SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

School number: 0570

School name: Prospect North Primary School

School Profile: Prospect North Primary School, formerly known as Blair Athol Primary School, has a proud 75-year history.

It is located in the inner northern metropolitan suburb of Prospect, just 6 kilometres from the Adelaide GPO.

Our newly-redeveloped school, including a resource centre, computer suite, activity hall, gymnasium with purpose build Out of School Hours Care facilities and general learning areas, provides students with a great place to learn.

Our motto 'Together We Achieve' highlights our focus on building positive relationships and a strong sense of belonging among our students who come from many different cultures and backgrounds. Our teaching of values builds a community of learners who are responsible, collaborative, fair, confident, persistent and enterprising. Our focus is on developing literacy and numeracy proficiency while information and communication technology skills are taught across the curriculum. Students learn personal and social responsibility by engaging in our 'Environmental Education' and 'Eat Well/Be Active' programs.

Class programs, along with specialist programs in physical education and performing arts offer students engaging opportunities for learning across the curriculum.

At Prospect North Primary we work together as a school community, staff, students and parents in a supportive, success oriented and challenging environment to maximise opportunities and achievement for all.

Prospect North Primary School serves a multicultural community and has high expectations of their students, both academically and socially. Our diversity is both a strength and a challenge.

Our focus is on students and as a consequence staff are engaged in professional learning which provokes reflection on their practice to further differentiate learning and allow students to take greater responsibility for their own learning.
1. General information

- School Principal name: Julie Hopkinson
- Deputy Principal’s name, if applicable: 
- Year of opening: 1934
- Postal Address: 30 Stuart Road, Prospect 5082
- Location Address: 30 Stuart Road, Prospect
- DECD Region: Eastern Adelaide
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 6km
- Telephone number: 08 83444604
- Fax Number: 08 83443697
- School website address: www.prospectnorth.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: dl.0570-info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: No
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: Yes
- February FTE student enrolment:

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Student enrolment trends:

Prospect North Primary School has continued to grow. In 2013 six of our 11 classes are junior primary classes.

Staffing numbers (as at February census):

- Principal 1.0
- Learning Support Coordinator 1.0
- Counsellor 1.0
- (.2 Aboriginal Education Teacher)
  - ACEO 7 hrs
  - AEW 11 hrs
- Eleven classroom teachers 11.0
- Two Specialist Teachers 2.0
- Finance/Administration Officer 37.5 hrs
- Reception administration Officer 37.5 hrs
- Curriculum School Services Officers 137 hours
- Environmental Program and Support 33
- Grounds person 10 hrs per week

Public transport access:
Circle Line Bus Route, Serco on Main North Road, Stop 16 and Prospect Road Stop 16 are all in close proximity to the school.

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics

Students come from a diverse range of cultural backgrounds, with many children coming to Australia from many parts of the world. (45%) While previously not one group was dominant, at present we have a large number of students from India. The school has approximately 20 Aboriginal students. The high level of complexity and diversity among the school population is considered a strength of the school. The challenge is to develop relevant, explicit and challenging teaching programs and practices that support a diverse range of learning needs and abilities.

Student well-being programs

The school has a commitment to our school values and these are promoted along with the Play is the Way program and other social learning programs to develop students’ confidence, persistence, organisation and ability to get along with others. The School Counsellor works proactively with staff, students and parents.

Student management

The school has a well-established policy and practice which is explicit about expectations for students and related consequences. A Home School Agreement between students and class teachers is sent home at the beginning of the year. Senior staff, teachers and the school counsellor work proactively with students and parents to address issues that may be affecting a student’s behaviour or learning, and to encourage student responsibility. The school’s Be Fair Rules reinforce our value of fairness. Other values such as collaboration, responsibility, persistence, confidence and enterprise are acknowledged when demonstrated by students by
presentation of merit awards in assembly which are then published in the newsletter. Restorative Justice practices are used to address behaviour problems and to solve disputes.

Student government
Students Yr 3-7 are able to apply for Student Action Teams in ICT, the Environment, Fundraising, Library, Reporting, Eat Well Be Active etc and support the running of school programs etc.

Special programmes
Special programs run by the school are Early Bird Reading, Speech Support Program, Multi-Lit, Composting, Recycling and Gardening as a part of Environmental Education program, Specialist Physical Education and Performing Arts programs, Eat Well Be Active Program and Buddy Classes.

3. Key School Policies

Key statement
At PNPS we believe that a highly productive teaching and learning environment is a complex and balanced fusion of positive relationships, engaging and relevant curriculum and intentional pedagogy that supports and challenges the learner.

To further our ongoing commitment to develop successful global citizens, in partnership with the whole school community, we strive to embrace best practice based on current research.

We are committed to developing
• Positive, collaborative relationships with and between staff, students, parents, regional personnel and agencies that are focussed on the learner.
• Safe and engaging learning environments where the learners are supported and challenged by allowing opportunities to question, make mistakes and construct their own meaning individually and collectively.
• Lifelong learners who know about themselves as learners and have deep learning and understanding, knowledge and skills and are able to apply their learning to problem solving and real life situations.

Site Improvement Plan Priorities

1. All children in Reception, Yr 1 and 2 achieve the agreed Regional Instructional Reading Level targets with 94% accuracy in comprehension and Running Records are established for students Yr.4-7 reading beyond Level 30.

2. Site collects and analyses pedagogical data through reflective, peer and learner feedback processes to inform whole site next steps in quality teaching and learning and site improvement planning.

3. Pedagogy developed to deepen mathematical understanding.

4. Familiarisation with Australian Curriculum with a focus on General Capabilities.

Recent key outcomes:

1. Teachers use formative assessment and diagnostic tools to make accurate judgements about students and organise more targeted intervention in class.
2. Parents have a clear understanding of expectations and how they can support their child at home.

3. Improved student achievement as evidenced by class data and NAPLAN results.

4. Improved pedagogy in class as teachers have trialled and implemented a number of strategies introduced through professional development.

5. Whole of site agreements, consistency of practice and documentation to support learning initiatives.

4. Curriculum

Special needs
Our Learning Support Co-ordinator works collaboratively with class teachers and regional support staff and families and students to implement individualised and targeted intervention and support programs for students with learning difficulties and disabilities.
SSO’s have expertise in support programs including Speech, Multi-Lit, Reading Doctor and other software programs.
Structures are in place to identify and support students from NESB including regular assessment of their writing and appropriate interventions are formulated with class teachers. Individual learning plans for writing are established and progress reviewed.

Special curriculum features
Literacy Blocks are timetabled across the school and S.S.O.’s support teachers to meet the learning needs of students by adopting the Wave 1, 2 and 3 interventions.
Environmental Education and Gardening Program is a significant program that involves students across the school in activities to develop outdoor spaces. A recent project has been the development of an Indigenous Garden.
Physical Education is also a significant program which develops students’ fundamental movement skills in the early years and fitness and skills specific to sports in Yrs 3-7.
Performing Arts with a focus on Dance and Drama is another specialist subject and gives students to develop their creative side.

Teaching methodology
Teachers across the school have developed pedagogy to more effectively meet the needs of students. This has included both explicit teaching around Literacy and Numeracy to enable students to gain feedback about what they need to learn. Teachers have also worked on developing more personalised learning to develop students’ dispositions and skills and to take greater responsibility for their learning. This has had a focus on providing students with greater choice about their learning and has seen teachers develop learning spaces and use of technology.

Student assessment procedures and reporting
In Week four of Term One, the school holds an Acquaintance Night. Parents and students are invited to visit the classroom and informally chat together to enable parents, children and teachers to develop a positive working relationship. Teachers present a formal outline of their class program and share their expectations with parents. This night is usually combined with the Annual General Meeting of the School Governing Council.
In Term Two, week two, Three-Way Interviews are held between teacher, student and parents in which the parents and student are invited to attend a 15-minute interview. A Written Summative Report is also sent home at the end of Term two.

In Term Three, Week eight, optional interviews are held. Both parents and teachers can request these.

In Term Four, Week nine, a Written Summative Report is sent home.

Data is collected for each student in order for the school to document and monitor their progress.

**Joint programs**

Prospect North Primary School works closely with our local preschools to ensure a smooth transition for each student to school.

We also work closely with UniSA in partnership with Professor Sue Hill and university students.

5. **Sporting Activities**

Year 5/6/7 students participate in Friday afternoon Be Active programs. Students are able to sign up for 5 sports offered. Physical Education teachers instructs students in the specific skills required to play these sports to improve their success.

Students attend SAPSASA inter-school sports competition and Lightning Carnival events, NAB Cup football and represent our school in the District SAPSASA team. Others are involved in the Thunderbirds Netball Cup competition while students wanting to play soccer participate in joint teams with Prospect Primary in an after school competition.

Sports Day is held every year.

Sport's clinics in soccer, tennis, football etc. are organised throughout the year.

Junior Primary and Years 3 - 5 swimming lessons are held at Thebarton Aquatic Centre every year. Year 6/7 students participate in Aquatics at West Lakes.

6. **Other Co-Curricular Activities**

Fortnightly class-run assemblies feature work and performances by groups of students.

Year 3-7 students are involved in Friday afternoon Sports Program.

Year 6/7 students attend camp every alternate year.

End of Year Celebration Night is held at the end of each school year.

Many excursions and incursions are organised as whole school events with ongoing involvement in Come Out, Book Week Celebrations and Harmony Day activities.

Whole school excursions to Port Adelaide, the Museum, Botanic Gardens and Tandanya and many other locations is a feature of our learning program.

Being close to the city and its surrounds makes excursions and whole school incursions relatively easy to organise.
7. Staff (and their welfare)

Staff profile
Staff are highly professional and committed with many staff applying for their positions due to our Category 3 status and as a consequence a large number are relatively new to Prospect North Primary.

Leadership structure
At Prospect North Primary School, our leadership structure includes a Principal, Counsellor and Learning Support Coordinator. This ensures our focus is on student learning and wellbeing. A collaborative leadership structure and shared responsibility is a strong feature, encouraging teamwork while allowing for individual interests and skills.

Staff support systems
The school has a commitment to collegial learning, open communication, mutual support and high expectations for teaching and learning. Staff has developed a Code of Conduct to support positive interactions. Team structures that support staff include Year Level and Learning Teams, Curriculum and School Priority Committees along with ad hoc committees. Classes buddy with each other and team up to run assemblies and cross-age tutoring. T&D needs are addressed through attendances at conferences and at staff meetings. Social activities are valued and staff take responsibility for a range of activities each term.

School Service Officers work collaboratively to provide curriculum and administrative support to students and staff. Professional development is undertaken to maintain a high quality service.

Performance Management
A performance management process for all staff is both formal and informal. Staff establish SMART targets based on class data and objectives are determined in the DECD Performance Plan in line with Teacher Professional Standards. Staff are engaged in a range of activities to acknowledge and build on success and continually reflect on and improve their practice.

Access to special staff
Prospect North Primary School staff has ready access to specialist support staff and are encouraged to make referrals as necessary through the Student Review Team. Tier 2 salaries provide leadership support in special education, ESL and school counsellor.

We have two specialist teachers that provide Non-Instructional Time to teachers in Physical Education and Performing Arts (Dance and Drama).

Other
Prospect North Primary School regularly participates in supporting University Student Teaching Programs and Work Experience programs.

8. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds
Prospect North Primary School has recently undergone a $3.95 million redevelopment. In addition a new $2 million Gymnasium as a part of the Federal Building the Education Revolution funding has been built. The School has a free standing Activity Room which is used for whole school assemblies and other events. There is new primary play equipment with a large shade structure
covering it and newly constructed Junior Primary Play equipment with a sandpit. A large well maintained playing field is available for play and sport’s activities. There is a new hardplay area complete with netball, basketball and handball courts, and it also includes a permanent shelter structure.

The school has a Secret Garden which is fenced off from the rest of the school and is part of our Environmental Education program. Funding from Prospect Council and Landcare Australia has helped develop this garden. Peripheral areas are landscaped with native trees, shrubs and ground cover.

Heating and cooling: All classes and buildings airconditioned with heating and cooling

Specialist facilities and equipment
Prospect North Primary School has Interactive Whiteboards in the Resource Centre and all classrooms and the Computer Suite. It has between two and four PC’s in every classroom, PC Pods in shared learning areas outside upper primary classes and junior primary classes and in the Resource Centre are available for class use along with a computer suite which contains 31 PC’s. All PC’s in the school are networked. Mobile technology via I-pads, lap-tops and tablets are used across the school.

The School has a free-standing Activity Room which is used for Whole School assemblies and other events, and a new $2 million Gymnasium built as part of the Federal Project, Building the Education Revolution.

Staff facilities
Reception and administration, the staffroom and staff preparation area are located in the downstairs Administration section of the Regency two-storey building, accessible from Stuart Road. Disabled toilets and shower facilities are available. All facilities and equipment are new as they were part of the redevelopment, and include tables, chairs, colour photocopier, fridge, oven, stove, microwave, dishwasher, fridge and freezer, tea and coffee-making facilities and a fully automated DeLonghi Coffee machine. Telephones are available for general staff use in the Front Office, Staff Prep Area, Staffroom and some classrooms. Networked (to both curriculum and administration servers) and Internet capable PC’s are available for staff use in the Front Office and Staff Prep Areas.

Access for students and staff with disabilities
The Regency two-storey building has a lift to the top floor and all buildings in the school have wheelchair access. There is a toilet for the disabled in the Regency building.

Access to bus transport
The Circle Line bus stops at Prospect North Primary School on Regency Road. Serco buses run on Main North Road and Prospect Road. The school is ideally located to involve our students in events happening in the city due to its close proximity.

9. School Operations

Decision making structures
- Weekly staff meetings are the main decision-making forum.
- SSO meetings are held twice a term.
- Student Action Teams meet regularly
- Governing Council meets twice a term. Governing Council is an integral part of decision-making structures.
- Management Team (Principal, Counsellor and Learning Support Co-ordinator) meet on a regular basis as does the Office staff and Principal, SSO team and Principal and the OSHC Director, Principal and Finance Officer.

**Regular publications**
The school newsletter is distributed fortnightly. A Staff Handbook is produced annually and Induction information given to all staff at the beginning of each school year.

Electronic Student and Staff Bulletins are used to communicate information daily regarding reminders, events, lunch time activities and student achievements.

A Parent Information Booklet and assorted Brochures form the enrolment pack which is given to parents of enrolling students.

**Other communication**
Year Planner is on the staffroom wall to facilitate long-term organisation and co-ordination of all school events.

Special purpose newsletters are produced and distributed according to the school’s requirements. Community notices are displayed in the Office Foyer.

Every student has a diary or communication book and folder for notes to facilitate the sharing of information between home and school.

Parents are encouraged to make appointments to discuss issues of concern with staff.

Grievance procedures have been developed and are used.

**School financial position**
The school operates a consolidated account using the EDSAS Finance module and has discretion over its spending. The Governing Council ratifies the School Budget every year before it is put in place.

The Governing Council Fundraising Sub Committee is a small but active group that sets realistic fundraising targets.

**Special funding**
Additional funding is gained through the Commonwealth Disadvantaged Schools Program. Prospect North Primary School actively seeks funding from local government grants and other grants available.

**10. Local Community**

**Parent and community involvement**
Parents support the school in its learning program by assisting teachers with their classroom programs and by assisting with special events and fundraising. The Governing Council is active.
Other local facilities
Prospect Water Park, Prospect Oval and Ern Sconce Park are nearby.

Local Government body: Prospect City Council.