



# Parafield Gardens High School

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**Quality Learning Quality Futures**

## SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: March 2022

School number: 1137

School name: PARAFIELD GARDENS HIGH SCHOOL

### 1. General information

#### Part A

School name	:	PARAFIELD GARDENS HIGH SCHOOL			
School No.	:	1137	Courier	:	SALISBURY
Principal	:	Ms Kirsty Amos			
Postal Address:	:	15 Shepherdson Road, PARAFIELD GARDENS SA 5107			
Location Address	:	15 Shepherdson Road, PARAFIELD GARDENS SA 5107			
District	:	Salisbury			
Distance from GPO	:	16 Kms			
Phone No.	:	(08) 8258 9855			
CPC attached	:	NO			
Fax No.	:	(08) 8281 5853			



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

## February FTE Enrolment

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Year 7	NA	NA	NA	NA	193
Year 8	196	156	204	195	212
Year 9	170	194	178	190	196
Year 10	170	179	217	209	190
Year 11	191	182	194	217	189
Year 12	176	188	158	223	153
Year 13	3	3	3	0	0
FLO	61	59	71	72	86
Total	906	902	954	1034	1219
School Card Percentage	39%	40%	40%	30%	29%
NESB Enrolment	300	333	342	335	419
Aboriginal Enrolment	51	42	50	65	93

### Part B

- Deputy Principal: Karla Pobke
- Staffing numbers
  - 86.5 FTE teaching staff including Special Ed: 333 hours and 4.0 teacher, Aboriginal Education Teachers 0.9
  - SSO hours: 867 hours, EALD Bi lingual 14 hours, ACEO 55 hours
- OSHC: NA
- H&S: Elected committee meets regularly. The site produces an Annual Report published to the web site and is audited financially on an annual basis.

### *Enrolment trends*

Trends are showing that enrolments are increasing slightly, both from local schools and the New Arrivals Program.

*Year of opening:* 1976

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

### *General characteristics*

The student population represents a diverse range of cultural groups from more than 40 Nations. The school community is a category 3 school meaning that about 40% of the school community is on school card and generally low socio economic background. A large number of students are involved in part-time work and some provide care outside of school hours. There is relative gender balance across all year levels.

### *Learning Communities*

Four Learning Communities are established vertically across 7-11 to provide targeted support for students within each learning community. Each learning community has a learning community manager and a range of support staff that can work individually with students on a range of issues. This is supported by the home group program that is year level based within learning community groups. The home group program allows supports students to establish short and long term learning



goals, learn how to learn, learn how to keep safe, and supports student's wellbeing. There are 2 periods a week allocated to the Home Group curriculum. In year 7 and 8 all home group teachers also teach the same class for 2 core subjects (Eng/HASS or Maths/Science). In year 9 all home group classes are kept the same for core subjects.

### ***Support offered***

The school offers extensive student support services, this includes:

- Student Counsellors
- Onsite Speech Pathologist
- 4 site-based Youth Workers aligned to each learning community
- Middle school and Senior School on site intervention/enrichment programs including Alternative Learning Class, Year 7 and 8 Literacy intervention classes, Sounds Write program and other literacy/numeracy learning interventions and/or social/emotional intervention programs
- Intercultural Hub with BSSO
- EALD teachers
- Aboriginal Education Centre with AET and ACEO
- Inclusive Education Program with Special Needs provision within mainstream and special class
- FLO Manager
- Breakfast program every morning
- Learning Hub - after school Monday-Thursday.

### ***Student Management***

There is a Positive Approaches to Learning Agreement that is used throughout the school, with clear restorative processes to be followed for inappropriate behaviour. The procedures are documented and form part of the teacher induction program. Senior Leaders, Learning Community Managers, Area of Learning Co-ordinators and Administration Team support classroom staff with preventative and post incident student improvement.

### ***Student government***

A Student Representative Council (SRC) is highly valued and its membership is drawn from a representation from each year level. The SRC also operates a variety of student interest groups.

### ***Special programmes***

SRC, Vista Sports, Guest Speakers, Rock & Water, Middle School PLUS class, Learning Hub, Performing Arts Night, Creative Arts Night, Knock Out Sport, Carly Ryan foundation, Sammy D Foundation, Encounter Youth, University Enrichment Programs, Berry Street Education Model, Peer Mentoring, Social/Emotional Intervention Programs.

## **Contextual Influences**

### **Our school's MORAL PURPOSE**

PGHS functions as a partnership between students, staff, parents and the community. Our vision is that all of our students develop the skills and dispositions that enable them to design, plan and lead for the futures that they want. We value 'Quality Learning' leading to 'Quality Futures'

We encourage every student to establish goals and live the values of the school RESPECT, ACHIEVEMENT & DETERMINATION, in a supportive, inclusive and caring school community. We have high expectations of our students to take responsibility for their learning, to continuously improve and seek high achievement, and also to contribute to the learning of others and the improvement of the school.



Parafield Gardens High School is situated in the Northern Adelaide metropolitan region. Students come to this school from a wide geographic area. The student population includes students from diverse cultural groups with an increasing number of international students.

The school has an enrolment of approximately 1200 in 2022 and offers a broad and balanced curriculum aligned to Australian Curriculum and SACE with an extensive range of university, TAFE and employment pathways. Students can select from high level Maths, Science, Arts, Humanities and more than 30 different Certificate 1-3 VET programs.

With a steady enrolment of Non English Speaking Background (NESB) students, the school has a well-established and successful EAL/D program from Years 7 to 12 and offers an Intensive Secondary English Course (ISEC) to support International students' acquisition of the English language. In addition, the school has designed an Intercultural Hub, where students are supported by bilingual staff and the Assistant Principal International, to enhance and develop communication with families and school community, in fact we run parent groups with Bilingual Community Liaison Officers to ensure the sharing of information and support. Our focus on growing global citizens, stems from our International Program but involves all students and all aspects of curriculum.

The school's Inclusive Education Faculty is highly regarded in the community, offering specialist teaching and learning to students with varying levels of disability, or in need of shorter term support. A mixture of teachers, developmental educators, counsellors and youth workers are supported by psychologists, speech pathologists and occupational therapists to deliver individualised learning programs.

PGHS is one of 11 State Secondary Schools in the Northern Adelaide area which have formed an alliance (NASSSA) to enable leadership development, curriculum improvement and access for students to a wider SACE curriculum. Students can access Certificate courses across each of the 11 sites.

PGHS have experienced and skilled staff who are actively involved in continual professional learning. Every staff member undertakes ongoing professional learning to improve their practice. Staff are supported with their personal growth and development in line with school priorities through their Professional Development Plan. The school's learning spaces and Google Classroom based 24/7 learning platform, support innovative and collaborative teaching and learning. Parafield Gardens High School has a strong commitment to Workplace Health & Safety (WH&S) to ensure the safety of students and staff.

### **Site Improvement Plan: High Expectations, High Achievement**

At Parafield Gardens High School we emphasise the importance of every child making one year's growth for one year's learning and to strive for high achievement. Student progress and achievement is individually monitored and progress is reported regularly to parents through DayMap.

The key site improvement strategies at PGHS are

- Improve student reading achievement through the use of before, during and after reading strategies
- Improve student understanding of number (numeracy)

The site improvement goals and actions are the responsibility of all members of staff.

(For more information please refer to the school's Site Improvement Plan available on the school website)

The Grade Point Average (GPA), NAPLAN and PAT testing, attendance and wellbeing monitoring, are used to benchmark progress and celebrate achievement. The benchmarks permit the students, their families and the school to monitor improvement and standards. These are reported to parents in school student reports. School data is reported to the Governing Council and contributes to our Annual Report. The school's improvement work and achievement of agreed standards, is reviewed regularly by the Department.

### 3. Curriculum

#### *The Middle Years: Quality Learning*

Subject offerings in the middle school include: Maths, Science, English, EALD, Humanities, Technologies (Design, Digital and Food), Health and Physical Education, Languages Other Than English (LOTE), and The Arts (Dance, Drama, Visual and Music). The LOTE choices are Japanese and German. All learning in the Middle Years aligns to the Australian Curriculum

#### *The Senior Years: Quality Futures*

The senior school includes years 10-12. Students are offered a comprehensive choice of pathways accredited through the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE). Programs within these pathways develop skills, knowledge and capabilities to engage with high level university courses, Vocational Certificates, direct employment and other post school options.

Additional LOTE subjects are available through the School of Languages for students who wish to study languages not offered at PGHS. Vietnamese and Nepali are offered on site after school and two Ethnic Language schools operate on site on Saturdays offering Chin Languages (Zomi and Haka)

#### *Assessment procedures and reporting*

PGHS meets Departmental requirements for assessing student work and reporting to families. We use a combination of; a web based access to learning program through DayMap, end of semester reports and learning conversations. Students in Years 11 and 12 are in Stage 1 and 2 of the South Australian Certificate of Education. Students receive feedback on their work regularly, and formative assessment guides student learning. Evidence of work over the year is used to provide students with an end of year grade in all areas of the Australian Curriculum.

### 4. Sporting Activities

Students compete in SASSSA athletics, cross-country and some knockout competitions. School teams compete in the Vista Zone weekly competitions and lightning carnivals in a wide variety of sports, for both senior and junior students

### 5. Other Co-Curricular Activities

Parafield Gardens High School supports innovative programs and projects, such as:

- Maths Olympics
- Performing Arts Nights
- Sammy D Foundation – student mentoring program
- Learning Hub
- SRC leadership and associated clubs
- Performing Arts/ Creative Arts evenings
- Encounter Youth
- Special Multicultural celebrations in conjunction with primary schools and the local Council.
- Camps



- University Enrichment Programs
- Breakfast Club

## 6. Staff

The staff demonstrates a high level of commitment to continuous improvement and meeting the needs of students. They meet regularly for whole school professional learning, and work in Learning Teams for each year level across the school.

### *Leadership structure*

Principal  
 Band B-5 Deputy Principal  
 Business Manager  
 Band B-3 - Wellbeing  
 Band B-3 - Daily Organisation and Timetable  
 Band B-3 - SACE & VET  
 Band B-3 - International Education, EALD, Languages  
 Band B-3 - Inclusive Education  
 Band B-3 - ICT Systems and Processes/Digital Tech  
 Band B-3 – Middle School  
 Band B-2 – HASS/RP/PLP  
 Band B-2 – English and whole school literacy  
 Band B-1 - Science Coordinator  
 Band B-1 - Maths Coordinator  
 Band B-1 - Arts Coordinator  
 Band B-1 - Technology Coordinator  
 Band B-1 - HPE Coordinator  
 Band B-1 - Learning Community Manager x 5  
 Band B-1 – Alternative Learning and VET  
 Band B-1 – SAASTA and AbEd

### *Staff support systems*

Each area of study is supported by a Co-ordinator and Learning Community Managers support Home Group teachers. The leadership team support staff in relation to professional and personal issues. All staff work as members of teams and the level of collegiate support is acknowledged. There is an ongoing, structured induction programme for staff new to the school, including contract and TRT staff.

### *Staff utilisation policies*

The Human Resource Management Policy and PAC guideline defines all staffing allocations within the Enterprise Bargaining agreement and through Departmental and local agreements.

### *Access to special staff*

Instrumental teachers are available along with BSSO's, SSO's, and counsellors, psychologists, speech pathologist, occupational therapists & developmental educators who support Inclusive Education and regional Guidance and Behaviour Support services.

## 7. School Facilities

### *Buildings and grounds*

The school has a beautiful environment. The buildings and grounds are well maintained. Garden areas are planted with low shrubs and mulch contained with railway sleepers. Funding has allowed us to



extensively improve the school environment including additions such as pergolas, shaded areas and seating throughout the school grounds.

The school has a brand new Performing Arts Centre and Gymnasium. In addition most classroom areas have been upgraded in the last 3 years. Learning areas provide the latest in design and ICT to support high quality learning. The school has extensive ovals and shady areas.

### **Cooling**

All buildings are centrally cooled and heated.

### **Specialist facilities**

All year students are issued with a Chromebook for school and home use at no cost. In addition the school has dedicated ICT and digital media rooms. Several faculties have a group of computers for their specific subject use. The school has very fast Wi-Fi. There are large areas for the Visual and Performing Arts, including a new dance floor and lighting, a newly refurbished drama suite, Home Economics, a well-equipped Technology suite and a Gymnasium with training room.

### **Student facilities**

Outdoor settings are placed throughout the grounds for student use and sporting activities are held during lunch times in the gymnasium.

### **Access to buildings and other facilities**

A lift has been installed to facilitate access to upper floors. Ramps are provided to most buildings. There are electronic access doors to the library and front reception. There are 2 disabled toilets.

### **Staff facilities**

Staff preparation areas and offices for all staff with access to technology are located in each curriculum area of the school and the Administration area. There is a large central staff room. Staff have e-mail access and all office areas have access to EDSAS via networking. All staff are provided with a school laptop.

### **Access to bus transport**

There is very good access to buses and trains.

## **8. School Operations**

### **Decision making structures**

The school operates with faculty meetings, learning community meetings, committees and whole staff meetings. Leaders meet every Thursday after school with a focus on school improvement, data informed practice, school management and curriculum/wellbeing foci. Ad-hoc teams form to progress special topics. All teams research, consult and make recommendations to the appropriate forum for ratification. Staff meeting is the forum for whole school policy decisions. The School Governing Council is consulted on major issues and approves the site plans and budget.

### **Regular publications**

The school publishes a newsletter regularly throughout the year. School policies and procedures are available electronically through the school website.

### **Other communication**

Memos and whiteboard messages along with the electronic school bulletin, DayMap and emails are used regularly to facilitate communication with staff.

Staff meetings are held every Monday afternoon.

Parents are contacted regularly via teacher phone calls, SMS, DayMap, the school website, social media and letters sent home.

### **School's financial position**

The annual budget is prepared by the Finance Committee and approved by the Governing Council. The school is audited each year. There is an alignment between resource allocation and the strategic directions of the school.





## 9. Local Community

### *General characteristics*

A wide range of cultures and incomes make up this community which has an ICSEA of 937.

### *Parent and community involvement*

Governing Council is the major parent/community body. There is parent representation on the Finance committee. The parents and community are regularly surveyed for opinion and feedback. There are several informal and formal meeting times with parents throughout the year. Parents interact through our ICT platforms and emails to staff.

### *Partner primary schools*

Parafield Gardens R-7, Mawson Lakes School, Karrendi Primary School, The Pines Primary School, Riverdale Primary School and Settlers Farm R-7 School.

### *Other local care and educational facilities*

University of South Australia (Mawson Lakes), Further Education College (TAFE) and Northern Adelaide Secondary College.

### *Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities*

Salisbury and Mawson Lakes shopping centres, Parafield Airport, extensive light industrial and manufacturing businesses.

### *Other local facilities*

Nearby Community Club is used for many local events; Helping Hand provides local aged care; numerous sporting clubs, numerous churches, Parafield Community Centre and Salisbury Community Centre

### *Local Government body*

Salisbury District Council. Telephone: 8406-8222

Students and staff work with the Council on projects, celebrations and community projects.

