setting with stone, brick and weatherboard buildings that have recently been refurbished. Two classrooms, library, office area, teacher resource area, staff kitchen, asphalt tennis courts, swimming pool, oval, tortoise pond, bird garden, herb garden, recycling area, Playgroup room and new activity area (which can be used as a classroom) with kitchen, outdoor kitchen and bathroom facilities.
- Cooling  
Reverse cycle air conditioning in all buildings.
- Specialist facilities  
Swimming Pool, 5 stand alone and laptop computers 9enough for 1 per student), 3 Promethean boards, 1 Smart TV, Art room, Sporting equipment,
- Student facilities  
Fridges and microwaves for student lunches and as above  
Internet access  
Under cover eating areas  
Swimming pool (families have access after hours)  
Access to laptop computers, Promethean boards and I pads  
Hammocks, playground, mud kitchen, soccer and football goals
- Staff facilities  
Kitchen  
Staff Room  
Internet  
Offices for Principal and Admin SSO
- Access for students and staff with disabilities Access to buildings, SSO time
- Access to bus transport  
The school has a small bus that is used extensively for excursions  
Additional buses are available from close towns  
Bus to Loxton High School is directly from the Kingston-on-Murray Primary School

## 10. School Operations

- Decision making structures  
Staff Meeting  
Class Meeting  
SRC Meeting

- Governing Council
- PAC Meeting
- Environmental Teams
- Finance Meeting
- Regular publications
  - Newsletter 2 each term, Staff Information Handbook, Parent/Carer Information Handbook, notes home
- Other communication
  - Facebook
  - Website
  - Whiteboard in Front Office – Year/Term/ Week Overviews
  - Communication books, diaries
- School financial position
  - Sound financial position
- Special funding
  - Priority Maintenance Funding – upgrading staff/ student bathrooms
  - Loxton District Landcare Grant – Aquaponics/ Yabby/ Fish breeding

## 11. Local Community

- General characteristics
  - Some families are involved in fruit growing, wine-making, dryland farming, ecotourism and tourism. Others are involved in local business and a variety of occupations locally or nearby towns. Most families come from English speaking backgrounds.
- Parent/carer and community involvement
  - A strong core of parents/carers are heavily involved in the school. Community members are welcomed to many events.
- Feeder schools
  - Kingston-on-Murray Primary School is a feeder school for Loxton High School. Some students go to Glossop High School.
- Other local care and educational facilities
  - Preschools are in Barmera, Berri and Loxton. A Playgroup operates at Kingston-on-Murray Primary School each Tuesday morning.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  - Barmera is the closest shopping precinct (about 10 minutes drive).
- Other local facilities
  - Kingston-on-Murray provides recreational activities as it is situated on the River Murray



The town has wineries, a general store, houseboat hire, a hall and a caravan park. It is approximately 4 kilometres from Barrock Station. Barmera has a hospital, doctors, grocery shops, chemist, newsagent, library etc.

- Availability of staff housing  
Staff housing is available in Barmera, Berri, Loxton or Waikerie
- Accessibility  
Premier bus service operates between the Riverland and Adelaide daily
- Local Government body  
Kingston-on-Murray is in the Loxton Waikerie District Council

## **12. Further Comments**

- Kingston-on-Murray Primary School has a growing reputation for excellence in Environmental Education and Individualised Learning. As a rural, community school, students learn in a supportive, caring yet challenging environment.