



# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated:

**School number:** 0324

**School name:** OODNADATTA ABORIGINAL SCHOOL

## General information

School Principal name: John Hamlyn

Postal Address: Kutaya Terrace

Location Address: Oodnadatta 5734

DECD Region: Far North

Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 1200km

Telephone number: 8670 7823

School website address:

School e-mail address: [dl0324@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl0324@schools.sa.edu.au)

February FTE student enrolment:

*[Include student enrolment data for last 5 years, including School Card percentage, Non-English Speaking Background enrolment and Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) student enrolment].*

- Student enrolment trends: Enrolment tends to vary throughout the school year but current enrolments should remain stable over the next few years.
- Staffing numbers (as at February census):

Student Learning Coordinator	1		
Teaching	3		
SSO's	SSO 2	37.5hrs	1
	SSO 1	37.5hrs	1
	SSO 1	35.0 hrs	1
AEWs			1
Groundsperson GSE			1

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics
  - : Most students at Oodnadatta are Aboriginal and speak either Pitjantatjara or Yankuntjatjara as their first language. Some students are from other Aboriginal language groups and speak Aboriginal English. For many students English is only spoken in the school setting. A small number of non Indigenous students are also enrolled at the school.
- Student well-being programs
  - : All students live in the township of Oodnadatta • Student range from preschool to year 12. • There are 11 children currently enrolled in the Preschool. • Current class structure is: Preschool, Junior Primary, Primary and Secondary classes.
- Student support offered
  - : The School receives support for students with disabilities/learning difficulties. Given the relatively small class sizes this support is delivered through a focus on individual progression. This individual focus for all students is supported by SSO's.
- Student management
  - : Behaviour management is consistent across the school with explicit, negotiated expectations based on the foundations of high expectations, recognition and respect. • The school community continually reflects on issues impacting on student behaviour and ways of addressing these.

- Special programmes  
:The pool lifeguards provide opportunities for all students to access swimming lessons in Term 1 and Term 4 through PE lessons. The pool is also open for the community to access after school and on weekends. A swimming carnival is planned each year during term 1.

### 3. Key School Policies

- Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:  
:

- Recent key outcomes:

*[Recent achievements in relation to key outcomes, for example from the school's Annual Report].*

### 4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings: School subjects offerings are across all curriculum areas of the Australian Curriculum.
- Yankuntjatjara is the LOTE taught in the school and supported in classes by AEW's.
- Senior Secondary curriculum is structures to meet the needs of students attending with a focus on SACE competion.
- Curriculum initiatives have included training and development in and impentation of the Australian Curriculum framework and the EALD scales, EALD methodology, Assessment and Recoding and Reporting.
- Special needs:  
*The majority of students enrolled at Oodnadatta Aboriginal School are EALD learners. EALD methodologies underpin all curriculum areas*
- Special curriculum features:  
*NIT teacher provides an engaging program across the 5 areas of Art from Reception – year 12.*
- Teaching methodology:  
*All classroom practices are underpinned by EALD methodology and the TfEL framework.*  
*Each teacher works in a team with an Aboriginal Education Worker*
- Student assessment procedures and reporting  
*The school reports against the Australian Curriculum Acheivement Standards and against SACE.*

- Joint programmes:  
*There are a range of programs offered to students in Oodnadatta. School students have access to:*  
SANFL  
Bikes Palya

## 5. Sporting Activities

- :Within the community there is football and cricket games held annually against the surrounding stations.

## 6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- *Oodnadatta has a “No school, no pool” policy during terms 1 and 4. Swimming programmes are run during this time and students can access the pool during PE lessons and after school as well.*

## 7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile  
:Staff turnover is relatively high with an average stay of between 1-2 years. Staff tend to be new graduates, but currently there is a balance of experience and age across the school.
- Leadership structure  
:Principal and Teaching and Learning Coordinator.
- Staff support systems  
*[For example, available cooperative work groups/teams, roles of AST1s and coordinators, or professional development and training opportunities provided to staff].*

- Performance Management
- *Performance management is carried through regular programmed meetings between teachers and the Principal. Staff are encouraged to reflect on and improve personal professional practice.*
- Access to special staff
- *The Regional Office provides specialist support staff in speech pathology, hearing impairment, guidance and student behaviour management.*
- 

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

*[If you require assistance to complete this section contact your site Human Resource Consultant]*

- Complexity placement points  
:1
- Isolation placement points  
:7
- Shorter terms  
:Term commences and ends 2 days earlier
- Travelling time  
:4 days per term
- Housing assistance  
: Rent is subsidised by 50%. All houses are furnished. There is no charge for power and water.
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance  
: All removal arrangements must be made or approved by the Removals Officer. The Department will not reimburse expenses to teachers who undertake their own removal
- Additional increment allowance  
:Country Incentive Allowance
- Designated schools benefits  
:Special Class Allowance
- Medical and dental treatment expenses  
: Travel cost is reimbursed if referred for specialist consultation. Access to free prescriptions and primary health care.
- Locality allowances  
:Classified as zone 5
- Relocation assistance  
:Yes

## 9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
- *The school comprises: One main building that accommodates the administration area, JET Creche, CPC, Library, Staffroom, Toilets, and 2 classrooms plus various store rooms. One detached portable classroom which is used by the Secondary classroom. o Tech Studies Shed. o Gymnasium / hall o Grounds Shed. o Swimming Pool. o Grassed oval area. o Paved quadrangle area / basketball court. o Playground equipment area with shade. o Heating and cooling*
- Heating and cooling  
:Yes
- Specialist facilities and equipment
- *Tech shed • swimming pool • school hall • outdoor (undercover playground)*
- Student facilities  
*The school has a large swimming pool and a flood lit basketball court for night games. It has a large grassed oval*
- Staff facilities  
*General staff room and a teacher preparation room.*
- Access for students and staff with disabilities  
:Yes the school has all buildings with ramp access
- Access to bus transport  
*[For student excursions, including school bus, community bus, or DECD or contractors buses].*
- Other  
: The school has a 21 seater bus and a four wheel drive vehicle

## 10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
- *Weekly staff meetings with all the school staff. The PAC and the governing council meet regularly. Furthermore as a small school within a small community, decisions made are widely consulted with community members.*
- School financial position  
:The school is in a sound financial position
- Special funding  
*[For example, funding received for Country Areas Program, Disability Support Program etc].*

## 11. Local Community

- General characteristics
- *Oodnadatta is located 1118 kilometres north from Adelaide and is primarily an Aboriginal Community. The population of Oodnadatta is approximately 100, although the transient population causes this to vary from time to time. Most members of the community are employed under the Commonwealth Government's Community Development Employment Programme (CDEP). The programme is administered by complete personnell. Other sources of employment comprise: The school, hospital, police, hotel, Roadhouse, the store, and nearby cattle stations.*
- Parent and community involvement
  - : The community at large is encouraged to participate in all aspects of school life, both formally through instrumentalities such as the governing council and informally
- Feeder or destination schools
  - [ie. schools that children generally transfer to, or schools (or kindergartens if applicable) that children generally transfer from].*
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  - : The famous Pink Roadhouse and transcontinental hotel
- Other local facilities
  - Oodnadatta has a hospital/clinic. Formal sporting activities are minimal.*
- Availability of staff housing
- *5 three bedroom houses and 2 two bedroom houses are available*
- Accessibility
  - Oodnadatta is located 200km from Coober Pedy, which offers more in shopping and entertainment options. The roads to Coober Pedy, William Creek and Marla are regularly graded dirt tracks and are generally quite good. A flight to Adelaide is obtainable from Coober Pedy six days per week. Alice Springs is located approximately 6hrs away.*
- Local Government body
  - : There are two local governing bodies:
    - Dunjiba Community Council
    - Oodnadatta Progress Association.

## 12. Further Comments

- *Oodnadatta is a small, safe community situated on the edge of the Simpson Desert, and suffering the extremes of temperature often associated with desert living. Socially, the town displays little in the way of anti-social behaviour or crime, and the size of the community and its expectations of children provide a unique environment where children are free to explore and play across the town. The community supports new people into town.*

*Oodnadatta boasts a long and interesting history. Long time community members are willing to share their knowledge and history if asked. Apart from CDEP income, the town is largely economically dependent on Cattle stations and Tourism. Tourists regularly drive the Oodnadatta track and stop in Oodnadatta on their way through. Cattle stations make up the other local industry, with the town being surrounded by cattle stations, and many local community members finding work in this area. In addition, more and more income is being derived from mining in this region with the recent development of the Prominent Hill mine south of Coober Pedy, and the proposed expansion of Olympic Dam.*