SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

School Name: Andamooka Primary School

School Number: 0509

1. General Information

Part A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schoolname</td>
<td>ANDAMOOKA PRIMARY SCHOOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School No.</td>
<td>0509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courier</td>
<td>R40/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Ms Mills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postal Address</td>
<td>PO Box 9, Andamooka 5722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location Address</td>
<td>Andamooka 5722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Far North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distance from GPO</td>
<td>600 kms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPC attached</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone No.</td>
<td>08 86727018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax No.</td>
<td>08 86727197</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

February FTE Enrolment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Primary</th>
<th>Secondary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.</td>
<td>Special, N.A.P. Un graded etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reception</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL 30.2 29.9 40.9 37.6

July total FTE Enrolment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Male FTE</th>
<th>Female FTE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male FTE</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>12.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female FTE</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Card Approvals (Persons)</td>
<td>15 17 13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NESB Total (Persons)</td>
<td>1.9 1.8 .9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal FTE Enrolment</td>
<td>1.9 1.8 .9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Placement points for Complexity and (Base plus Isolation) can be obtained from the document 'Placement Points History' in the 'schools/placement' section of the 'Legal and Policy Framework Library' available on the departmental CD-ROM or web-site.
Part B

- Staffing numbers
  - Four teaching staff, three school service officers, one groundsperson and one key teacher leadership available, one principal. There are seven females and two males on staff.

- Partnerships 21 status

- OSHC
  - There is no official OSHC program.

- Enrolment trends
  - The school has stabilised at approximately 40. This figure may vary according to seasonal and employment influences. There are quite a large number of children in the 18 month – 3 years of age group.

- Year of opening
  - 1947.

- Public transport
  - All secondary students living in Andamooka travel to Roxby Downs on a DECS provided bus.

2. Students and Their Welfare

- General characteristics
  - Students come from a variety of backgrounds - opal mining, city (urban), city (industrial), agriculture (farming), multicultural parents, resulting in a transient population. Some children come from long standing community member backgrounds, and others from a short term stay, dependent upon employment opportunities.

- Pastoral care programs
  - Students are involved in a number of programs with the home group teacher taking the main responsibility for these; class meetings, social skills, career education and community activities.

- Support offered
  - Parents, staff and students themselves supply support following request and through programmed visits, Guidance, Speech Pathologist, Hearing Impaired, Special Education, Social Workers all visit at least once a term.

- Student behaviour management
  - Teachers are supported to provide a success – oriented environment in which rights and responsibilities are acknowledged and upheld. There is a behaviour management code which provides a structure for common expectations among the school community.
- **Student government**
  
  Class meetings are the responsibility of class teachers. The S.R.C is elected annually and represent the students decision making process in the school.

- **Special Programs**
  
  A LAP program exists in the form of parents hearing reading and assisting in classrooms. Students are involved in academic competitions, science, maths and English. We have been represented in SAPSASA netball and football this season through a district hub, incorporating St. Barbara’s Parish School and Roxby Downs Area School. Andamooka also participates in Roxby Downs swimming and athletic carnivals and accesses theatrical and musical productions, as they become available. Students with disabilities assisted through flexible use of staffing and through ≤2 allocated time.

### 3. Key School Policies

- **Statement of Purpose Mission Statement**
  
  "Linked together in Learning". This concept established through consultation with School Council over the past five years.

  **Expected achievements in relation to key outcomes:**

  - Through ongoing induction of staff the school is experiencing increasing stability.
  - A continued redevelopment in Literacy and Numeracy, and Information Technology.
  - Revision of reporting practices.
  - Involvement of community into school governance.
  - Grounds development (use of BTS money to ascertain main concerns with water system for school) and to re-plant trees after recent drought, re-develop playground area.
  - Implementation of SACSA.

### 4. Curriculum

- **Subject offerings**
  
  A balanced curriculum based on the South Australian Curriculum Standards and Accountability, offered for students in years CPC-7. The curriculum is divided into eight areas of study. Students in years 4-7 partake in LOTE via Distance Education using telephone links (DUCT). Students studying keyboard also do lessons via DUCT.

- **Special needs and curriculum features**
  
  Enterprise Education will continue to be a part of our program as will focusing on improving CPC play areas.
• Teaching methodology
  : There is close communication between teachers in our small school which enables an understanding of methodology to assist transition of students. We aim for student centred, individual and whole class programs to be success – orientated and solid in foundation. Students have access to computers, to the Internet in the resource room and Community Library. Our SSOs provide support in speech and reading programs as well as LOTE.

• Assessment procedures and reporting
  : The school formally reports to parents and caregivers four times a year with an interview at the end of Terms 1 and 3 and written reports at the end of Terms 2 and 4. We are currently developing benchmark tests in mathematics and literacy and with regard to establishing a promotion policy for our Year 7 students for their transfer into Year 8.

• Joint Programs
  : Sporting and cultural links exist with St Barbara’s and Roxby Downs Schools.

5. Sporting Activities
  : Facilities for sport in Andamooka include badminton and swimming. There is a strong parent – driven sporting ethos, where people travel to Roxby Downs to participate in football, netball and basketball. Roxby Downs has a Recreation Centre which offers a wide variety of sports.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities
  : Students participate in camps/excursions, often of a specialist nature eg aquatics. Plays visiting artists and concerts often visit Andamooka but these often require travel to Roxby Downs as well. The end of the year often has a major theatrical production staged in the local hall to which the community is invited and often participates.

7. Staff (and Their Welfare)
  
• Staff profile
  : Principal, one full – time teacher, CPC teacher, 0.8 teacher and 2 Special Needs and NIT position. Three SSOs.

• Staff support systems
  : Teachers work with a Professional Development folder to assist with teaching strategies and career paths. The principal is the line manager. Access to training and development is school based, travel to Roxby Downs for appropriate programs, and through accessing the T&D directory or other facilities as opportunities arise, eg fax notification.
Staff utilisation policies
: Staff are deployed to cater for mixed year levels, with SSO time commensurate with fraction of time for sessions. SSOs work in Library, small group and individual assistance as well as first aid, clerical duties etc.

Access to specialist staff
: Access to specialist staff includes instrumental music via DUCT and support services that includes special education, speech, pathologist and guidance officer.

8. Incentives

Complexity placement points
: Staff are entitled to Country Incentive leave and attracts 5.0 placement points for the teacher transfer exercise.

Isolation placement points
: N/A

Shorter terms
: N/A

Travelling time
: N/A

Housing assistance
: This year several staff (40%) live in their own houses in Andamooka, with other staff travelling from private and government housing in Roxby Downs. There is one Departmental House available in Andamooka, this is being managed by a local housing committee.

Cooling for school buildings
: N/A

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
: Andamooka attracts a locality allowance, a tax zone rebate and an eight week fourth term to support travel.
9. **School Facilities**

- **Buildings and grounds**
  - Andamooka has two Samcon Mark 11 buildings, one comprising the CPC, offices, toilets, book room, and School Community Library. The other building has three classrooms, staffroom, resource room and prep area for SSOs, activity room, canteen and sports storeroom.
  - There is also an ex-technical studies craft block which is now art/craft, drama and science area.
  - The water system has had problems consistently to some degree or other.
  - The play areas have recently been upgraded with shade areas, re-paving and artificial turf.

- **Cooling**
  - All work areas are air-conditioned and in good condition.

- **Specialist facilities**
  - Community Library with Internet access, we are also working towards installing a bank of at least two computers in each classroom (without Internet).

- **Student facilities**
  - Students have access to sports equipment at break times, and also to the pool depending on the weather. A school canteen staffed by parent volunteers operates at recess and lunch on most days.

- **Staff facilities**
  - Staff have use of either the resource room or larger room that has microwave, sink, seating etc. The resource room has computer terminals with Internet access.

- **Access for students and staff with disabilities**
  - Ramps have been built to allow easy access to classrooms, the office and to toilet facilities.

- **Access to bus transport**
  - Roxby Downs' large bus can be accessed for day excursions to Roxby Downs. A CAP bus is available through booking ahead (22 seater).

- **Other**
  - N/A
10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
  - Weekly meetings are held by staff along with Governing Council meetings held monthly. Other committees include Finance Group, EVE Group, PAC, SRC, Pool Supervisors, Playgroup, Canteen Group, Library Committee.

- Regular publications
  - The school newsletter is published fortnightly. A term overview is provided and added to as necessary. A daily written account of happenings, suggestions, notifications is provided. The School Community Library provides material to the local paper as to resources received.

- School financial position
  - This is our second year of Partnerships 21l. Successful audits recently occurred. A significant amount of funding will go into extra teacher time, and SSO time.

11. Local Community

- Brief historical outline
  - The Andamooka Opal Fields are 640 kms north of Adelaide by road. They lie approximately 12 kms west of the western margins of Lake Torrens. In 1856 the land was taken up as Pastoral Lease. The actual Opal Fields came into being when in 1930 two boundary riders for the station found the first bits of colour. For some years the location of the find was kept quiet but news did leak out and soon miners were trekking in from the Pimba Railway siding to the little known area of Andamooka Opal Fields. It was a 2-3 day ride from Pimba to the fields usually by camel.

  It was not until approximately 1968-1970 that the Opal Fields was acknowledged as a settlement with its own post office and postal address. An area of 12 square miles was annexed from the Andamooka Station Lease and declared “Opal Fields”.

  The town has had its rises and falls in population numbers over the years. It is only in the last ten years that electricity has become available for everyone. Andamooka still depends on the local dams or on Roxby Water Plant for its regular supply of water for both washing and drinking.

- Description of the Town/Settlement
  - Andamooka Opal Fields has been described “like a crater-pocked moonscape”. This still applies although the housing has improved in the latter years. There are no regular streets with names and numbers. Andamooka has a strong sense of community spirit which is reflected in the support for the school.

- Population
  - Approximately 200-600 as it fluctuates according to the season.
- **Distance From Adelaide**: 600 kms/approximately 6 hours driving.
- **Distance from the largest nearest town**: Roxby Downs is 35 kms away across a bitumen road. Most locals consider Port Augusta as the nearest large centre.
- **Roads**: The main street through Andamooka and the street leading to the hospital is bitumen. All other internal ones are generally rough dirt roads with tracks meandering from these. There are no street names or street lighting. The road from Andamooka to Port Augusta is bitumen.
- **Modes of travel available**: Walk, car or motor bike.
- **Climate**: Long hot summer beginning in late September through to mid May. At the peak of summer temperatures go up to 45-50 degrees. Winter is beautifully mild with sunny days and very cool/cold nights.
- **Languages spoken**: About 25 European ethnic groups including Yugoslav, German, Czech, Croatian, Serbian and Hungarian.
- **Other employment**: Other than Opal mining – very little. Locals tend to pick waitressing, shop assistants etc. Some work for people with a trade: eg mechanic, builder and electrician. Employment prospects are good at Roxby Downs through Western Mining or local contractors.
- **Services**: There is a clinic in Andamooka staffed by 2 Sisters. It has a comprehensive supermarket, post office, police station, two hotels, bottle shop, opal showroom, hairdresser, 3 motels, sports and social clubs, and 2 service stations.
- **Other local facilities**: Bible Church, community multi-denominational church, CFS, community park, bank agencies and caravan park. The Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association is the local governing body.