



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: November 2015

School number: 0805 / 7795

School name: Findon High School / Severe and Multiple Disability (SMD) Unit

1. General Information

Part A

- School Principal name: Sue Burtenshaw
- Year of opening: 1955
- Postal Address: Drummond Ave, Findon, 5023
- Location Address: Drummond Ave, Findon, 5023
- DECD Region: Western Adelaide
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 8 km
- Telephone number: 8445 7944

School Profile

Findon High has been proudly serving the young people of the western suburbs since its opening in 1955.

It once boasted a huge enrolment of approximately 1,500 students as the baby boomer generation was educated. As a consequence of the changing nature of the surrounding suburbs, it now has a very comfortable enrolment varying annually between 350-400 students.

In recent times the school has become a thriving example of multi-culturalism at its best. It offers a full range of subject choices for the needs of all students, whether their goals be academic or vocational, and all students have the opportunity to engage in projects to support the wider community.

It boasts former students who have contributed significantly to our community in the areas, to name just a few, of the arts, the media, sport, academia and law.

Part B

- School website address: www.findonhs.edu.au
- School e-mail address: dl.0805_info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Staffing numbers (as at February census): 35 teaching staff, 1 GSE, 15 SSOs, 10 hrs p/week ACEO
- Student enrolment trends: Numbers have been declining over the past ten years. In 2015/2016 we are addressing this issue by working more closely and proactively with our Partnership Primary Schools.

February FTE student enrolment

	Feb FTE	NESB enrolment	ATSI enrolment	School card percentage
2008	375			
2009	342			43%
2010	361	136	8	30%
2011	324	134	12	46%
2012	340	140	12	43%
2013	360	109	15	43%
2014	334	99	16	49%
2015	328	80	16	49%

- Findon High School has small class sizes in all subjects.
- Public transport access: <https://www.adelaidemetro.com.au>

Special site arrangements

The Findon Severe and Multiple Disability Unit shares the school facilities. The unit is based on the principles of Conductive Education.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- The diverse cultural mix of students along with a school culture of celebrating diversity makes for a rich learning environment.

- There is a Severe and Multiple Disability Unit on site and includes a Conductive Education Program.
- The school offers a traditional curriculum in the Sciences and Mathematics, Humanities & Social Sciences and English Languages, Design and Technology, Home Economics, Physical Education and Performing and Visual Arts.
- Students with learning difficulties are supported in class and through intensive literacy support ie Multi-Lit, Numeracy Support Program and a lunchtime Homework Centre (available to all students).
- FLO (Flexible Learning Options) opportunities are available as required.
- The Ice Factor Program also caters for disengaged students.
- SACE results have improved significantly in 2014. Students aspire to a mix of ATAR post school pathways.

3. Student Services Team

- The school has a Findon Culture Team (Student Service) responsible for student wellbeing, engagement and the Life Long Learning Program (Pastoral Care) comprising:
 - ~ Coordinator, Counsellor, Wellbeing and Engagement
 - ~ Coordinator Intervention and Support
 - EALD, ATSI and other students who are eligible for a NEP (Negotiated Education Plan)
 - ~ Teacher / Counsellor (focus on attendance .3)
 - ~ Pastoral Care Worker
 - ~ Year 10 Junior School Manager
 - ~ Senior School Assistant Principal
- All Year 12 students have a mentor teacher
- The Findon Culture Team works with the Support Services Teams within DECD and meet once a term, as a Student Review Team, to ensure all students are being supported

4. Student Behaviour Management

The school's Pathways to Positive Relationships Policy is aligned to DECD policies and processes. The school has clear and documented zero tolerance of bullying, including cyber-bullying and harassment.

An Empathy and Safety Program is conducted across all year levels in Life Long Learning.

5. Uniform

The school maintains a uniform policy with the support of the school community.

6. Student Leadership

The school has an SRC comprising elected students from years 8 – 12. Students are also represented on the Safe Schools Coalition Team.

7. Special Programs

Findon High School has an Ice Factor (Ice Hockey) program and is part of a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths) project with WASSN (Western Area Secondary Schools Network). We have commenced an International Student Program. We have an ICT focus and a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Program where all students are required to have a personal laptop for all lessons.

Attendance and performance of students and the school curriculum is monitored using DAYMAP learner management system.

Inspire Mentoring is a government funded consortium consisting of the University of Adelaide, Flinders University and The University of South Australia. The program provides mentors for students with the aim being to raise their educational aspirations as well as support students to develop positive relationships that enhance wellbeing, self-esteem, social and communication skills.

The Rivers Journey targets our Year 8 students with the aim to raise young people's aspirations to higher education. The first stage is undertaken at school where students map their strengths, weaknesses and interests in education and engage with Student Access Staff from Flinders University. In phase two students visit the Bedford Park campus, and get a taste of what university may offer them.

8. Key School Policies

The school is compliant in addressing DECD priorities within its Site Improvement Plan. The schools Site Improvement Plan articulates key school policies and priorities including:

- Student wellbeing and engagement
- Performance planning
- Inclusion, including the SMD Unit, EALD, Aboriginal Education and Special Education
- Curriculum with a focus on quality teaching, improvement informed by data assesment and reporting, STEM and VET, Literacy and Numeracy, differentiation, intervention and moving grade band levels upwards eg C →B →A

9. Curriculum

Subject Offerings

Year 8

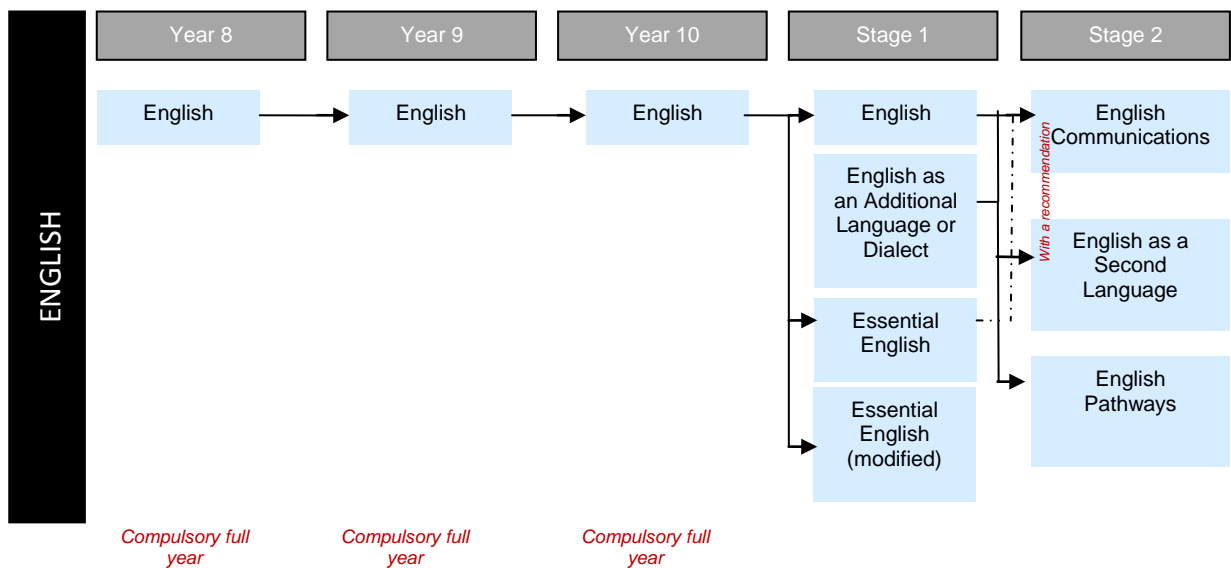
- English, Maths, Science, HASS, Greek, Health, Home Economics, Physical Education, Design and Technology, Art, Music.

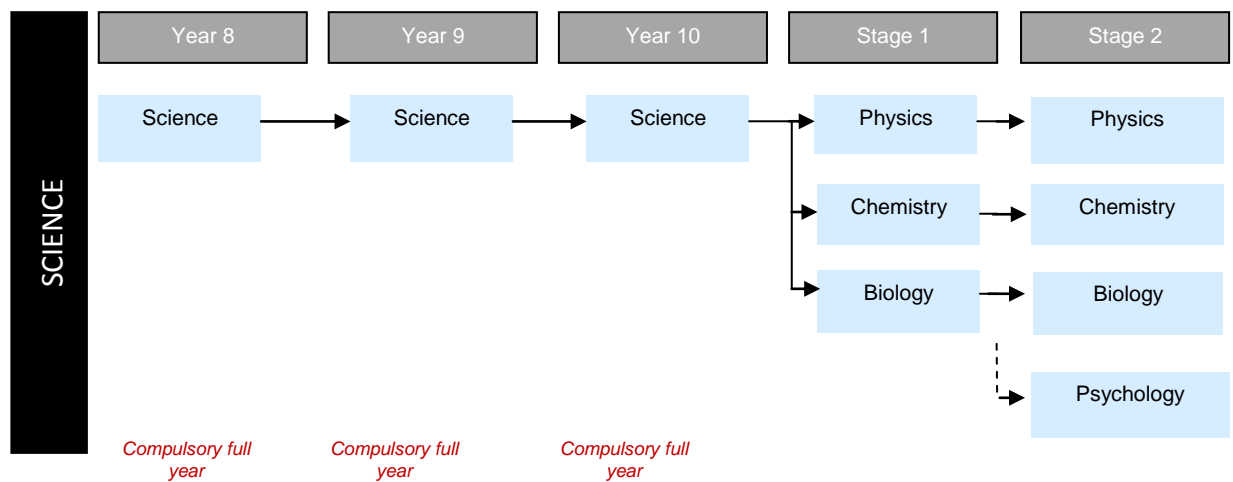
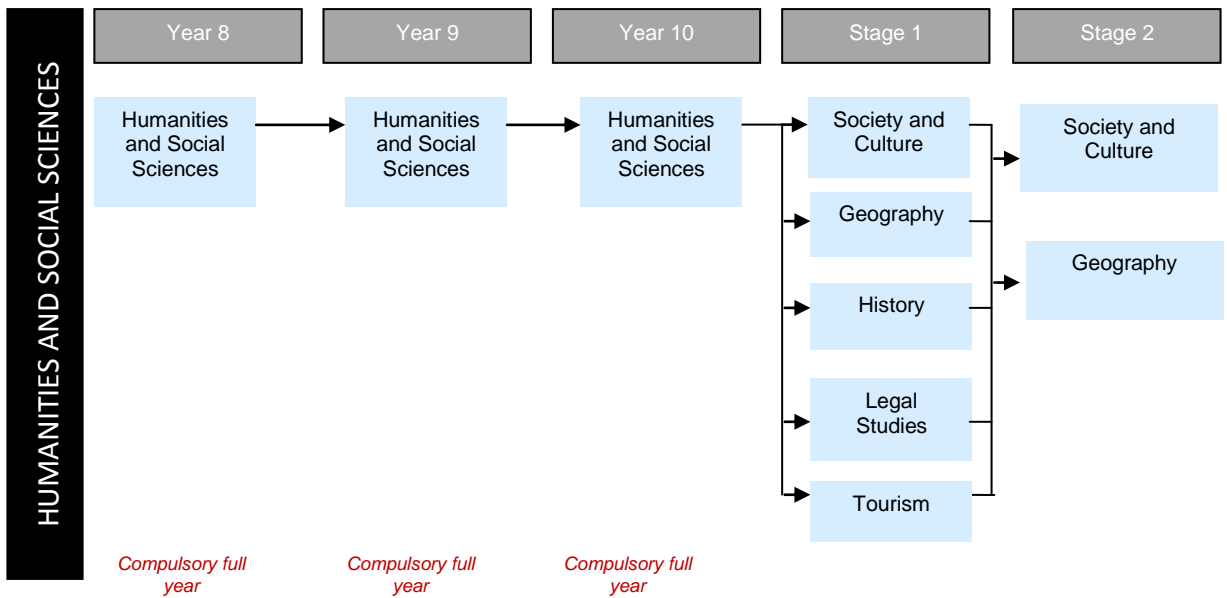
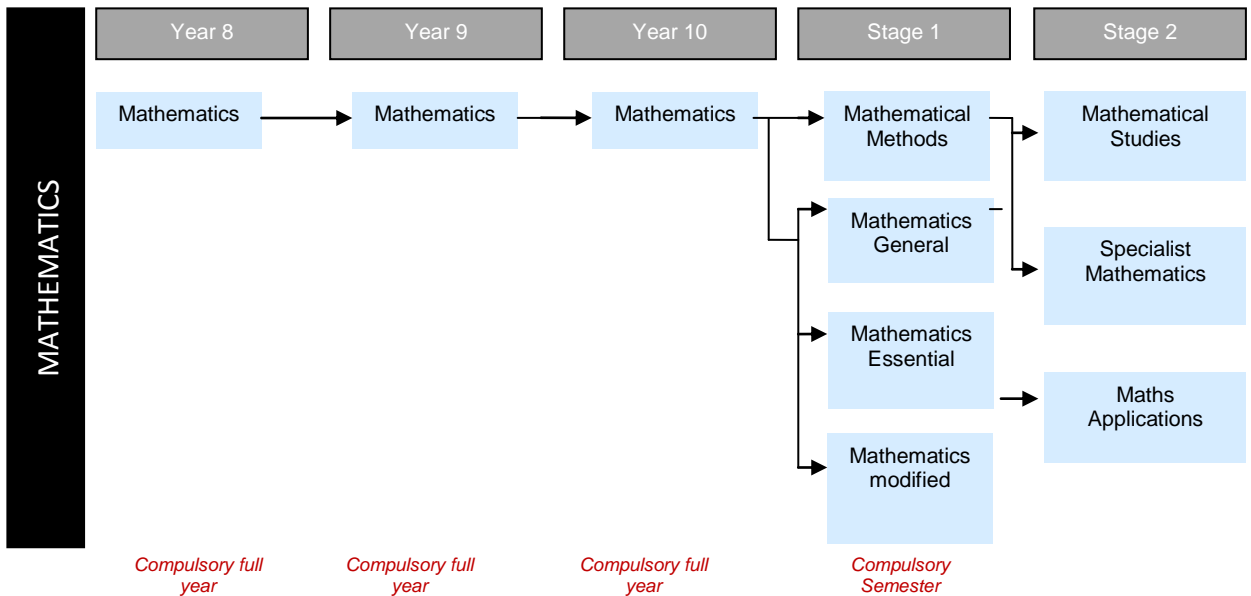
Year 9

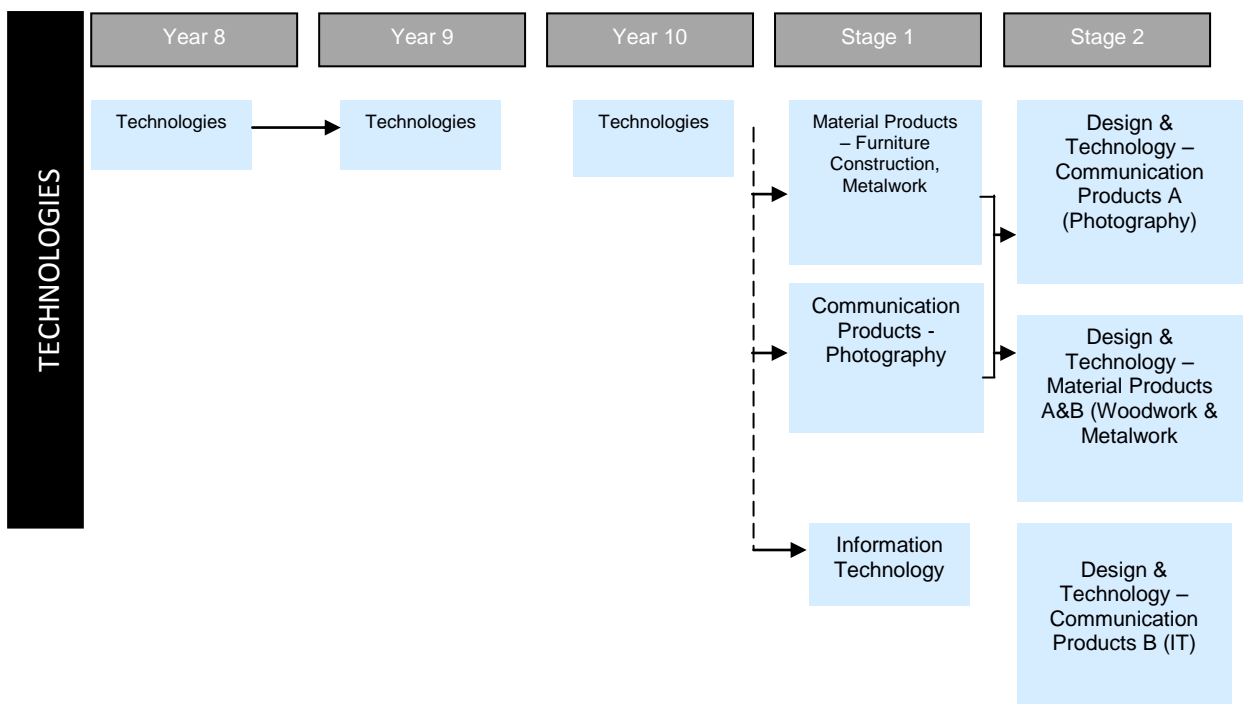
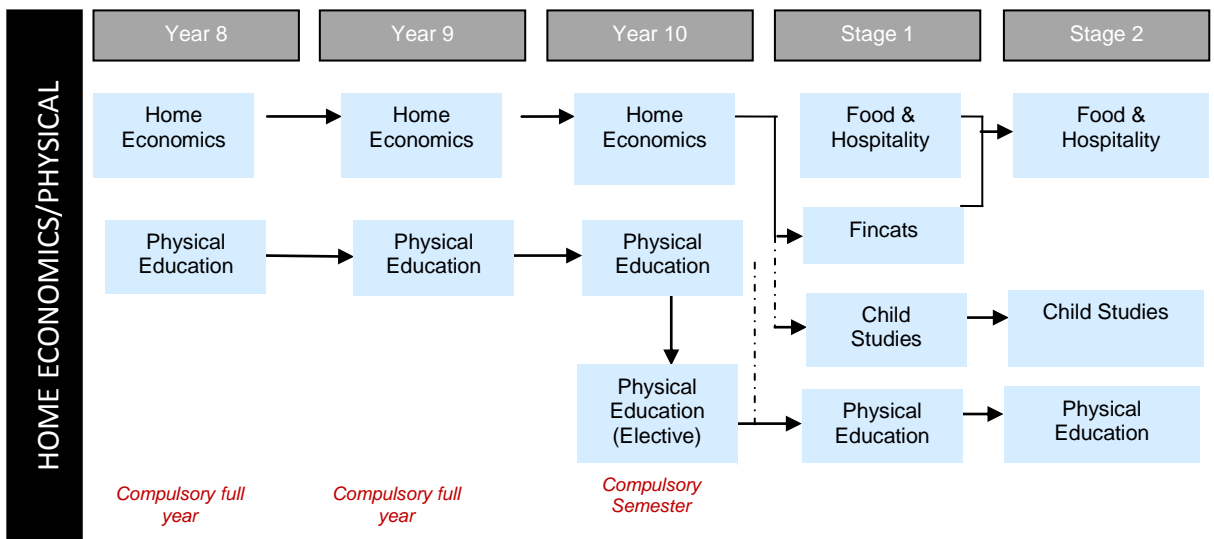
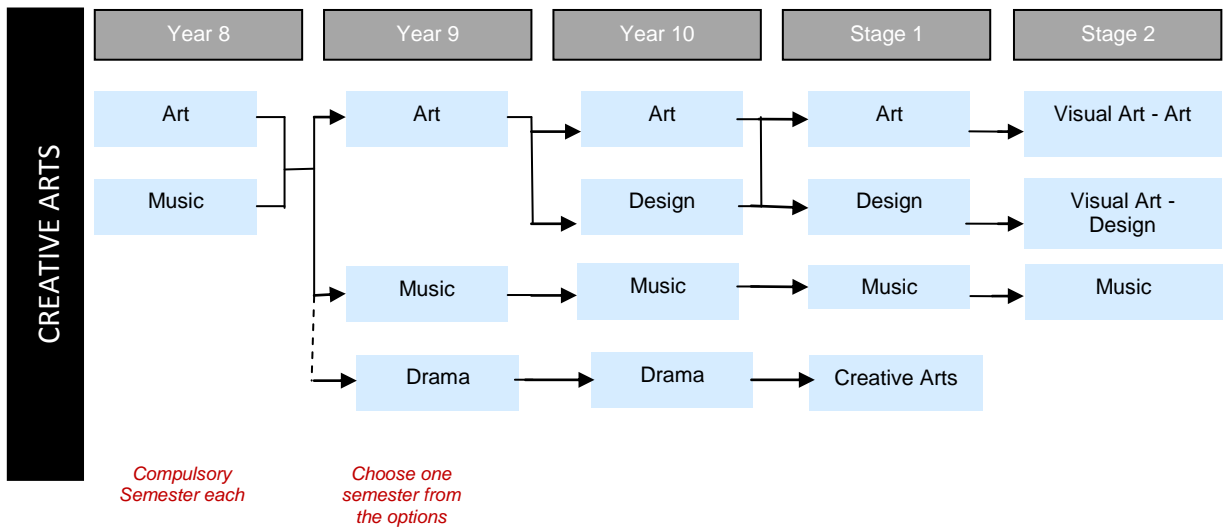
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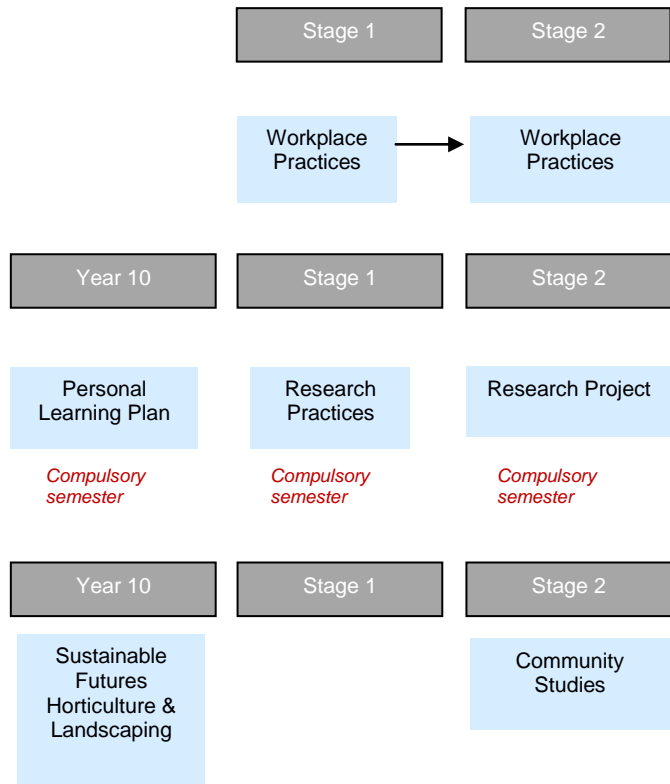
Years 10-12

- Senior School students have access to a diverse curriculum including all traditional academic subjects and a range of vocational options. All Year 10's complete their Personal Learning Plan. All Year 12's are involved in the completion of the Research Project.
- The website articulates all curriculum options. Lesson plans and resources are gradually being transferred across to DAYMAP (Learner Management System).









10. Additional Needs

- Findon High School students with identified special learning needs have a Negotiated Education Plan and are provided with classroom support and other 1:1 or group programs eg Multi-Lit or Numeracy Intervention.
- Students in the SMD Unit access an individually appropriate curriculum as articulated in their assessment portfolios and NEPs.
- There is special focus on transition from Primary School to Findon High School for all students with special needs managed by the Intervention and Support Coordinator.
- FLO offers disengaged Findon High School students opportunities to be successful using alternative pathways through the schooling system.

11. Special Curriculum Features

- Horticulture Program
- Ice Factor Program (SACE unit)
- Empathy and Safety
- Commitment to use of ICT as a learning tool in all areas
- Part of the WASSN STEM Project

12. Sporting Activities

- The school has a comprehensive Sport Program, including a traditional Sports Day and a Splash Carnival for Years 8 and 9
- All students are encouraged to participate in zone and knockout sport
- Staff and students compete against each other in a G & D Shield competition four times a year

13. Co-Curricular Activities

- Camps in years 8, 9, and 11
- Ski Trip and Surf Camp biennially, alternate years
- Literacy and Numeracy Olympics
- Science Week
- Primary School Outreach
- Multicultural Day
- Connecting Spirits overseas trip to WWI battlegrounds in Europe, biennially
- Debating
- She Leads (Leadership program for young women)
- Findon Achievers – mentoring and support for students who want extra support to improve their chances of success in their chosen pathway

14. Staff

- There are 31 teaching staff, with an even mix of youth and experience. There are an additional 17 support staff.
- The school's Combined Leadership Team and decision making group comprises the Principal, two Assistant Principals, six Coordinators, Teacher/Counsellor and Office Manager.
- Committees include both teaching and non-teaching staff; Curriculum, Senior School, Professional Learning Community, WHS, PAC, Innovations, Master Plan (facilities), Findon Culture (Student Services).
- Teaching and Learning Teams meet every Monday at 2.30pm (Early Dismissal).
- All staff participate in performance planning meetings (1 per term). Classroom observations are expected components of this process.

- Staff meetings are conducted three times per term. Two of these meetings per term have a Collaborative Professional Development focus.

15. School Facilities

- A Master Plan has been developed with a view to upgrade our existing facilities.
- The school has Music, Home Economics and Tech Studies areas, a large Resource Centre, two outdoor learning areas and a sit down, air conditioned cafeteria. A large, wooden floored gym contains a full sized basketball court and there are outdoor tennis, basketball, netball and handball courts and a specialist, mirrored, sprung floored dance studio.
- Horticulture Program, Garden.
- The school is fully fitted with ramps, a lift and disability/unisex toilets.
- The school has a 23 seater bus for school camps and excursions.

16. School Operations

- The School Council ensures that the school maintains a sound financial position.
- A newsletter is produced twice per term, and is available via the school website and emailed to families.

17. Local Community

The local community is diverse, as is reflected in the student body. We have a high proportion (49%) of school card students.

- There are a large number of feeder primary schools, in particular Seaton Park Primary, Woodville Primary, Allenby Gardens Primary and Kilkenny Primary.
- There are two nearby shopping centres as well as West Lakes Shopping Centre (10 min drive) and Port Adelaide (15 min drive).
- School parent-teacher interviews and school performance evenings are well supported.
- There is an active Governing Council.