

COMPASSION CURIOSITY CREATIVITY RESILIENCE



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT 2026

GENERAL INFORMATION

School number: 0570

School name: Prospect North Primary School

- **School Principal:** Russell Barwell
- **Deputy Principal:** Judy Beal
- **Student Wellbeing Coordinator:** Tracey Constable
- **Inclusive Education Coordinator:** Wendy Behrendt
- **Year of opening:** 1934
- **Postal Address:** 30 Stuart Road, Prospect 5082
- **Location Address:** 30 Stuart Road, Prospect 5082
- **DECD Region:** Adelaide Prospect Partnership
- **Geographical location:** 6km from GPO
- **Telephone number:** 08 83444604
- **School website address:** www.prospectnorth.sa.edu.au
- **School e-mail address:** dl.570.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached:** No
- **Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service:** Yes

Prospect North has both Before and After School OSHC together with a Vacation Care Program. The service is licensed for 90 children and the director works across all programs. Families from Reception to Year 6 can access the service.

SCHOOL PROFILE

Prospect North is a category 6 Reception to Year 6 site, situated in the inner northern metropolitan suburb of Prospect, and is just 6 kilometres from the Adelaide GPO. Student numbers can fluctuate due to the increase in house prices and the school's location close to the city. Our families come predominately from nearby suburbs of Prospect, Blair Athol and Kilburn. Many of our families and particularly those newly arriving from overseas, live in units and rental properties. We are very multicultural with approximately 70% of our families coming from a non-English Speaking Background

Blair Athol Primary School was established in 1934 and has a proud history. The name changed to Prospect North Primary School in 2010 with the completion of a major redevelopment project in 2009.

Our focus is on student learning and wellbeing and building powerful learners through Student Agency. Through Real World Problem Solving and an enquiry approach to learning we strive to develop students who are skillful communicators, collaborative, digitally literate and resilient. Allowing and encouraging students to take action from their learning shows them that they can impact their world both locally and globally. Our learning intentions are to engage students in real life experiences that allow them to be connected to the real world, actively problem find and problem solve, understand and be articulate about how and why they learn, set their own goals and reflectively assess their progress and find and follow their passions.

Prospect North has a strong focus on the wellbeing of students and families, student leadership, engagement through STEM and embedding literacy and numeracy within real world contexts. The emphasis is on building strong student agency and preparing students to become self-regulated learners by providing positive and challenging learning experiences with a focus on the SECRET Powers. Our Wellbeing philosophy is based on the Nurture principles of meeting children at their developmental level.

Developing student agency is a focus at Prospect North. Through our work with The Connection as a member of the Digital Literacy Hub Group we collaborate with other SA and interstate schools to uncover best practice. We have been honoured by significant awards for our work with Student Agency and STEM. The school was announced as the Australian Primary School of the Year (Government) in 2023 and the Principal, Marg Clark was awarded Primary School government Principal of the year for 2022. This has seen considerable attention on our staff and learning design as we have continued to mentor others. Our student leaders have hosted multiple "Kids Teach" conferences for other students, teachers and leaders from around South Australia, Interstate and overseas.

The Design Thinking process is used with our students to access our STEM programs and other areas of enquiry. The process allows students to use the power of the group to find and design solutions to problems that affect us all on a local or global level.

Our school has a strong focus on developing our students' literacy and numeracy proficiency and many students have a personalised program, which is documented through Individual Learning Plans, with specific goals for students to achieve. Class programs, along with specialist programs in Physical Education, Spanish, Science and Sustainability and Visual Arts offer students opportunities for learning across the curriculum. In 2026 we have introduced Auslan as an additional specialist subject area after our student leaders worked with teachers and the broader school community to establish a second language learning option. Students learn personal and social responsibility through the reinforcement of our values which aims to build a community of learners who are compassionate, curious, creative and resilient.

STUDENT ENROLMENT TRENDS

Prospect North Primary School has a transient student population with enrolment numbers varying throughout the year. We currently have 14 classes and 1 nurture group.

February FTE	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Reception	70	64	47	74	62	53
Year 1	40	65	65	43	49	46
Year 2	56	47	65	66	40	51
Year 3	53	55	41	66	63	40
Year 4	52	54	55	45	60	55
Year 5	42	53	49	55	42	57
Year 6	47	47	58	49	57	48
Year 7	45					
	405	385	380	398	373	350

STAFFING NUMBERS (AS AT FEBRUARY CENSUS):

- Principal 1.0
- Deputy Principal 1.0
- Coordinator 1.0
- Wellbeing Leader 1.0
- Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers 3.0
- Aboriginal Education Teacher 0.4
- Aboriginal Community Education Officer 10.5 hrs
- Classroom teachers 14.0 FTE
- Specialist Teachers 3.2 FTE
- EALD teacher 0.8 FTE
- Intervention/Nurture teachers 2.0
- Finance/Administration Officer 37.5 hrs
- Reception Administration Officer 37.5hrs
- Curriculum School Services Officers 235 hours

- Bilingual School Services Officers 15 hours
- Grounds person 10hrs per week

2. STUDENTS (AND THEIR WELFARE)

Student Wellbeing Programs

Teaching social and emotional skills is an important part of our curriculum from R-6. We offer programs to develop each student's capacity to fulfil their own potential and contribute positively to their family and community now and in the future. We use the following programs and strategies to help students:

- Nurture principles and practices
- Circle Time
- Character Strengths
- *Keeping Safe* Child Protection Curriculum
- Peer Mediation
- Student Parliament
- Cyber Safety sessions run by SAPOL
- Parenting programs
- Breakfast Club

We have staff who support our students and their families:

Student Wellbeing Coordinator (previously known as School Counsellor) - Leads the Nurture philosophy. Our Student Wellbeing Coordinator works in partnership with students, parents and caregivers, educators and the broader community to promote wellbeing and to optimise student learning. Offering:

- support to encourage attendance, behaviour and learning at school
- help manage relationships with family, teachers and peers
- support to manage issues
- crisis responses
- advice, support and referral to therapeutic services (eg CAMHS, Youth Mental Health) and student support services.

Student Parliament

Student Parliament is our school leadership program – it helps students to act as role models for their peers and develop strong leadership skills. Empowering students through active involvement in a fully functioning democratic model. All 5/6 students are part of a leadership team and twelve are elected to roles within the School Parliament. These twelve students then lead their committees and run parliament sessions. Issues are raised at a classroom level and conveyed through Ministerial representatives to the parliament.

The school's ministries are:

- Learn and Thrive
- STEM
- Community Engagement
- Cultural Inclusivity

PNTV

A weekly TV episode is produced by students and published on YouTube showcasing the highlights of the school week and other events throughout the school. Students from Reception to Year 6 feature in the episodes and contribute to the planning and production of each episode. Feature Podcasts are a highlight of PNTV and students have interviewed many guests from all over Australia and around the world. These podcasts usually focus on the guest's achievements and the skills and journey that they have taken to become the person that they are. Guests range from Members of Parliament, the broader education community, Industry, Media and sporting personalities and often inspire our students to investigate future career paths that they may not have previously considered.

Special Programmes

Special programs run by the school are Speech Support Program, SoundsWrite Intervention, Composting, Recycling and Gardening as a part of our STEM investigations Education program, Specialist Physical Education and Arts programs, Eat Well Be Active Program, Breakfast Club and Buddy Classes.

KEY SCHOOL POLICIES

At PNPS we believe students should;

- be connected to the real world
- actively problem find and problem solve
- understand and be articulate about how and why they learn
- be able to set goals and reflectively assess their progress

Through real world problem solving and an enquiry approach to learning we develop students who are skillful communicators, collaborative, digitally literate and resilient. By allowing students a voice at each point of the learning process we will co construct learning so students can age appropriately self-manage their goals, assessment data improvement strategies. Allowing and encouraging students to take action from their learning show them that they can impact their work both locally and globally. To enable this to happen we will establish students and teachers as partners, researchers and co-learners.

Our Site Improvement Plan and Annual Report are available on our website.

STEM

STEM investigation is a huge part of our initiatives to build capable resilient learners. By engaging students in high quality self-directed learning here at Prospect North we ensure each child reaches their potential. We use our learning environments both inside and outside. We have a strong integrated Digital technologies program ranging from using small programmable robots like Beebots, Ozobots and Spheros to Lego and VEX robotics. We ensure we use digital technologies to help us investigate and solve problems. STEM involves a range of big investigations using Design Thinking. It can be observations and hands-on experiments in the Secret Garden, as well as gathering and graphing data about an issue that students have identified as important.

We also have leadership opportunities for students through our Digital Leaders program where students who enjoy technology gain skills in using some of our equipment like our Vex IQ and Sphero RVR robots. Students can then apply these skills when teaching other classes or when hosting visitors.

We want our students to be confident learners in STEM – an area crucial for future employment possibilities but most importantly we want our students to be empowered to make their own way forward in this increasingly complex and connected world and be in charge of their own destiny.

Learning Support

Our Inclusive Education Coordinator 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.

Structures are in place to identify and support students from NESB including regular assessment of their oral language and writing and appropriate interventions are formulated with class teachers. Individual learning plans are established and progress reviewed. Smart targets are established and assessment data monitored to evaluate progress and to review where to next.

Student Assessment Procedures and Reporting

Our teachers build positive relationships with parents and include them in decision making and problem solving with their children. We have a strong commitment to student led learning and this includes assessment.

Early in Term 1, 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. Throughout the year data is collected for each student in order for the school to document and monitor their progress.

In Term 1, week 9 Three-Way Interviews involving the teacher, student and parents take place.

A written Summative Report is also sent home at the end of Term 2.

In Term 3, Optional Interviews are held. Both parents and teachers can request these.

In Term 4, Week 9, a written Summative Report is sent home.

The Team around the Child

The 'Team around the Child' is a strategy for dealing with students with complex and multiple needs. It involves all the DfE support personnel assigned to our school meeting once per term to discuss students at risk, and the group brainstorming solutions to support students and families in a cohesive inclusive way.

SPORTING ACTIVITIES

- Students from year 4-6 attend SAPSASA sports competitions & Lightning carnival events.
- 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 The Adelaide Aquatic Centre every year. Year 6 students participate in Aquatics at West Lakes.
- Class-run assemblies feature work and performances by groups of students in weeks 3, 6 and 9 of each term.
- End of Year Celebration Night is held at the end of each school year.

Many excursions and incursions and events are organized to support curriculum. We have ongoing involvement in Come Out, Book Week Celebrations and Harmony Day activities and the Adelaide Film Festival. Examples of recent curriculum based excursions include;

A trip to Port Adelaide, the Museum, Botanic Gardens, Tandanya, the recycling plant at East Waste. Our close proximity to the city and its surrounds, makes excursions more practical often including the use of local public transport systems where possible.

Staff profile

The staff is highly professional and committed with many staff having been at the school for a number of years. Staff value team work and are a highly collaborative, professional, hardworking and committed. Professional Development is highly valued by staff. Staff work together to put into action their learning and document whole school practice.

Leadership Structure

At Prospect North Primary School, our leadership structure includes a Principal, Deputy Principal, an Inclusive Education Coordinator and a Student Wellbeing Coordinator. This ensures our focus is on developing powerful learners, student learning and wellbeing. A collaborative leadership structure and shared responsibility is a strong feature, encouraging team-work 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. There is a Department Code of Conduct but staff also developed a local Code of Conduct to support positive interactions. Team structures that support staff include Year Level and Professional 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. The staff establish SMART targets based on class data, and determine objectives using the DfE Performance Plan in line with Teacher Professional Standards. The staff engages in a range of activities to acknowledge and build on success and continually reflect on and improve their practice.

Access to Specialist 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 and EALD. We have five specialist teachers that provide Non-Instructional Time to teachers in Physical Education, Science and Sustainability, Spanish, Auslan and Visual Arts.

Other

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

Buildings and Grounds

Prospect North Primary School has undergone extensive redevelopment. The School has a free standing Art Room which is used for whole school projects and Art. We have a new Nature Play space which was designed by the students/staff and community as part of a whole yard development plan. There is primary play equipment with a large shade structure covering it and Junior Primary Play equipment with a sandpit. A large well maintained playing field is available for play and sport's activities. There is a hard play 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 are air-conditioned with heating and cooling.

Specialist Facilities and Equipment

Prospect North Primary School has a large range of contemporary technologies available to all classes. We have a comprehensive robotics program from R-6 and new technologies as part of our STEM focus. Our middle and upper primary have 1to1 laptops, maker space facilities and the rest of the school has a 1:2 ratio of iPads.

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 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) all teaching staff are provided with a laptop.

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 Public 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.

SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Decision Making Structures

- Class circle time
- Weekly staff meetings are the main decision-making forum.
- SSO meetings are held twice a term.
- Student Parliament meet fortnightly
- Governing Council meets twice a term. Governing Council is an integral part of decision-making structures.
- Management Team (Principal, Middle Leaders) meet on a regular basis as does the Office staff and Principal, SSO team and Principal (or delegate) and the OSHC Director, Principal and Finance Officer.

Regular Publications

PNTV publishes a new episode every Friday afternoon which is a student led “wrap up of the week”, PNTV celebrates our diversity and showcases many of the languages within our community.

The school newsletter is distributed fortnightly. A Staff Handbook is produced annually and Induction information given to all staff at the beginning of the 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. This book is updated on our website regularly.

Other Communication

- Website
- Facebook
- All staff use electronic communications with parents ranging from email to digital platforms – SEESAW is across the school and allows for communication between home and school as well as individual learning portfolios. Permission forms and communications are managed through the EdSmart system and require an up to date parent email.
- Special purpose newsletters are produced and distributed according to the school's requirements. Community notices are displayed in the Office Foyer.
- The majority of classes have a diary or communication book (or use SeeSaw) and a folder / folio for notes to facilitate the sharing of information between home and school. Many notes are now sent via EdSmart and can be signed off digitally.
- 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 EMS Finance module and has discretion over its spending. The Governing Council ratifies the School Budget every year before it is put in place.

Special Funding

Prospect North Primary School actively seeks funding from local government grants and other grants available.

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. Many volunteers have undertaken police clearances and Reporting Abuse and Neglect training. The school runs the RAN training for Volunteers once a term for volunteers and this is attended by many parents & caregivers.

Parents coach and support soccer, basketball and netball teams.

The Governing Council has been proactive in supporting the school and has pursued issues such as road safety with the Prospect Council and access to the new high school in the city.

We have a very active parent group called Building Communities. This group actively welcomes new families to our school and organises community building events.