

# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: July 2018

**School number:** 1001

**School name:** AMATA ANANGU SCHOOL

## 1. General information

### Part A

School name : Amata Anangu School  
School No. : 1001 Courier : Alice Springs  
Principal : Ms Sharon Diglio  
Postal Address : PMB 113, Amata, via Alice Springs NT 0872  
Location Address : Amata 5750  
District : Aboriginal Lands  
Distance from GPO : 1680 kms Phone No : 08 8956 2922  
CPC attached : yes Fax No : 08 8956 7554

February FTE Enrolment		2016	2017	2018
Primary	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded			
	Reception	7	7	9
	Year 1	6	8	10
	Year 2	13	6	11
	Year 3	11	9	10
	Year 4	20	11	5
	Year 5	1	14	14
	Year 6	10	8	9
Secondary	Year 7	10	9	14
	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded			
	Year 8	3	8	4
	Year 9	9	6	7
	Year 10	4	7	6
	Year 11	6	8	2
	Year 12	10	12	1
	Year 12 plus	1		
TOTAL		111	113	102

## Part B

- Deputy Principal's name: Karalyn Jones (T4 2018)
- School e-mail address: info@amata.sa.edu.au
- Staffing numbers

Student Learning Coordinator	1		
Teaching	14		
SSO's	SSO 2	37.5hrs	2
	SSO 1	35.00 hrs	1
Anangu Education Workers	AEW 3	25hrs	2
	AEW 1	15hrs	15
Pool Manager GSE	7	37.5hrs	1
Groundsperson GSE	2	15hrs	1

- Enrolment trends

Enrolments tend to vary throughout the school year but current enrolments should remain stable over the next few years. Senior secondary are stable but transient at times.

- Special arrangements

This school is a member of The Anangu Lands Partnership and supported by the Anangu Education Service. The cluster of schools includes: Mimili, Fregon, Ernabella, Kenmore Park, Indulkana, Pipalyatjara, Murputja, the Wiltja Program (based at Woodville High School), Oak Valley and Yalata.

- Year of opening

Amata Anangu School was first opened in 1969. In 2007 the redeveloped school was officially opened.

- Public transport access

There are five travel options to Amata. Public transport access is by air to Alice Springs then bush bus on a Monday, air to Yulara and private vehicle to Amata or Greyhound bus to Marla daily and private vehicle to Amata. The mail plane also accepts passengers to fly to Amata and leaves from Alice Springs every Tuesday and Friday, but booking is essential.

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics

Most students at Amata are Anangu and speak either Pitjantjatjara or Yankunytjatjara as their first language. A few students are from other Aboriginal language groups and speak Aboriginal English. Standard Australian English is limited and for many students is only spoken in the school setting. A small number of non-Aboriginal students are also enrolled

- (Pastoral) care programs

Each classroom teacher and AEW are responsible for the delivery of the pastoral care program. Amata Anangu School currently provides a breakfast program which is available before school, a lunch program where each student is provided with a sandwich or a hot lunch cooked daily. Fruit is provided by the school at afternoon recess (kapatj) and at the end of each day.

- Support offered

A RAAP teacher provides support to 12 identified students. Secondary students attend Umuwa Trade training centre and are supported by the Senior Secondary Teacher to access Certificate 1, 2 & 3 courses in automotive, horticulture, hospitality & construction. Within these roles there is a focus on student well being, attendance and behaviour management. The support teachers liaise with families and other school agencies such as Hearing Impairment, Nganampa Health, The Support Services Team for the Aboriginal Lands District and CAMHS. Two CAMHS workers are based in Amata and Ernabella and work to support student wellbeing the northern lands communities. Other CAMHS workers support the communities on a fly in fly out basis. An FSA worker is based in Amata.

The Anangu Coordinator and Anangu Education Workers in the school provide detailed knowledge concerning students' cultural backgrounds and advice concerning student welfare.

- Student management

Amata Anangu School implements Classroom profiling with a focus on the 10 essential skills of behaviour management. The school values of *I am a Learner, I am Respectful, I am Safe, I am Responsible* are embedded into classroom practice and across the school. These values/behaviours apply to all members of the community. Student behaviour is explicitly taught and students learn there are consequences for positive and negative behaviours. As well as this, staff have a high level of communication with families and consistent principles of restorative justice are applied across the school.

- Special programmes

The pool manager provides opportunities for all students to access swimming lessons in Term 1 & Term 4 through PE lessons. The pool is also open for community the access after school and on the weekends. Murputja Anangu School access the pool once a week for student swimming lessons and Hub carnivals are planned during the swimming season.

An Active Education Teacher provides organised sports activities at lunchtime, kapati and after school. The sports program provides students with the opportunity to learn skills in communication, conflict resolution, organisation, sharing & problem solving. During the day the Active Education teacher supports the literacy and numeracy blocks in classes across the site (yr3-10).

### **3. Key School Policies**

- Context

Amata is an Anangu community on the Pitjantjatjara Lands in the north west of South Australia. The Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara Lands are held on freehold title under the terms of the Anangu Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara Land Rights legislation. People not covered under the terms of this legislation require permits to enter and work on the Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara Lands. Issue of these permits to DfE employees is initially negotiated between Anangu Education Services and APY Services at Umuwa.

Kinship ties cover three groups within Northern Territory, Western Australia and South Australia. These are the Pitjantjatjara, Ngaanyatjarra, and Yankunytjatjara peoples. Many people have ownership status to specific areas of land in the region around Amata.

#### Partnership Plan

Anangu Lands Partnership Strategic Plan focusses on three priority areas. Supported by the DfED Vision Statement; “A high performing system that improves the educational attainment and wellbeing of South Australia’s children and young people”.

1. Empowered Anangu Language and Culture
2. Quality Leadership and strong workforce
3. Leading effective teaching and learning pathways

Amata Anangu School has developed the Site Improvement Plan under two priority areas;

- 1: Effective teaching and learning pathways

Context statement 2018

2: Strong Anangu Culture with a commitment to attendance and engagement

Within the priority areas we focus on reading, oral language and maths, secondary & post-secondary pathways, effective teachers, attendance and engagement & empowered Anangu culture, language and community partnerships.

## 4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings

School subject offerings are across all curriculum areas of the Australian Curriculum.

Pitjantjatjara is the LOTE taught in the school and supported in classes by AEW's

Senior secondary curriculum is structured to meet the needs of the students attending with a focus on SACE completion.

Curriculum initiatives have included training and development in and implementation of the Australian Curriculum framework and the EALD Scales, EALD methodology, Assessment and Recording and Reporting.

- Special needs

The majority of students at Amata Anangu School are EALD learners. EALD methodologies underpin all curriculum areas

A significant number of students suffer from long term conductive hearing loss and all classes are fitted with sound field amplification systems.

- Special curriculum features

Pitjantjatjara Literacy is offered across the school

ARTS NIT teacher provides an engaging program across the 5 areas of the ARTS from Rec- yr 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.

- Assessment procedures and reporting

The school reports against the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards and against SACE. The Anangu Lands Partnership has common partnership assessment and reporting policies and procedures.

- Joint programmes

The school works with TAFE at the Trade Training Centre at Umuwa to provide learning opportunities for senior students and recent graduates.

The FLO program is in the early stages across the APY lands and Amata Anangu School has a number of students and post school students accessing the program.

The Wiltja program offers metropolitan high school opportunities for Anangu students.

There are a range of programs offered to students across the APY lands and Amata Anangu school students have access to;

SANFL

WillPower Program

Bikes Palya

Breakfast Program supported by Mai Wiru

Instrumental music teacher

## **5. Sporting Activities**

Amata Anangu School is involved in South Australian Primary School Athletic Sporting Association (SAPSASA) in the areas of softball and football. Year 6/7 students are able to try out and, if successful, represent Amata Anangu School in the APY Lands Team. The selected students compete against many other schools and districts in Adelaide.

Every year in Term 3 a Sports Carnival is held in a community two hours from Amata. Students from all communities across The Lands compete in numerous sporting games and athletic activities over two days. As well as this, there is a Dance competition held at this Sports Carnival and is a major focus for The Arts learning area over the entire term.

Within each community across The Lands there are football and softball games played throughout the year. Communities will compete against each other and these games will be held in each community throughout the season.

## **6. Other Co-Curricular Activities**

- General

Amata 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.

- Special

Each year Pacific Hills School from NSW visit Amata Community during Easter to engage in activities with the students during the holidays

## **7. Staff (and their welfare)**

- Staff profile

Staff turnover is relatively high, with an average stay of between 2-3 years. Staff tend to be new graduates, but currently there is a balance in terms of age and experience across the school and the school has a 90% retention of staff from the previous year.

- Leadership structure

Principal, Deputy Principal, Student Learning Coordinator and Anangu Education Coordinator form the Leadership Team

- Staff support systems

A comprehensive induction program is provided through the Living and Working in Amata document and Staff Induction folder provided to all staff at the beginning of each year.

Staff has access to outside counselling services through the DfE Employee Assistance Program.

Leadership team operates an open door policy

- Performance Development

Performance development is on-going. All staff have access to professional learning based on the needs of the school and aligned to the SIP. Regular meetings are conducted with their line managers. Performance conversations are based on AITSL standards and relate to the site improvement plan. PLINK on-line is accessed by staff for updates on available professional development.

- Access to special staff

The learning improvement team (LET) based at the Flinders Park Office provide support to the school on a regular basis

Special Education Team visits the Lands regularly and is available for support.

CAMHS visits communities 2-3 times per year and use the school as a base.

Australian Hearing visit 3 times per year and are based at Amata School for 2 days.

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

- Complexity placement points  
As per DfE placement policy
- Isolation placement points  
As per DfE placement policy
- Travelling time  
Two travel days are provided at the beginning and end of each school term
- Housing assistance  
Government housing is available for all teaching staff  
Housing is rent-free and all power and water costs are covered.  
All houses have air conditioners
- Cooling for school buildings  
All buildings have ducted reverse cycle air-conditioning
- Designated schools benefits  
Amata Anangu school staffs accrue all country incentives relevant to the location
- Aboriginal/Anangu schools  
Staff are eligible for one term's study leave after 2 years permanent placement.  
Staff are eligible to apply for open school positions after 2 years permanent service.
- Medical and dental treatment expenses  
As per Non Metro Award
- Locality allowances  
DfE Locality allowances for remote schools
- Relocation assistance  
DfE Location Allowance for remote schools
- Principal's telephone costs  
DfE conditions

## **9. School Facilities**

- Buildings and grounds  
The school has an administration building, gymnasium, 3 major teaching blocks– one block houses 4 classrooms, 2 junior primary a middle primary class and the Pitjantjatjara language room. The second block is the middle



primary, upper primary ARTS room. The junior and senior secondary class are located in the third and fourth block. All classrooms have interactive whiteboards. Amata Anangu School has a library and teacher preparation area. There are two separate play areas with an oval and a basketball court outside the perimeter of the fence. There is a separate CPC with a play area. The school also has a purpose built canteen and provides cooked meals daily.

- Cooling
  - All buildings have refrigerated air conditioning
- Staff facilities
  - Staff room – with computer access.
  - Staff are issued with a lap top that has wireless facility and can access the network within the school.
  - Library and teacher resources are well developed
- Access for students and staff with disabilities
  - All buildings are accessible for people with disabilities
- Access to bus transport
  - The school has 1 bus that is used for attendance at meetings and for school excursions.

## **10. School Operations**

- Decision making structures
  - The school has documented decision making structures. Democratic decision making is an important feature

At Amata Anangu School we believe:

All individuals and groups have a right to be involved in making decisions.

The level of involvement varies according to the issue.

Effective decision making requires open communication, accurate information, time for discussion and use of all resources.

All individuals should be committed to and accountable for the implementation of decisions.

A positive team culture is developed when effective decision making is undertaken.

That communication is the responsibility of all staff.

That all decisions taken by Amata Anangu School will comply with the Education Act and Regulations, State and Commonwealth laws, PYEC and AES policies

Governing Council are active at Amata Anangu School and are involved in the decision making process.

- Regular publications
  - A school year book is produced once a year
- School financial position
  - Amata School is in a sound financial position

## 11. Local Community

- General characteristics
  - Amata is set in a broad valley in the Musgrave Ranges in the far north west of South Australia. It is a well laid out community with tree lined streets. Within Amata Community there is a school, general store, Clinic, TAFE facilities, community swimming pool, Art Centre, recreational hall, government houses to accommodate the DfE employees and government workers and numerous houses for Anangu.
- Parent and community involvement
  - Parent and community involvement in Amata School is strong.
  - Each community on the APY Lands also has representatives who serve on the Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Education Committee (PYEC). This body is a sub-committee of Anangu Pitjantjatjara and gives direction to Anangu Education. PYEC meets regularly to make determinations related to policy and operational matters associated with education across the Lands.
  - Amata Anangu School Governing Councils has a strong role to play in decisions associated with the education of their children. It is part of the

responsibility of school principals, Anangu education coordinators and all staff to ensure that this link between school and community is maintained and developed so that genuine empowerment of the community in matters relating to education and school occurs

- Other local care and educational facilities

Amata TAFE

Community Well-being centre

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

: Local store and fuel outlet

- Other local facilities

Nganampa Health clinic

- Availability of staff housing

Accommodation for teaching staff is high quality, fully furnished, air conditioned and the rent, electricity and gas is paid by the department. Accommodation ranges from one bedroom transportable through to two bedroom duplexes and three bedroom houses.

- Accessibility

Entry to the Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara Lands, when travelling from Adelaide, is usually made near Indulkana, which is approximately 1,200 kms north of Adelaide on the Stuart Highway to Alice Springs. All roads between communities on the Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara Lands are unsealed. Amata is a further 300 kms into the Lands by road via Indulkana, Mimili, and Fregon.

- Local Government body

Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatja Services

Amata Community Council