



Yahl Primary School: School Context Statement

SCHOOL PROFILE

Yahl Primary School was opened in 1868 and in 2018 celebrates its 150 year anniversary. The school is situated in the picturesque rural setting of Yahl located 10kms south-east of Mount Gambier.

We are committed to providing a high quality education for all students from Reception to Year 7, through high quality teaching and learning practices, a comprehensive curriculum and an exciting range of extra-curricula activities. Currently 133 students are enrolled in the school, across five class groups.

We have a strong focus on Literacy, Numeracy, Music and Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).

Our parents are extremely supportive of the school, and their participation in classroom-based activities, Governing Council and school community events are highly valued.

Our school grounds are well-maintained with large open play spaces, an Indigenous Garden, Nature Play area, chicken coop, orchard, vegetable garden and chicken coop.

We have modern classroom facilities that provide an excellent learning environment for our students. All classrooms are equipped with computers or iPads and up-to-date interactive whiteboards. We also have specialist teaching areas including a Library, Art Room and Kitchen.

We offer specialist curriculum areas in Japanese, ICT and Art.

Students also have the opportunity to participate in a range of extra-curricular activities including: Sports; Choir; Pedal Prix; Camp to Canberra; Move-It at the Helpmann; Battle of the Bands; YELP(Young Environmental Leaders Program); LEGO League; and Cows Create Careers.



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1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Part A

School Name:	Yahl Primary School
School No.:	0501
Principal:	Mrs Christine Morrison
Deputy Principal:	N/A
Postal Address:	PO Box 3354, Mount Gambier SA 5290
Location Address:	10 Lange Road, Yahl SA 5291
School Website Address:	www.yahlps.sa.edu.au
School Email Address:	admin@yahlps.sa.edu.au
Local Partnership:	Blue Lake
Distance from Mount Gambier:	10 kms
Phone No:	(08) 87253658
Fax No:	(08) 87250717
CPC Attached:	No

February FTE Enrolment

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Reception	13	9	13	16
Year 1	8	14	14	13
Year 2	14	11	16	21
Year 3	6	25	13	15
Year 4	14	11	22	13
Year 5	7	15	13	23
Year 6	9	8	14	13
Year 7	7	14	7	19
Total	78	107	113	133



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1. GENERAL INFORMATION CONT.

2018 School Cohort Information

School Card Approvals:	50
NESB:	0
ATSI:	10
Students with Disabilities:	10

Part B

Leadership Positions

Principal:	Mrs Christine Morrison
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Teaching Staff

Female:	7
Male:	0

School Support Officers

Female:	5
Male:	2

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)

N/A

Enrolment Trends

Enrolments are steadily increasing.

Public Transport Access

There is no public transport access to the school. The school is located 10kms South East of Mount Gambier. All staff live in or near Mount Gambier and surrounding districts. Staff travel to the school each day by car. A bus drops students off at the school and takes older students to the local high school.



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2. STUDENTS (AND THEIR WELFARE)

General Characteristics:	<p>Yahl Primary School has a strong reputation of having a family orientated nurturing environment where all children are accepted and supported.</p> <p>There is a warm welcoming feel about the school and it is steeped in history dating back to 1868.</p>
Student Well-Being Programs:	What's the Buzz, Deep Speak and Breakfast Club
Support Offered:	<p>We have a Pastoral Care Worker for 11 hours per week to work with children, staff and families who are in need of support. Our SSO team also provides well-being support to those children that they work closely with on a daily basis.</p> <p>All staff and SSOs have had training with Autism SA and through other wellbeing and behaviour coaching courses.</p>
Student Management:	<p>The school's Behaviour Policy and Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure are documented and regularly monitored. These policies and procedures are promoted through class activities, meetings and assemblies and are shared with the wider community. High expectations of students are in place and our school values provide a common theme in discussions with students. All classrooms are expected to have systems in place that support a safe and orderly environment.</p>
Student Government:	<p>We have a strong SRC which meets weekly and has a representative for each of the five classes. The students make decisions, plan activities and run programs throughout the year.</p> <p>We have a boy and girl School Captain and they run the assembly each morning before children go in to class.</p> <p>We also have House Captains for our three sports teams.</p>
Special Programmes:	<p>We have a Breakfast Club that is run by parents and students. They volunteer to go on a roster to set up, serve and clear up three days a week.</p>



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3. KEY SCHOOL POLICIES

School Vision and Values Statement

Our school is a place where:

- respect for self, respect for others and respect for the environment are our core values
- high quality learning is achieved and celebrated through the commitment of the entire school community; and
- children develop a sense of belonging through a happy, safe and supportive learning environment.

Operational Principles

Each of our core values is underpinned by a set of operational principles.

Respect for Self

- Strong organisational skills, effective time management and maintaining a flexible approach are important features of our workplace.
- We display a friendly demeanor and are supportive of our colleagues.
- Being confident, positive and having appropriate/professional attire are important features of our work.
- We have a commitment to ongoing learning and improvement.
- Taking care of yourself and maintaining a healthy lifestyle will help us do our jobs effectively.
- We strive to ensure learning outcomes for our students are achieved.

Respect for Others

- We value other people's opinions and beliefs
- We understand the importance of using gestures, language and tone of voice that is respectful to everyone.
- We believe it is important to make people feel welcome through positive communication.
- Maintaining a sense of humour and fun and taking an interest in our colleague's life are important to us.
- We understand the importance of integrity and honesty when dealing with others.
- We seek to work collaboratively and sustain positive working relationships with our colleagues.
- We support and are committed to contributing to the whole school program/site priorities.



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3. KEY SCHOOL POLICIES CONT.

Operational Principles Cont.

Respect for the Environment

- We will maintain a clean workplace (buildings and yard) and manage/use equipment appropriately.
- We will actively promote the importance of the environment across our workplace.
- We will be considerate of other people's work space.
- We will undertake recycling and energy saving strategies.

Literacy and Numeracy Goals

Our literacy and numeracy goals are:

- 1 All students will make at least one year's growth each year.
- 2 We will increase the number of students achieving in the higher bands.
- 3 We will maintain those students in the higher bands and move students forward.

Literacy and Numeracy Priorities

Our literacy and numeracy priorities are:

- 1 To develop Literacy and Numeracy Plans and Agreements that will guide the work of teachers, students and parents.
- 2 To provide the stretch in learning so that all children can reach their full potential.
- 3 To provide support through programs such as Quicksmart Maths and Reading Minilit and Multilit and high order thinking. One-to-one support to be provided to students who are not achieving the SEA.

Student Well-Being and Engagement Goals

Our student well-being and engagement goals are:

- 1 Teaching and learning programs will support students to develop effective learning dispositions.
- 2 All students will be engaged and stretched in their learning.
- 3 Whole school and classroom activities will reflect the school values of Respect for Self, Others and the Environment.



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4. CURRICULUM

Subject Offerings:	<p>Yahl Primary School staff plan and program using the Australian Curriculum following guidelines within this framework. Yahl Primary School curriculum is based on the following Australian Curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ English ▪ Mathematics ▪ Science ▪ Technology ▪ Health and Physical Education ▪ Society and Environment ▪ The Arts ▪ Languages other than English <p>Music, Physical Education and Japanese subjects are taught by school-based specialist teachers.</p> <p>Yahl Primary School intervention programs focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Social and Emotional Learning. Programs include Minilit, Multilit, Quicksmart Maths and Quicksmart Reading.</p> <p>We also offer a program for students with high intellectual potential so that they can be stretched and maintain higher band achievement.</p> <p>Regular testing and assessment completed by teachers assists in identifying students who are in need of support.</p> <p>Yahl Primary School has a focus on Music and students are given the opportunity to be involved in a range of performances and ensembles.</p>
Open Access:	Japanese



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4. CURRICULUM CONT.

<p>Special Needs:</p>	<p>Students with special needs are catered for within mainstream classes with differentiated programming to ensure that all are successful learners.</p> <p>Learning achievement data is accessed to inform participation in intervention programs.</p>
<p>Special Curriculum Features:</p>	<p>Specialist music tuition is offered in woodwind and brass instruments.</p> <p>The school's choir students (Upper Primary) perform in Adelaide and Lower South East Music Festivals, while dance performances are staged by classes for the school community every two years.</p> <p>Students have the opportunity to be a part of school-based sports teams which are managed by parents, with teacher support. Throughout the year students are able to join soccer, football and T-Ball teams and compete against other schools in our area.</p> <p>Reidy Park Primary School offers an excellent AusKick Program for our Reception to Year 2 students.</p>
<p>Assessment Procedures and Reporting:</p>	<p>Students receive a written report on their progress and achievement against the Australian Curriculum Achievement standards twice a year (end of Term 2 and end of Term 4).</p> <p>Families have the opportunity to access parent/teacher interviews in Term 1 and 3 (or when requested by families).</p>



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5. SPORTING ACTIVITIES

Children have access to the following sporting activities:

- Softball
- Cricket
- T-Ball
- Athletics
- Football
- Netball
- Minkey hockey
- Hockey
- Cross-country running; and
- Soccer.

6. OTHER EXTRA-CURRICULA ACTIVITIES

Children have access to the following extra-curricula activities:

- Choir
- Pedal Prix
- LEGO League
- Young Environmental Leadership Program (YELP)
- Battle of the Bands
- Move-It at the Helpmann
- Canberra Camp Year 6/7 (Bi-annually); and
- School Camp Year 3 to 7 (Bi-annually).



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7. STAFF (AND THEIR WELFARE)

Staff Profile:	The school has a combination of early career and experienced teachers.
Leadership Structure:	N/A
Staff Support Systems:	<p>The following strategies have been implemented to support staff in their work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ new staff are involved in a comprehensive induction process to familiarise them with the school vision and values, routines, policies and procedures and WHS requirements. ▪ new teachers are mentored by the Principal and a chosen teacher. ▪ eligible teachers are supported by the Principal to work toward their Step 9 Classification ▪ a Pastoral Care Worker is available to support all staff ▪ All staff have access to a variety of training and development opportunities which are in line with our SIP, or of personal interest.
Performance Development:	<p>Our approach to performance development aligns with departmental requirements. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the Principal meets with each staff member during Term 1, to establish a Performance Development Plan that reflects personal, school and departmental priorities ▪ the Principal has a follow up meeting with each staff member in Term 3 to review their Performance Development Plan goals and achievements, and to make adjustments where necessary ▪ all teachers submit their work plans to the Principal for review and feedback; and ▪ classroom observations are encouraged at least twice a year either by a peer or the Principal.



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7. STAFF (AND THEIR WELFARE) CONT.

Access to Specialist Staff:	<p>The school has excellent working relationships with schools in the Blue Lake/Limestone Coast Partnership with specialist support available within the district's limited resources. Psychologists, Special Educators, Speech Pathologists, Special Educators, Speech Pathologists, Behaviour Coaches, Attendance Officers and Social Workers are accessed when appropriate.</p> <p>Visiting instrumental music teachers support the music program once a week and 3 SSO workers with music knowledge and expertise also support the music program across the school</p> <p>A Pastoral Support Worker is appointed to the school, working 11hours a week over 5 days, and works closely with the Principal in their role in supporting student/staff and family well-being.</p>
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8. INCENTIVES, SUPPORT AND AWARD CONDITIONS FOR STAFF

Complexity Placement Points:	Yahl Primary School has an Educational Disadvantage of 5
Isolation Placement Points:	4.5 placement points per year of active service
Shorter Terms:	N/A
Travelling Time:	5 hours from Adelaide by vehicle and 10 minutes from Mount Gambier
Housing Assistance:	There is teacher housing available in the Mount Gambier region
Cash in lieu of Removal Allowance:	N/A
Additional Increment Allowance:	N/A
Designated Schools Benefits:	N/A
Aboriginal/Anangu Schools:	N/A
Medical and Dental Treatment Expenses:	N/A
Locality Allowances:	DECD Funded
Relocation Assistance:	Available as per DECD guidelines.
Principal's Telephone Costs:	N/A



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9. SCHOOL FACILITIES

Buildings and Grounds:	The school is set on approximately four acres. There are five classrooms, a library, art room, kitchen and administration building.
Heating and Cooling:	Reverse cycle heating and cooling available in all school buildings.
Specialist Facilities and Equipment:	Wide variety of musical instruments for hire, kitchen, art room and outdoor learning spaces.
Student Facilities:	Covered playground, Nature Play area, basketball/netball court, large oval, Indigenous garden, orchard, vegetable garden and chicken coop.
Staff Facilities:	Staffroom
Access for Students and Staff with Disability:	There is full access to school facilities for staff, students, parents and community members with a disability.
Access to Bus Transport:	A DECD funded bus transports some students to the school. Local bus companies are accessed for excursions, camps, trips et.
Other:	N/A

10. SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Decision Making Structures:	Decisions are made where possible through consultation with the school community and the Governing Council.
Regular Publications:	Fortnightly newsletter
Other Communication:	Facebook, Website
School Financial Position:	We are in a very sound financial position with the potential to build and make improvements to our grounds.
Special Funding:	Fundraising activities raise additional monies for the school.



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11. LOCAL COMMUNITY

General Characteristics:	School is located in the small township of Yahl that has a population of approx: 855 of which approximately 250 live in the town centre.
Parent and Community Involvement:	Parents are heavily involved in many aspects of school life. They assist with learning, support programs, fundraise, run special lunches and events such as Spring Fair and attend school events such as assemblies, special days, concerts and working bees. The school has a close relationship with the Yahl Hall Committee and have run events with this group. The Yahl community are notified of school events and are invited and encouraged to attend.
Feeder and Destination Schools:	Commencing students come from a variety of kindergartens. The school of right for students in Year 7 is Grant High School.
Other Local Care and Educational Facilities:	N/A
Commercial/Industrial and Shopping Facilities:	Mount Gambier (population 25,000) is our closest city and has excellent shopping facilities.
Other Local Facilities:	Community owned facilities are close to the school e.g. cricket oval and local hall which are used by the school at various times.
Availability of Staff Housing:	Teachers have access to housing within the city limits of Mount Gambier.
Local Government Body:	District Council of Grant

12. FURTHER COMMENTS

Not applicable.



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STATUS AND DETAILS

Reference Code:	YPS-SR-SCS:18-V1.1
Version No:	V1.2
Status:	Current
Commencement Date:	February 1, 2018
Review Date:	February 1, 2019
Authorising Authority:	Principal
Authorisation Date:	31 January, 2018
Accountable Officer:	Mrs Christine Morrison