

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 17/11/09

School number: 0288

School name: MOUNT BURR PRIMARY SCHOOL

1. General information

Part A

- **Principal** : Mrs Anne-Marie Fitzgerald
- **Postal Address** : Thomas Drive, MOUNT BURR SA 5279
- **Phone** : 08 87348387 **Fax** : 08 87348147 **Mobile** : 0407 348387
- **School Motto** : Learning for Life – Aiming for Excellence
- **District** : Limestone Coast
- **Child Parent Centre** : Yes
- **Enrolment numbers** :

Preschool	: 8
Reception	: 7
One	: 3
Two	: 7
Three	: 4
Four	: 6
Five	: 5
Six	: 5
Seven	: 4
TOTAL	: 49
School Card	: 23
NESB	: 1
Aboriginal	: 1

Part B

- **School e-mail address**
dl.0288.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Staffing numbers**
4.4 (R-7)
- **OSHC**
No
- **Enrolment trends**
Should remain stable
- **Year of opening**
1972
- **Public transport access**
No

2. Students (and their welfare)

- *General characteristics*
Mount Burr Primary School is a small country school located in the timber town of Mount Burr in the South-East of South Australia. Employment is restricted to the surrounding districts, i.e. Timber mill, Kimberley Clark (paper manufacturer), local businesses in Millicent or the surrounding farms. Family situation cover a wide range of the economic and social spectrum. Students may experience a number of significant changes in their family situation throughout their school years.
- *Student management*
All school staff are familiar with the student well being and anti-bullying policy of the school. Staff and students are familiar with the Randall Clinch “Attitude by Choice” program. The school discipline policy encourages logical consequences and restorative justice.
- *Student government*
School leaders as well as a leadership group are elected at the beginning of each year and student voice is actively encouraged.
- *Special programmes*
SSO time supports student learning

3. Key School Policies

Learning for Life-Aiming for Excellence

Learning to Be

Learning to have an understanding of who you are and your potential.

We will work as a school community to develop respectful, persistent, resourceful, students who have integrity and a sense of humour.

Learning to Live Together

Learning to belong and effectively contribute within a community.

We will work as a school community to develop tolerant, resilient students who have empathy and are able to resolve conflict appropriately.

Learning to Know

Learning to discover knowledge for use in future experiences.

We will work as a school community to develop multi-literate students who engage, inquire and question to develop high academic skills.

Learning to Do

Learning to research, consider, apply and reflect upon knowledge.

We will work as a school community to develop students with skills for future learning.

4. Curriculum

- *Subject offerings*

Mount Burr Primary School endeavours to offer a balanced curriculum in the eight areas of study. It has not been possible to offer LOTE as a separate subject in

recent years. Our current staff, offer strong bases in Maths, English, Physical Education & Health, Science & Technology including ICT and The Arts.

- *Special curriculum features*

Mount Burr Primary is a lead school in STEM. Italian is taught across the school. An instrumental music program is offered. Shared sessions occur between the Preschool and R/1 class, facilitating a smooth transition between pre-school and school.

- *Teaching methodology*

Mount Burr Primary School is an open space construction with multi year levels in all classes. Teachers use a variety of teaching strategies from explicit teaching to open ended problem solving depending on the learning styles.

- *Assessment procedures and reporting*

The assessment programme involves formal testing including NAPLAN tests in years 3,5, and 7 and anecdotal evidence. Individual goal setting meetings are held throughout the year with written reports in Terms 2 and 4.

- *Joint programmes*

Students participate in the Pines Sports Day, a combined school sports day with four other local small schools.

5. Sporting Activities

- Students are involved in a daily fitness/health programme. The school has its own athletics sports day in Term 1 followed by the inter-school sports day. Students have been selected for SAPSASA in football, netball, cricket, soccer and tennis with a number of students participating in cross country and the annual Millicent football/netball gala day. The upper primary class attends an Aquatics Camp every third year

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- *General*

The students perform in an end-of-year concert and share their learning at our assemblies, which are held twice a term.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- *Staff profile*

Staff is stable, with a variety of experiences.

8. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
The Mount Burr Primary School is an open space construction which has undergone extensive renovation over the last few years. Interior glass walls have been installed, the wet areas have been upgraded to include a kitchen, a computer replacement program has been established, new playgrounds and outdoor shelter areas have been erected. A great deal of consideration has been given to the appearance of the school so that it blends in with the local environment, resulting in attractive buildings and well-cared for grounds. The Preschool is self contained.
- Cooling
:Reverse cycle air conditioning and heating has been installed.
- Student facilities
A kitchen is available for student cooking etc.
The school has purchased a class set of laptops and iPads
- Staff facilities
:The staffroom has teacher work and relaxation areas.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities
Access is available
Access to bus transport
A bus provides transport for country students.
All other children live in the township within walking distance of the school.
Buses need to be hired for any school excursions.

9. School Operations

- *Decision making structures*
:A collaborative and consultative decision making structure has been developed and plays a significant role in budgeting and accessing school/community opinions about school programmes. Staff meet regularly for staff meetings and Governing Council meets twice a term.
- *Regular publications*
Fortnightly newsletters are distributed to parents. Parent Information folders are available for all new families. The day book is an ongoing source of information. Individual teachers develop their own written form of communication with their students' families.
- *Other communication*
Articles and photographs are published in the South Eastern Times and assemblies are well attended by parents and friends.
- *School financial position*
The school is financially sound.

10. Local Community

- *General characteristics*
Families in the area are employed either at local timber mills in the area, Kimberley Clark in Millicent, businesses in Millicent or on outlying farms. The English language is predominant.
- *Parent and community involvement*
There is a strong parent involvement in the school. Parents regard the school as the centre of the local community and there are a number of parents in the school on a regular basis. Parents are keen to provide quality facilities and attend school functions to support their children, assemblies are well patronised, likewise sports days and a school and classroom activities.
- *Feeder schools*
Students from the school generally attend Millicent High School.
- *Other local care and educational facilities*
A bus provides transport to the local Millicent High School. Millicent is 12 kms from Mount Burr and provides all the usual facilities. The preschool operates over a 5 day fortnight.
- *Availability of staff housing*
The nearest staff housing is available in Millicent – 12 kilometres from the Mount Burr Primary School township