

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT 2026

Updated: June 2026

School number: 0714

Preschool number: 1716

Disability Unit number: 5624

School Name: Challa Gardens Primary School

School Profile Text:

Challa Gardens Primary School is characterised by:

- A rigorous curriculum with whole school literacy and numeracy programs
- An active student voice contributing to our school and community – school leaders, sports captains, digital and wellbeing leaders
- Community involvement in our school through volunteers, mentoring and breakfast club

Programs

- A focus on Physical Education, Drama and Media Arts, Greek and Digital Technologies
- Challa Gardens Primary School provides learning for students from Pre School to Year 6.

The school has a diverse student population made up of approximately 70% school card,

84% EALD students, 10% Aboriginal students and 5% students identified with a disability.

Challa Gardens Primary School is classified as a Category 4 School.

Our Site Improvement Plan 2026

Pedagogical Approaches

Executive Functioning Development

1. General information

- School Principal name: Pina Fitzharris
- Year of opening: 16th July 1926
- Postal Address: 8 Humphries Terrace Kilkenny 5009
- Location Address: as above
- DECD Region: Western Adelaide
- Geographical location – Situated in the Western suburbs 9 km from the GPO
- Telephone number: (08) 84451194
- Fax Number: (08) 84451968
- School website address: <http://www.challaps.sa.edu.au>
- School e-mail address: dl.0714.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: YES

Disability unit establish 2024 attached: YES

Before school care on site: 7.30am – 8.30am

• After school Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: off site. Situated at Brompton Primary School

• 2025 June FTE student enrolment:

Enrolment 2026

Preschool - 40

Reception – 40

Year 1 31

Year 2 31

Year 3 31

Year 4 33

Year 5 33

Year 6 33

Disability unit: 24

TOTAL: 288

ESL Enrolment:195

Aboriginal Enrolment: 22

- Student enrolment trends: Steady with increase

- Staffing numbers (as at February census):

1 Principal

1.0 School Counsellor

1.0 Disability Coordinator

0.8 Intervention Support Teach

0.8 P.E. and Health Teacher

0.4 Digital Tech Teacher

0.8 Greek Language Teacher

0.4 Drama Teacher

13 Class teachers

1.4 Preschool teachers

SSOs Classroom Support

SSO Admin Support

SSO ICT support

Grounds person

- **Public transport access:**

Train station is within walking distance from the school. Bus routes circuit the main bordering roads: Regency and Torrens Rd

Students (and their welfare)

- **General characteristics:**

The school serves students and families from a broad cross section of the community.

Students come from many non-English speaking backgrounds: Indian and many African, Pakistani, Afghani etc

Backgrounds form the largest components, with currently 32 cultures represented.

Over 70% of students access school card.

There are currently 20 Aboriginal students.

In recent years a large percentage of the school population has become transient due to housing.

- **Student well-being programs**

Wellbeing is a school focus and Challa Gardens Staff use a trauma informed approach with the support of the Berry Street Model.

In 2021 the whole school was involved in implementation of the Berry Street Model.

All teachers have participated in implementation of the Zones of Regulation Model.

Each learning space has a dedicated cool down/ calm down area with key sensory room spaced across the school.

- **Student support offered:**

Extensive co-ordinated Special Education, Aboriginal and ESL support is provided.

Support comes in the form of early intervention; One Plans; Early Assistance; individual, small and group support for students.

Students can access a category of funding to support their engagement in learning.

This is co-ordinated through our Student Review Team.

Tier 2 staff are part of the support structure for teaching and Learning and Intervention in Year Level Teams.

A few students require additional support for behaviour. This support is provided by SSOs.

The school behaviour management policy has explicit behavioural expectations.

It includes proactive strategies to enable students to engage in their learning.

There is an emphasis on wellbeing, safety and empowerment.

- **Student Leaders:**

Since 2018 the school has had Student Executive and Student Leader Community Groups

as the model of student voice.

These Groups include:

- School Captains
- Sports Captains
- Well Being Committee
- Digital Tech Leaders

Challa Radio

Through these means students are able to provide input into a range of school issues.

- Special programmes:

PE Specialist Programmes:

This year Challa Gardens offered specialist sport programmes for Year 4 – 6.

This will create high school pathways.

This year's programme include

- Netball
- Soccer
- Basketball.

Our PE teacher coordinates the programme together with our local sporting clubs.

Key School Policies

Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:

Challa Gardens Primary School has a Site Learning Plan which is consistent with DECD

policies and priorities.

School Priorities 2026 include

- Pedagogical Approach to support Engagement and Learning

Executive Functioning Improvement

- As a learning community we will strive to improve outcomes through:
- A focus on success
- Rigorous attention to improving programmes and services for all students including those who are educationally disadvantaged and at risk.

Curriculum

- **Subject offerings:**

All required areas of the South Australian Curriculum.

Digital Technologies, Drama and PE specialist NIT programs are taught to all students

LOTE: Greek – NIT

- **Special needs:**

Our Student Review Team oversees the implementation of Students with Disabilities, Aboriginal and EALD Programs, as well as teacher referrals for support.

- **Teaching methodology:**

A variety of teaching methodology is used to cater to the diverse learning styles of students. These include collaborative learning, ability grouping, whole class, small group, pairs and individual.

A major focus is student engagement.

Student assessment procedures and reporting

Assessment is in line with the Australian Curriculum. A range of procedures are used including anecdotal, testing, examples of work, oral and written, peer group assessment, teacher designed and student initiated.

It is expected that any assessment is based on predetermined data and is consistent with pedagogy used.

Currently teachers report formally to parents/caregivers in the following ways:

1. Acquaintance afternoon/evening at beginning of year
2. Written reports based on learning areas and behavioural expectations twice a year
3. 3-way interviews
4. Incidental reporting to parents as requested or required
5. Open mornings and on line sharing via See Saw

Sporting Activities

Physical Education is a school priority:

In addition sports skill clinics “come and try” programmes are regularly conducted and the school participates in out of school hours sport programmes with the support of parents/caregivers and SAPSASA.

The school runs a tabloid sports day each year.

Other Co-Curricular Activities

- There are whole school assemblies every three weeks which feature student learning and recognise student achievement. These are conducted by students.

Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile:

The staff at Challa Gardens Primary School is composed of a mix of permanent and temporary school support officers and teaching staff.

38 teachers and 18 SSO's

All staff have complete Code of Ethnic training.

There is a strong and committed feeling of "team" amongst staff, based on collaborative practice and shared learning using PLT model.

Leadership structure:

Currently the leadership structure is composed of a Principal, Disability Unit Leader and a Wellbeing Coordinator 1.0

- Staff support systems:

Support for staff is provided by colleagues and a Leadership Team in an open climate of collegiality.

Teachers are situated in Year Level Teams and are encourage to plan learning together.

Staff work in 5-week sprints.

Leadership meet with year level team every five weeks to discuss learning design and student development.

Staff also participate in regular PLT conversations. 3 staff meetings each term are used for staff collaboration and learning.

Performance Management:

Performance Management is negotiated between staff and line managers and has a pedagogical focus. Performance management processes are organised to support individual and collective achievement of personal and collective goals.

All staff are expected to participate in a Performance management process.

- Staff utilisation policies:

Teaching teams are a highly visible and successful aspect of the school's educational Programme. All staff meet regularly to share expertise, resources and co-plan lessons and activities for students.

- Access to special staff:

The school receives visiting local support from a Guidance Officer, Disability

Consultant, Speech Pathologist, Attendance Counsellor, Aboriginal Inclusion Officer, Interagency Behaviour Support and Hearing Impairment in an at needs basis.

School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds:

The site is large and is spread out.

In 2010 library and classroom spaces were developed as part of the National School Pride and Building the Education Revolution programs and in

2018 a STEM building was established.

- Heating and cooling:

All classrooms and school buildings have either reverse cycle or split system air conditioning.

- Specialist facilities and equipment:

Currently the school has specialist teaching areas for Greek, Intervention, Drama, Gym and Digital Technologies

- Staff facilities:

Staff room, Staff has access to ICT resources in their classrooms, in the Resource Centre and in the staff resource area.

- Access for students and staff with disabilities:

Ramps, Disabled toilets'

- Access to bus transport:

See "General Information"

School Operations

- Decision making structures:

The following structures have been put in place to improve the efficiency of managing the

school:

Meetings:

- Leadership Team meetings - weekly

- Teacher teams – Literacy Conversation – 5 week cycle
- SSO meetings – twice a term
- Community Groups – twice each term
- Staff meeting - weekly
- Governing Council -twice a term:

The PAC also meets on a regular basis. All decisions are made in accordance with the School's Decision-Making Policy. Student Voice and Governing Council are an integral part of decision-making structures.

- Regular publications

Communication with parents is a priority and the school has high expectations regarding the quality of these. There is an information package for staff and parents, and electronic daily notices for staff information. Staff also uses the intranet for communication.

Challa Gardens Primary School Newsflash is sent via Sew Saw daily.

- Other communication: Facebook is used to share information
- School financial position:

Financially sound.

Local Community

- General characteristics:

The school serves a mixed community in the middle of the Western suburbs.

Housing ranges from cheap and Housing Trust/rental to middle price range.

It is approximately 15 minutes to the City of Adelaide from the school by car.

The proximity of both city and coast is expected to influence the local demographic with larger blocks of land being amalgamated for the purpose of creating medium density new housing aimed at first home buyers.

The community is multicultural - some new-arrival families are moving into the community. This provides a mix with the longer term residents: a significant number of families with up to 3 or more generations who have lived in the area.

Parent and Community Involvement:

We are a community-based school. Parents and community members can be involved in our school through volunteering for classroom support, assisting excursions, and coaching sporting teams.

- Feeder or destination schools:

There is a Pre School on site. Children also come from a variety of Pre-Schools.

Year 6 students mostly graduate to Woodville High School, with some enrolling at Specialist Schools including Henley, Findon, Seaton and Underdale.

Every year a number of students apply for language programmes at Adelaide High School

- Other local care and educational facilities:
- Commercial and industrial and shopping facilities:

Arndale and West Lakes shopping centres are in close proximity.

Small businesses in the area are diverse and many.

- Other local facilities:

There is a wide range of community facilities - sport, arts, religious etc.

The closest community health services are in Port Adelaide.

- Accessibility:

Easy Accessibility

- Local Government body:

Charles Sturt Council